

**Raised S.B. No. 956: AN ACT PROVIDING MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN
INDIVIDUALS REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS**

Human Services Committee

March 11, 2021

My name is Lourdes Fonseca and I have been a resident of Hartford for 27 years. I am Puerto Rican. We are blessed to be citizens of the United States and received all the benefits that come with the title. However, our brothers and sisters from Central and South America are not running with the same luck. We are all coming here for the same purpose, to provide our children with the hope of a safe and better future. They work harder than anyone else to overcome the challenges that they face every day. The language barrier and the weather are just some of the fewer challenges combined with the discrimination, humiliation, and the exploitation that some are exposed to in their jobs. They are HUMANS. They deserved to be treated equally especially concerning health.

I support bill 956 because it covers the needs of this community. If adults and children have medical insurance it will not just help them to be healthy but also the system as well. They will have the opportunity to have primary care that lowers the high cost of emergency care. If they improve their health they will be giving, back more to society. Most importantly, they are brothers, sisters, fathers, mothers, children, and part of society. This CORAVID 19 was an unexpected situation that impacts all of us regardless of our legal status. We are all at risk. Medical insurance is primary for all people if we want to beat this virus. That is why I support this bill. For all people, for our health, and our economy.

