

Dear Members of the Insurance and Real State Committee of Connecticut General Assembly,

My name is Diego Haro, and I'm a student here in Connecticut. I am an ally of the immigrant community and I stand in support of **HB5251- AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS IN THIS STATE.**

My mother was an immigrant to America and just recently gained her citizenship. Especially under the current Trump administration, there are increasingly more barriers to prevent success like my mother and I's from being fulfilled. I am messaging in support of this bill to ensure that many families like mine are supported on their path to citizenship and people are given the healthcare they deserve upon entering this country.

Expanding HUSKY coverage to undocumented immigrants is necessary, but this expansion must be done thoughtfully and with immigrants' lived experiences in mind. To this end, the task force cannot be comprised of politicians alone: diverse voices and representatives from advocacy organizations are key to the success of this task force. For this reason, we ask that individuals from groups such as the Connecticut Immigrants Rights Alliance, Connecticut Students for a Dream, the Universal Health Care Foundation, and Health Equity Solutions be included in the task force.

In conclusion, I would like to restate my strong support for HB5251. The state of Connecticut cannot remain complicit in systemic discrimination against immigrant communities — people like my mother are *people* worthy of dignity and respect, and must be treated as such. The establishment of this task force is the least our state can do, and I ask the committee to vote favorably on this important and necessary measure.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Diego Haro