Monday, February 25

12:00 – 2:00 PM Lunch, welcome and plenary
Metropolitan Terrace – 7th Floor

Welcome
• Andy Van Kleunen, National Skills Coalition
• Barbara Baran, EDGE Coalition

Opening Keynote Address
• The Honorable Senator Connie M. Leyva

Plenary - How workforce development can drive equity, opportunity, and the economy
• Linda Collins, Career Ladders Project
• Paul Granillo, Inland Empire Economic Partnership
• Bikila Ochoa, Anti-Recidivism Coalition
• Brooke Valle, San Diego Workforce Partnership

2:00 – 2:15 PM Break

2:15 – 3:30 PM Concurrent sessions

Session A: Upskilling policies for low-wage workers
Nay, 2nd Floor
Almost 5 million working Californians earn less than $14/hour. Many of these workers need to upgrade their technical, reading, math, digital literacy, or English language skills to move into better-paying careers. At the same time, many employers are struggling to find workers with the skills they need to compete in today’s fast-paced economic environment. Learn more about how California policymakers can advance upskilling strategies that address these issues.
• Megan Emiko Scott, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
• Alma Salazar, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
• Luis Sandoval, Building Skills Partnership

Session B: Making postsecondary career and technical education more affordable
Plaza Park, 1st Floor
While California waives community college tuition and fees for low-income students, additional costs – from books and supplies to housing, transportation and child care – make postsecondary career education and training unaffordable. Learn about why California policymakers should transform the Cal Grant program to increase access to financial aid and help low-income Californians cover the full non-training costs of participating in community college workforce education and training programs.
• Debbie Cochrane, The Institute for College Access & Success
• Dr. Angélica Garcia, Skyline College
• Christian Osmeña, California Community Colleges

Session C: Policies to support community-based organizations in job training
Quorum, 2nd Floor
Community-based organizations play a critical role in recruiting people for high-quality training, providing support services, and strengthening connections between businesses, the public workforce system, and low-income communities. Learn about why California’s policymakers should invest in workforce partnerships led by community-based organizations in order to remove barriers to employment and expand workers’ access to high-quality, industry-based training.
• Erica Bouris, International Rescue Commission
• Ben Espitia, Goodwill Southern Los Angeles County
• Eric Flores, California Workforce Association

Moderator: Brooke DeRenzis, National Skills Coalition
### 3:30 – 3:45 PM Break

### 3:45 – 5:00 PM Concurrent sessions

#### Session A: Data policies to drive economic mobility and equity
**Quorum, 2nd Floor**
Data systems that work across agencies can help practitioners, policymakers and the public make informed decisions about education and training strategies. Learn more about how California policymakers can create data systems and tools that can be used to drive economic mobility and equity in workforce development.

- Rob Hope, Bay Area Workforce Funders Collaborative
- Colleen Moore, Education Insights Center
- Ria Sengupta Bhatt, California Competes
- **Moderator:** Rona Sherriff, EDGE Coalition

#### Session B: Policies to support workforce strategies for underserved populations
**Nay, 2nd Floor**
California can better realize its economic potential by building an inclusive workforce development system that builds on the assets of all people, including opportunity youth, immigrants and refugees, and people who were formerly incarcerated. Learn about why California’s policymakers should remove barriers to employment and increase opportunities for underserved populations.

- Sasha Feldstein, California Immigrant Policy Center
- Jonathan Hasak, Year Up
- Julia Root, Center for Employment Opportunities
- Robert Sainz, City of Los Angeles, Economic & Workforce Development Department
- **Moderator:** Jeffery Wallace, LeadersUp

#### Session C: Expanding the apprenticeship pipeline
**Plaza Park, 1st Floor**
Apprenticeship is a model training program with benefits for workers and businesses. Learn more about why California policymakers should invest in high-quality pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs that expand the model to non-traditional industries and underrepresented workers.

- John Brauer, California Labor Federation
- Jeremy Smith, State Building and Construction Trades Council of California
- Lisa Countryman, JVS San Francisco
- **Moderator:** Marty Alvarado, Jobs for the Future

### 5:00 – 5:30 PM Closing Keynote
**Metropolitan Terrace – 7th Floor**

**Remarks**
- Kelley Gulley, The James Irvine Foundation

**Closing Keynote Address**
- The Honorable Senator Holly Mitchell

### 5:30 – 7:00 PM Reception
**Metropolitan Terrace – 7th Floor**

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### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

#### 8:30 – 10:00 AM Breakfast and Capitol prep
**Quorum, 2nd Floor**

#### 10:30 AM – 2:30 PM Meetings at Capitol

#### 2:30 – 4:00 PM Networking reception
**Grange Mezzanine**
Join us at this optional reception to share stories and feedback from your day at the Capitol.
The 2019 California Summit is made possible through the generous support of:

The James Irvine Foundation

A special thanks to the Leadership Council who helped guide the content of the Summit.

Luis Sandoval        Building Skills Partnership
Sasha Feldstein     California Immigrant Policy Center
Eric Flores         California Workforce Association
Julia Root           Center for Employment Opportunities
Robert Sainz        City of Los Angeles, Economic & Workforce Development Dept.
Simon Lopez         Goodwill Southern California
Erica Bouris        International Rescue Committee
Abby Snay            Jewish Vocational Service
Alma Salazar        Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
Heddy Nam           Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
Brooke Valle        San Diego Workforce Partnership
Rob Hope             San Francisco Foundation
Catherine Bracy     TechEquity Collaborative
Jonathan Hasak      Year Up