

Hello, my name is Wilson and I live in New Haven for the past 20 years. I support S.B. No. 956: "AN ACT PROVIDING MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS", with clear language that extends eligibility for all HUSKY programs to all CT residents, regardless of immigration status.

Having free health insurance would be a 360 degree turn around, firstly, because I've been doing my taxes for 20 plus years and not having an insurance card is very difficult for me and my family. Sometimes, due to economic situations and because it is out of our reach, we cannot go to the doctor or pediatrician or hospital because we do not have access to insurance. In my case, I have been paying the taxes for 20 years and more, and in that tax payment we are charged for insurance, but we do not have access to the benefit we are paying for. So in terms all of the time and money that we have contributed throughout the years, each one of us should have the right to health care. I believe it is indispensable and necessary. I have had many conversations with friends that have had to go to a hospital or a clinic and after a month they received letters of payment of \$20 or \$30,000, which is very difficult for us to have to pay that amount. That is why I support SB956 so that all immigrants have access to the medical services that we need and deserve.

Thank you,  
Wilson Rivadeneira