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 Josue Guzman, I am a resident from Harford. 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.

I am in favor that the HUSKY Health Insurance benefits everyone regardless of their immigration status. Last year, I experienced a situation where I went to a community health clinic with a very bad toothache and they could not do the extraction of the tooth. They gave me a referral to go to the hospital. Before going to the hospital I called them to get an estimate of the surgery I need to get which cost about \$1800. It was a very expensive surgery but due to the emergency I was facing I had to go to the hospital. Until this day I have that debt to pay. This law should pass so that the entire undocumented community in Connecticut can have access to health insurance.

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,

Josue Guzman

Member of Hartford Deportation Defense