

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB956
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF CT GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Dear Members of the Human Services Committee of Connecticut General Assembly:

My name is Arnulfo Alvarado-Morales, I live in Hartford CT with my daughter. I am undocumented.

I stand in support of S.B. No. 956: "AN ACT PROVIDING MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS," with clear language that extends eligibility to all HUSKY programs to all CT residents, regardless of immigration status.

In March 2020 I suffered a health emergency. I went to the hospital and the treatment was not good. While there I was asked if I had health insurance. Not having, they paid little attention to me and after a long time waiting I was finally treated. However I have to do several tests because I did not have insurance. I was informed each exam was going to have a cost, and that I had to pay out of pocket. Since this happened during winter I was unemployed. Aside from being ill, more concern arose. I did not know what to do, the exams were already done there. I came home and I was still in pain.

The following week I received a bill saying I owed \$ 2700, without having received a single medication. I got more worried, and decided not to continue with medical checkups because without money and unemployment I cannot afford to pay back. All this was happening to me for not having insurance.

I also worry about my daughter who is 12 years old and was not born here either. I cannot imagine if she gets sick, without insurance, I do not know what I am going to do.

I support S.B. No 956, with clear language to extend current HUSKY eligibility rules to all CT residents, regardless of immigration status, and I ask the committee to support this legislation.

Thank you for your time,

Arnulfo Alvarado-Morales
Member of Hartford Deportation Defense