



September 12, 2024

Governor Gavin Newsom  
1021 O Street, Suite 9000  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Via email to: [Leg.Unit@gov.ca.gov](mailto:Leg.Unit@gov.ca.gov)

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**Re: Sign AB 2543 (Arambula) to Support Immigrant Entrepreneurs**

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of CAMEO Network, we write in support of Assembly Bill 2543 (Arambula). This measure will allow the owner or operator of a small business to apply for Certified Small Business status with the state of California, regardless of their immigration status.

CAMEO Network is California's statewide micro-business network made up of 400 organizations, agencies, and individuals dedicated to furthering Micro-Business development in California with small and micro-business financing such as loans and credit, technical assistance and business management training. Annually, CAMEO members serve about 200,000 very small businesses with training, business and credit assistance and loans. These firms – largely start-ups with less than six employees – support or create 300,000 new jobs in California and generate a total of \$15 billion in economic activity.

Businesses owned and operated by immigrant entrepreneurs are an important part of many California communities and reflect the diverse and vibrant spirit of our state. CAMEO Network is proud to support AB 2543, and we urge to sign this bill to continue building a thriving, inclusive California economy.

Sincerely,

Heidi Pickman  
VP, Engagement and External Relations  
CAMEO Network