

# COVER ALL COLORADANS

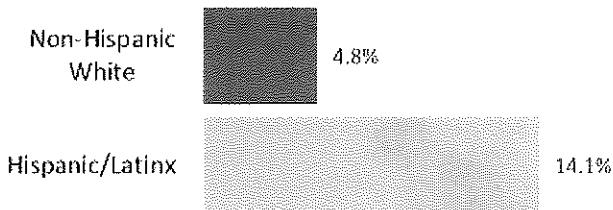
HB22-1289

Sponsors: Representatives Gonzales-Gutierrez and McCluskie and Senator Moreno

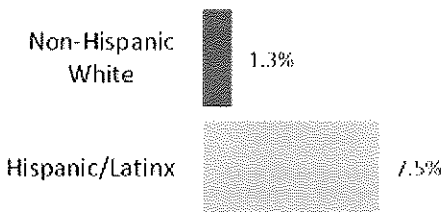
## Every family deserves a healthy start

Health insurance coverage is an important social determinant of health and a building block of family financial security. Perhaps at no time are these benefits more important than during pregnancy and childhood.

**Uninsured Rates for Women (age 18-44) in Colorado, 2021**



**Uninsured Rates for Children (age 0-18) in Colorado, 2021**



Source: 2021 Colorado Health Access Survey

While efforts to expand access to health insurance in Colorado have reduced uninsured rates, wide disparities by race and ethnicity remain. In Colorado, Hispanic/Latinx women of reproductive age are three times more likely to be uninsured, compared to their non-Hispanic peers, and Latinx children are twice as likely to be uninsured.

This bill will:



### Expand Coverage

- Provide full health care coverage using existing federal funding for pregnant people who would otherwise be eligible for Medicaid and CHP+ if not for their immigration status, and continues coverage through 12 months postpartum.
- Provide full health care coverage to children, regardless of immigration status, through age 18.



### Provide Support

- Provide pregnancy and postpartum support by improving access to parental support programs.



### Collect Data

- Collect data for improved health care equity by strengthening and permanently authorizing CDPHE's Health eMoms Survey.



### Expand Enrollment

- Expand health insurance enrollment by creating a Special Enrollment Period for pregnancy so that people can sign up for insurance when they become pregnant and not have to wait until later in the year.



# Healthcare coverage for undocumented children and pregnant people is a win for families, communities, and Colorado's future

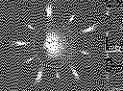
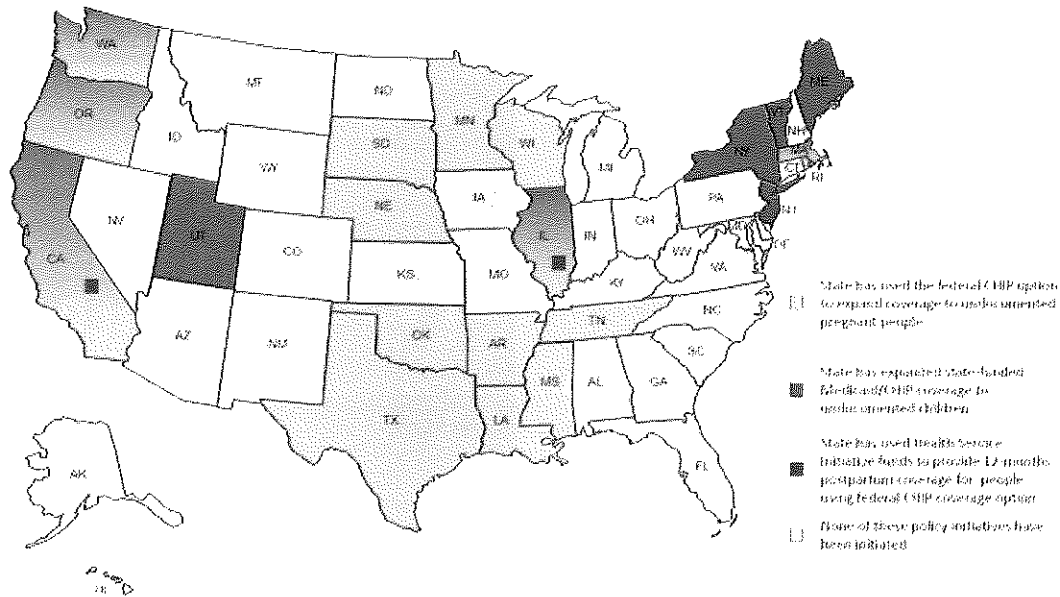
All people need access to health insurance, regardless of where they work, how much money they make, their age, medical conditions, marital status, family composition, or immigration status. Health care access is especially critical to health and wellbeing during childhood and pregnancy.

Insurance access improves physical and mental health, and lowers infant, child, and adult mortality rates. Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP+) are critical for the health access of pregnant people, new parents, and children.

The ongoing pandemic has exposed the disparities that communities of color face when they are routinely and systemically denied access to care they need. Expanding access to all children and pregnant and postpartum people, regardless of immigration status, is fundamental to achieving health equity in Colorado. Communities of color in Colorado experience some of the biggest disparities in health care including:

- Wide disparities by race and ethnicity in insurance coverage, despite efforts to expand access
- Higher rates of preventable, pregnancy-related deaths
- Fear of enrolling in coverage for mixed status families

## Many other states have already taken up these policy options



- Amy Pitlik, Mendez Barkis  
amy@mendezbarkis.com  
(303) 704-6054, (PPRM and CHP)
- Tonette Salazar, S360  
tonettes@strategies360.com  
(720) 231-1425 (CIRC)
- Jennifer Miles, Frontline Public Affairs  
jennifer@frontlinepublicaffairs.com  
(303) 668-3979, (CCHN)
- Moira Cullen, Capstone Group  
mcullen@capstonegroupinc.com  
(303) 868-8452 (CCC)
- Mary Alice Mandarich  
mamandaric@aol.com  
(303)594-0504 (COLOR)

# Endorsements for HB22-1289: Cover All Coloradans



Colorado Chapter

