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

My name is Yovanica Nole. I am a resident from Wallingford, Connecticut. 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'm from Ecuador but I grew up in Spain. In 2016 my family and I moved to the United States because my parents didn't have a job and they wanted to give my sister and me better opportunities for our future. Now I'm working at an Italian restaurant as a waitress and saving money to study fashion design in New York.

My family and I can't get health insurance because of our immigration status. When we have an emergency and we go to the hospital, we have to pay a lot of money for the cost of that emergent care.

In my case, when I went to the doctor to get a contraceptive, I did not have many options since some options are very expensive and I do not have insurance that can cover it. Medications sometimes are too expensive and we can't pay for them.

Having access to health care, is going to help a lot for my family and I, because sometimes we have some pains or discomforts that we do not give so much importance to and we think are not so serious, because having ourselves seen or taking treatments would cost too much for us, but with this help we would not have to worry about it and we would be in better health.

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,
Yovanica Jeanneth Nole Bermeo