

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

Good Day. My name is Ms. Lowe. I am a citizen in Hartford. I stand in support of SB956: AN ACT PROVIDING MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS, but with modifications. SB956 as currently written leaves out many in our immigrant community, it leaves out low-income parents and children under HUSKY A and low-income elderly and disabled folks under HUSKY C. I support modifying SB956 to include ALL CT residents that qualify under the full current HUSKY eligibility. I believe that everyone should be able to have healthcare and that it should be affordable. Some of my family members are former immigrants and me witnessing the process that they had to go through to get their citizenship was just so surprising. They had to do things that I hadn't even remembered doing, like having to answer questions about the states, that even I forgot a while ago! Undocumented people not being able to have healthcare is just unfair. They are people too and they deserve to be treated like that. They work hard just like all other people in America. There is so much discrimination in this country. What gives it the justification that undocumented people can't have healthcare because they aren't from our country? It is just unreal. We are in a pandemic and there are many people out here that are trying their best to be safe but as you know COVID-19 does not discriminate. In no way should people be denied to get the service they need to be safe just because of something like being not from our country. That is once again unfair and unethical. There is no reason for anyone to be denied medical service because of where they are from. There is already enough discrimination in this country and me and others will strive for that to stop. We have the resources to help undocumented people who need medical service and for us to waste it makes no sense. There are people who need help and we cannot waste time. We are all at a vulnerable state right now because of the pandemic and because of that we should make sure to help one another.

Please take this into consideration as this is something that is not only impactful for my family, but Connecticut as a whole. This also will show other states that Connecticut people stick together no matter what skin color, gender, sexuality, housing situation, or where they are from.

I support S.B. No 956 with the modifications above, and hope the committee will make those changes.

Have a great rest of your day and stay safe.

Sincerely,

Ms. Lowe