

Assembly Committee on Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy

Upward Mobility in the Inland Empire

Wednesday, September 25, 2019, Corona City Council Chamber, California, at 9:30 am

FINAL AGENDA

California's \$2.9 trillion economy consistently ranks the state within the top five economies in the world. The benefits of this prosperity have not, however, been evenly experienced throughout the state. Some California regions are experiencing the impacts of historic and systemic underinvestment, including lagging economic growth, low educational attainment, and limited opportunities for individuals to improve the quality of their lives.

This is the committee's third hearing in 2019 examining how the public and private sectors can support upward mobility and economic opportunity for all Californians. Prior hearings focused on how existing state programs and initiatives were being adapted to meet regional and local economic and business development needs. This hearing will highlight regional initiatives in the Inland Empire by presenting best practices, innovative solutions, and reinvigorated regional visions.

I. Welcome, Introductions, and Opening Statements

Chair and members of the JEDE Committee will give opening statements and frame the key issues to be examined during the hearing.

II. Remarks from the Center for Social Innovation at the University of California, Riverside

Dr. Karthick Ramakrishnan, Chair of the Center for Social Innovation, will present research from both the Center's State of the Inland Empire series and its recent collaboration with the Metropolitan Policy Program at the Brookings Institute on "Advancing Opportunity in California's Inland Empire." Using this research as a basis, Dr. Ramakrishnan will brief the committee on the activities of Inland California Rising. The Inland California Rising initiative, launched in February 2019, is designed to catalyze leaders from the philanthropic, business, non-profit, and public sectors who are united in their "desire to turbo-charge progress for Inland California" while contributing to the overall benefit of the state.

III. Regions Rise Together

Amber Bolden, Senior Project Manager, California Forward, will present a new initiative, "Regions Rise Together." Sponsored by the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development with support from California Forward, the initiative is designed to bring together diverse leaders in every region of the state over the course of the next year in order to develop an inclusive and comprehensive plan that will lift every part of California.

IV. Innovations in Upward Mobility

Presenters will highlight innovative programs and new initiatives that are supporting upward mobility and economic prosperity in the Inland Empire. Presentations include:

- *Case Study on "GenerationGo!," presented by **Molly Wiltshire** with the San Bernardino County Workforce Development Board*
- *"Too Big to Ignore: Latina Microbusiness Owners," presented by **Dr. Elsa E. Macias**, author of the report published by Hispanas Organized for Political Equality*
- *"Seeding Regional Competitiveness and Building Innovation," presented by **Matthew Horton** with the Center for Regional Economics & California Center, Milken Institute*

V. Public Comment

Anyone interested in addressing the Committee may sign-up to speak during the public comment period. A sign-up sheet is located at the back of the hearing room. Written comments may also be submitted.

VI. Closing Remarks

Assembly Members will make closing remarks.