



# COALITION FOR HUMANE IMMIGRANT RIGHTS OF LOS ANGELES

January 9, 2017

Assemblymember Reginal B. Jones-Sawyer Jr.  
Co-Chair, Special Committee on the Office of Attorney General  
Assemblymember Mark Stone, Co-Chair  
Co-Chair, Special Committee on the Office of Attorney General  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Support for the appointment of Congress member Xavier Becerra as California's Attorney General**

Dear Members of Committee:

The Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA) is a California organization with national recognition and impact. Our mission is to build a just society fully inclusive of immigrants. CHIRLA advances the human, civil rights, and full integration of New Americans and their children. CHIRLA advances its mission through policy and advocacy, organizing, education and community building. **On behalf of CHIRLA, I am writing in strong support for the appointment of Xavier Becerra to be California's Attorney General.**

Congress member Xavier Becerra brings decades of experience to this position. Since 1992 he has represented California's 34<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and has been our Congressional representative. He often brought us and other constituent organizations together to give us updates on what was happening and Washington D.C, but most importantly to seek to plan a course of action together. Congress member Becerra played a critical role in the passage of the Affordable Health Care Act which allowed 3,826,000 Californians gained coverage. During his time in Congress he has been a champion for working people and has represented our interests in the national fight for immigration reform and justice. He was a leader in the House of Representatives negotiations to develop bi-partisan comprehensive immigration reform laws. He supported the DREAM Act for immigrant youth and the advancement of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. He comes to his stands of many critical issues facing Americans through his own personal experience. Xavier Becerra is the son of working-class and immigrant parents and is the first in his family to attend college. His personal life experiences and background in Congress bring a unique perspective and value added to the position of California Attorney General.

CHIRLA is in full support of nomination and confirmation of Congress member Becerra. To further instruct the committee and public on issues relevant to this position we also urge for the following questions to be asked and discussed during the confirmation hearing.

- What type of policies would Congress member Becerra pursue related to immigrants as Attorney General?
- How will Congress member Becerra ensure that the California Department of Justice protects the civil rights of immigrant community members within California's many counties and at a national level?
- In the opinion of Congress member Becerra does he believe that immigration detainers are mandatory under federal law? How will expand on the Trust and Truth Act?



# COALITION FOR HUMANE IMMIGRANT RIGHTS OF LOS ANGELES

- Does Congress member Becerra support the Priority Enforcement Program (PEP), an automatic program that identifies via shared databases undocumented immigrants, which replaced the notorious Secure Communities Program?
- In 2016, California's State Auditor released an audit dubbed "The CalGang Criminal Intelligence System" and found that it lacks an oversight structure, contains questionable information that violates individuals' privacy rights, as Attorney General what is his position of current databases such as CalGang?

We look forward to working with Congress member Xavier Becerra and the California Legislature to continue making California a model state of inclusion, integration and justice. If you have any questions, I can be reached at [asalas@chirla.org](mailto:asalas@chirla.org) or by connecting with CHIRLA's Policy Director, Joseph Villela at [jvillela@chirla.org](mailto:jvillela@chirla.org) or at 213-353-1782.

Sincerely,

Angelica Salas  
Executive Director.