

THE UNITED STATES-MEXICO-CANADA AGREEMENT (USMCA) WILL HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON AMERICA

JAIME HURTADO, President of Inland Empire Hispanic Leadership Council July 2019

The United States has reached a modernized trade agreement with Mexico and Canada that will provide tangible economic benefits for the Riverside County community, its consumers, and workers. The recently negotiated trade agreement will replace the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and will include provisions of digital commerce, labor relations, custom relations that considers small businesses, and enforceable labor standards. As the USMCA will only further economic, and job growth in Riverside County and America at large, the Inland Empire Hispanic Leadership Council (IEHLC) urges Congress to ratify this agreement.

The USMCA provides several necessary updates to NAFTA, which is the trade agreement adopted nearly 30 years ago that is now obsolete in our modern era. The USMCA addresses our present economy and provides a foundation that can positively reflect American interests and the concerns of a 21st-century economy.

If ratified, the United States International Trade Commission projects that U.S. real GDP will grow by \$68.2 billion and employment by approximately 176,000 jobs, significantly boosting the economy. Furthermore, exports from California to Canada and Mexico alone will increase to \$43.6 billion. With Hispanics making up 17.3 percent of the labor industry, our community has a significant stake in this agreement. Congress must recognize the benefits that the USMCA offers the American economy and its people. Without an improved replacement, failure to pass this agreement stunts our economic potential and is a disservice to our workers and consumers.

The IEHLC stands firmly in favor of bipartisan support for the USMCA and encourages Congress to pass the current USMCA agreement. The ratification of labor reform and international relations in a digital age is a crucial step towards securing the future of the North American economy.

Questions may be submitted to info@iehlc.org.