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New Data Shows Dramatic Increase in Economic Contributions By Undocumented Californians

Additional New Poll Also Shows Growing Support for the Undocumented Community

SACRAMENTO, Calif., (April 16, 2015)—The California Endowment applauds the results of two reports this week, both demonstrating the positive effects undocumented immigrants are having on California. Today the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (ITEP) released new figures showing that undocumented Californians contribute \$3.2 billion in taxes to the state and local economies, a significant increase from previous figures. Earlier this week, a USC Dornsife/Los Angeles Times poll showed Californians are taking note of immigrants' positive impacts, finding that a strong majority – 57 percent – of Californians believe undocumented immigrants are contributing positively to the state's economy.

“These reports help highlight the important, and growing, contributions that undocumented Californians make to our communities, to our economy and to the overall strength of our nation – which is widely unrecognized,” said Daniel Zingale, a senior vice president for The California Endowment. “This information is critical as we continue the discussion here in California about why we need a health care system that's inclusive of everyone, including the 1.4 million undocumented Californians that are locked out of affordable health coverage despite their contributions.”

The California Endowment, the state's largest public health nonprofit, is raising awareness through its #Health4All campaign about the economic contributions of undocumented Californians, while shining a spotlight on the importance that everyone – regardless of immigration status – has access to quality, affordable health coverage.

ITEP's new report revealing contributions of \$3.2 billion in taxes by undocumented Californians represents a \$500 million increase over a similar report just two years earlier. Similarly, the USC Dornsife/Los Angeles Times study reflects a 17 percent leap from where Californians' perceptions stood five years ago, with only 40 percent at the time believing undocumented immigrants had a mostly positive effect on the state's economy.

The report by ITEP also projects future contributions from undocumented Californians. Once President Obama's recent executive order on immigration is fully enacted, the tax contributions of undocumented Californians are anticipated to increase by an additional \$200 million.

To view the full ITEP report [click here](#), and for the USC Dornsife/Los Angeles Times report [click here](#).



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About The California Endowment

The California Endowment, a private, statewide health foundation, was established in 1996 to expand access to, quality health care for underserved individuals and communities, and to promote fundamental affordable improvements in the health status of all Californians. Headquartered in downtown Los Angeles, The Endowment has regional offices in Sacramento, Oakland, Fresno and San Diego, with program staff working throughout the state. The Endowment challenges the conventional wisdom that medical settings and individual choices are solely responsible for people's health. Through its 'Health Happens Here' campaign and ten-year initiative for Building Healthy Communities, The Endowment is creating places where children are healthy, safe and ready to learn. At its core, The Endowment believes that health happens in neighborhoods, schools, and with prevention. For more information, visit The California Endowment's homepage at www.calendow.org.

About #Health4All

The California Endowment's #Health4All campaign highlights the important contributions of undocumented Californians to our state's communities and economy, while raising awareness of their lack of access to affordable health care coverage. Though the Affordable Care Act has helped millions of Californians gain health insurance, over 1.4 million undocumented Californians will remain uninsured. Undocumented Californians are students, mothers, fathers, neighbors and community members. Together, they contribute \$300 billion to our state's economy and are an essential part of the workforce. The #Health4All campaign is helping to drive a dialogue to move our health care system to one that is inclusive of all Californians, regardless of their immigration status. To join the conversation use #health4all or visit www.health4allca.org.