



League of California Cities-Latino Caucus

June 12, 2013

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Hon. Assembly Member Gomez
Assembly Member
State Capitol Rm 2024
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: OPPOSE – AB 880 (Gomez)

Dear Assembly Member Gomez,

We respectfully oppose your legislation - Assembly Bill 880 -- that will harm the effective implementation of the Federal Affordable Care Act and levy additional harsh fines and penalties on businesses. We believe that supporting the Affordable Care Act and Cover California should be the focus rather than adding more penalties and disincentives during this critical time period of implementation.

AB 880 will not increase access to health care and will do little to address the rising health care costs that large and small employers face. Unfortunately, this is nothing more than an assault on businesses and larger non-profits.

Under the Affordable Care Act, every Californian is guaranteed access to health insurance, and every company is already penalized if its full-time employees fail to be covered. AB 880 would go beyond the scope of health care by taxing employers that provide their employees quality jobs with a host of benefits, including health care. It further penalizes businesses that employ part-time, seasonal or temporary workers.

Furthermore, the legislation is vague and largely unworkable for employers and will likely result in an onslaught of new lawsuits and massive financial burdens.

We are committed to supporting the state in its efforts to effectively implement the ACA and encourage the state to focus on this historic change in law that will impact every Californian. Unfortunately, this legislation will not help with the implementation, but will only cause confusion, massive new costs, and disincentives for companies to continue to invest in California.

For all of those reasons, we oppose AB 880.

Sincerely,

Diane J. Martinez
President
League of California Cities Latino Caucus

cc. Senator Hernández ; FAX: (916) 445-0485