

**From:** [Abigail Ramirez](#)  
**To:** [Shape California's Future](#)  
**Subject:** Candidate support-Pedro Toledo and Linda Akutagwa  
**Date:** Friday, August 7, 2020 11:00:33 AM

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Goodmorning Honorable Commission Members,

Thank you for your service to the State of California, commitment to uplift the voices of all Californians, and uphold our state's citizen-led redistricting process. On behalf of the Latino Coalition for a Healthy California, I write to support candidates Pedro Toledo and Linda Akutagwa to serve as members of the 2020 Citizens Redistricting Commission. Pedro's and Linda's participation will ensure the advancement of racial and socioeconomic equity in critical democratic processes in California.

The Latino Coalition for a Healthy California (LCHC) is the oldest organization working to advance and protect Latino health equity through policy and advocacy. LCHC was founded as a project of Public Advocates, Inc. to raise awareness of Latino health issues in health policy debates at the national and state level. LCHC elevates community voices at the Capitol to ensure our state policies are data and community-driven towards the elimination of Latino health inequities.

Latinos make up more than a quarter of the No Party Preference voters registered in the State of California. Latinos makeup 26.9% registered voters in the No Party Preference category, with 6,202,477 registered Latino NPP voters in the State. We are calling to remind the Commission of the commitment they made to the public to address the complete lack of Latinx representation on the body and to uplift Pedro Toledo, a Latinx candidate who represents 40% of California's population as well as over one-fourth of registered No Party Preference Latinx voters in the State. We also support the diverse representation of the API community on the Commission and also want to uplift Linda Akutagwa's candidacy.

Pedro Toledo is a son of immigrants, his father was a Bracero in the agricultural fields of Sonoma County in pursuit of the American Dream.

He is a graduate of Stanford University and Cornell Law School and has committed his career to ensure that all people, regardless of who they are, what they look like, where they came from, or their ability to pay, have access to affordable, high-quality, patient-centered health care.

We are recommending Pedro Toledo, again, because we believe he demonstrates a

strong ability and experience to be impartial, have relevant analytical skills, an appreciation for California's diversity, and a commitment towards advancing racial and socioeconomic equity.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Abigail Ramirez

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Abigail Ramirez (*she, her, hers*)

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