



October 23, 2023

Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer

U.S. Senate

Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Senate Majority Leader Schumer:

On behalf of the Coverage4All coalition, which consists of undersigned **XX** organizations fighting for health care access and immigrant rights for millions across New York State and the country, we write to express our deep concern in the delay of finalizing the proposed rule to expand health coverage for DACA recipients, crime victims, and immigrant children and urge you to help us ensure that the rule gets finalized without further delays.

In April of 2023, the Department of Health and Human Services proposed a new regulation that would reduce barriers to enrolling in health coverage for certain groups. In particular, the notice of proposed rulemaking would make DACA recipients eligible for coverage under the Affordable Care Act, as well as Medicaid and CHIP in select circumstances.

Any possible delays to finalizing this rule will prevent families from accessing the quality, affordable healthcare they deserve when they need it. In the proposed rule, HSS selected November 1, 2023 as the day for proposed implementation, which coincides with the day of the 2024 Affordable Care Act open enrollment period. This allows for newly eligible individuals to benefit from extensive outreach and enrollment resources devoted to open enrollment. Since immigrants are hard to reach populations, missing this timing would mean that far fewer people will get covered.

Immigrants and their children face significant health disparities, such as worse health outcomes. These trends contribute to racial health disparities in the United States, given that many immigrants are people of color. Due to successful advocacy efforts in New York State, New York

State has already secured eligibility for DACA recipients in its Medicaid and CHIP programs. New York State also requested Essential Plan coverage for DACA recipients through its 1332 Waiver submission. We hope that these population expansions can extend to other State's.

Given your history of showing up for immigrants in critical moments, we urge you to work towards finalizing this rule, and helping us achieve equitable access to health care in New York and also across the nation.

Sincerely,

The New York Immigration Coalition