



# County of Monterey

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August 30, 2024

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor, State of California  
1021 O Street, Suite 9000  
Sacramento, California 95814

**Re: SB 227 (Durazo) Unemployment: Excluded Workers Program. – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Newsom:

The County of Monterey requests your signature on Senate Bill (SB) 227 by Senator Maria Elena Durazo. This bill (1) requires the Employment Development Department (EDD), on or before March 31, 2025, to develop a detailed plan to establish a permanent Excluded Workers Program that provides cash assistance that resembles Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits to unemployed workers who are ineligible for the existing program due to their immigration status; (2) requires EDD to submit the plan to the Legislature, the Department of Finance and the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO); and (3) requires the LAO to review the plan and report any findings and recommendations to the Legislature and Department of Finance, as specified.

Every day, undocumented immigrants contribute to California's economic prosperity in agriculture, construction, clothing and other industries. California is set to be the world's fourth-largest economy in large part thanks to immigrant labor, yet immigrants continue to be shut out from California's economic success due to unjust exclusions from UI.

Without the support of essential safety net programs like UI, many immigrant families are forced to exhaust their life savings, accumulate debt, and compromise their health to simply afford basic necessities when they lose their jobs.

SB 227 (Durazo) would develop a detailed plan to establish a permanent Excluded Workers Program that provides cash assistance that resembles Unemployment Insurance. By providing unemployment benefits to excluded immigrant workers, California can address inequities, increase economic resilience, and build a California that works for all.

For these reasons, the County of Monterey strongly urges your signature on SB 227. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the County of Monterey's Public Policy Advisor, Ashley Walker of Nossaman LLP at 916-442-8888.

Sincerely,

**Glenn Church, Chair**  
Board of Supervisors



cc: The Honorable Senator Maria Elena Durazo, Author  
Mary Hernandez, Chief Deputy Legislative Secretary, Governor's Office  
The Honorable Anna Caballero, 14<sup>th</sup> Senate District  
The Honorable John Laird, 17<sup>th</sup> Senate District  
The Honorable Robert Rivas, 29<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
The Honorable Dawn Addis, 30<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
California State Association of Counties (CSAC)  
Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)