



February 16, 2023

Senate Health and Human Services Committee
328 State Capitol Building
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606

To Members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee:

UCare is proud to support SF 896/HF 1095, which extend MinnesotaCare eligibility to undocumented noncitizens. UCare is an independent, nonprofit health plan providing health coverage and services across Minnesota and western Wisconsin. Working in partnership with health care providers and community organizations, UCare serves approximately 450,000 Minnesotans enrolled in Minnesota Health Care Programs, such as MinnesotaCare and Medical Assistance.

At present, undocumented Minnesotans who otherwise meet the criteria for Minnesota Health Care Programs are not eligible for them. Fear of deportation and the need to pay out-of-pocket for care have deterred many from receiving care for conditions that could have been otherwise easily treated. These situations often transform conditions into chronic health problems that become more expensive for noncitizens. In the absence of coverage, undocumented Minnesotans must resort to a system with no security, no guarantees, and often no ability to pay for expensive, continuous care that drives up health care costs for all Minnesotans.

UCare is proud to support SF 896/HF 1095 as it will benefit all Minnesotans, regardless of immigration status.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ghita Worcester".

Ghita Worcester
Executive VP, Public Affairs and Chief Growth Officer