

Health care for undocumented immigrants



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Health care is a very complicated subject especially lately with the new reform that the government is implementing. A highly increasing portion of the population it's currently uninsured not including a large percent that are immigrants in need of health care coverage. For this population we have to keep in mind that the status of the illegal population keeps growing every day. This raises the concern when it comes to health issues, it's speculated that at least 95% of the undocumented people crossing the border have not had any proper health care in their entire life. Health care is a very popular and heated debate topic. When it comes to undocumented population; a lot of the debate topics we can find are the pro and cons of providing them with health care, the cost of it and who will be eligible for the new health bill recently passed by congress.

In the pro and cons people can find that there is a very large amount of the population unable to afford health care. This situation has a very alarming increase rate every year; this is even excluding the undocumented population. Most of this population is afraid to seek medical attention due to their fears of being caught and deported to their original country. J Messerli, stated in an article " The number of uninsured U. S. residents has grown to over 45 million (although this number includes illegal immigrants, etc.)" (Messerli, 2004).

That is why it is necessary to find some kind of health care form that will aid the uninsured population disregarding their status. It is found that the negative side it's that it will be more economically expensive to provide health care to immigrants that are illegal in the country. A portion of the legal population is in agreement that it is necessary to find a proper way to

address the health care situation. One opinion founded is by Robert Rector, “ Granting illegal immigrants’ access to government health care and welfare would be enormously expensive for the U. S. taxpayer. The health care bills currently being debated in Congress would only increase these costs. (Rector, 2009). This is why the population it is in disagreement with a solution on finding a proper way to provide some type of health care to the illegal immigrant population.

Government researchers have found that what its being are already proving to illegal immigrants with education, maternity coverage and emergency healthcare is already a large cost to the current resources provided by the government. Reported by Richard Wolf, “ At the state and local level, illegal immigrants already cost more in public services such as education and health care than they pay in taxes, the Congressional Budget Office reported recently. (Wolf, 2008). It is found that the taxpaying population is the one supplying the resources for these aids to be supplied to the illegal population. A statement found in Fairus. org “ Making the cost of this medical care to be passes onto the taxpayer, and strains the financial stability of the health care community.” (Illegal Immigration and Public Health, N. D).

The population believes that it is unfair that even though we are supplying this means to the illegal population the tax payers are still not able to benefits from some of them like maternity care. It is found that if you make over a certain amount of income and you are uninsured the maternity coverage is it denied by the state benefits. This makes a very valid argument on to the new reform and who is eligible to obtain medical health care from the illegal population.

Recently the President has been criticized for excluding immigrants from the new reform. Herszenhorn, David stated “ The White House on Friday said it would bar illegal immigrants from purchasing health coverage through a proposed insurance marketplace.” (Herszenhorn, 2009). Even though the new bill is still providing maternity benefits to illegal immigrants to the woman that will be having children in this state, providing a good healthy start to the babies that will be born US citizens. Rector, Robert informed “ All illegal immigrant women who do not have private health insurance and who give birth inside the United States will have the full cost of childbirth paid by the U. S. taxpayers.” (Rector, 2009).

Making this a still heated debate, currently if you are not insured, pregnant and make too much money for the government aid, but too little to afford private insurance you are denied for both type of medical coverage and you have to find a way to private pay for your maternity care.

Making this still a difficult and ongoing debate of what it's to come on the new health care reform. This is why when it comes to health care is and ongoing debate especially when it comes to immigrants being able to obtain benefits or having benefits that are not supplied to the taxpayers. In the information gathered for this paper was from different sources and their different point of views from the authors. This information was an eye opener of the ongoing situation with health care.

Finding how the cost of bringing aid to the illegal immigration and how it affects us is heart breaking. Being in the health care system myself I can see how the effects of not having health care is on patients, how the illegal

immigrants patient suffer from not having proper care. The uninsured population and the need for health care will be an ongoing battle for this current government and the ones to come. We can only hope that in the future we can find a way to be able to provide proper care to everyone disregarding their status.