DATE

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown Jr.

Governor, State of California

State Capitol

Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 285 (Brown) — Request for Signature**

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of YOURORGNAME, I am writing to request your signature on Assembly Bill (AB) 285 (Brown), a measure that revises the definition of “microenterprise,” and adds to, and recasts, provisions requiring the California Workforce Investment Board (CWIB) to develop guidelines for targeting resources to high-wage industry sectors and implementing entrepreneurial and self-employment training programs.

In 2010, the U.S. Department of Labor released directives encouraging WIBs to integrate entrepreneurial training as a vital workforce development strategy. However, entrepreneurial training has not been incorporated into the Workforce system in any significant way.

Under AB 285, the California Workforce Investment Board would create guidelines to help local workforce investment boards implement entrepreneurial and self-employment training to micro-businesses that are trying to expand.

Research finds that microentrepreneurs who have gone through training programs and receive business technical assistance and entrepreneurial training have an 80 percent success rate. They create two jobs in addition to their own on average over 3-5 years.

Small businesses, particularly micro-businesses, should be an integral part of economic and workforce strategies and this bill works toward that goal. For these reasons, YOURORGNAME respectfully requests your signature on AB 285.

Sincerely,

YOURNAME

YOURTITLE, YOURORG

cc: Assembly Member Cheryl Brown, 47th