

Human Services Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly
Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 956
March 11, 2021

To Co-chairs Senator Moore and Representative Abercrombie and distinguished members of the Human Services Committee:

My name is Christine Halfar and I am a resident of Danbury. I am writing in support of SB 956: An Act Providing Medical Assistance to Certain Individuals Regardless of Immigration Status with modifications.

As written, SB 956 expands medical assistance under the Medicaid program to needy pregnant women, regardless of immigration status, and children who are eligible for HUSKY B benefits, regardless of immigration status. It should instead cover all Connecticut residents that qualify for HUSKY and Medicaid programs, regardless of immigration status.

Health care is a human right. The undocumented community is blocked from accessing health coverage (and often healthcare itself) in CT. They cannot apply to AccessHealth CT's health plans, are currently not eligible for HUSKY, and private insurance companies are either too expensive or reject applications without social security numbers.

Please support SB 956 with modification and send it to the House and Senate for a vote.

Thank you.

Christine Halfar