Make your voice heard by calling your Senator and urging them to cosponsor the HEAL for Immigrant Women and Families Act of 2020, recently introduced by Senator Booker! You can find your Senator and their contact information here (https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members).

The bill was introduced last fall in the House of Representatives, you can call them too! Check to see if your representative is already a cosponsor on the bill by visiting https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/4701/cosponsors.

If your Representative is already a cosponsor, call and thank them for cosponsoring H.R. 4701, the HEAL for Immigrant Women and Families Act. If your Representative hasn’t signed on yet, use the script below for both Senators and Representatives.

Hello, my name is [insert name] and I’m calling as a constituent of Senator/Representative [Insert the name of member] and live in [insert your city/town in their district]. I’m calling about the HEAL for Immigrant Women and Families Act in hopes your boss can sign on as a cosponsor.

*Pause for their response.*

The bill was introduced in the Senate for the first time by Senator Cory Booker. Because of the spread of the coronavirus, it’s clearer now, more than ever, that health coverage and care are critical for every family. The HEAL Act removes unnecessary policy barriers that prevent immigrant families from receiving crucial and affordable health care. Immigrants’ access to health care is important to me because [insert reason why the HEAL Act is important to you and your community. Try to connect back to your district, if possible.]

I appreciate you taking my call, and I hope [Insert Rep/Senator Name] will sign onto this important piece of legislation.

**Additional talking points to use:**

- It’s clear that we can’t protect our country by denying entire communities access to health care. Viruses do not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, or national origin. Our current public health crisis makes legislation that expands health coverage to immigrants even more urgent.
Infectious disease outbreaks have a long history of affecting society's most vulnerable. Immigrants who don’t have access to health insurance, nutritious food or safe, affordable housing fall squarely into that category.

**Health should not depend on immigration status.** Every individual deserves to be healthy and to obtain affordable health care with dignity, regardless of how long they have been in the US or the status they have been granted.

**The HEAL Act is important for women and families.** When women are healthy, their entire family benefits. Immigrant women are often the decision-makers regarding health care for their families and the backbones of their communities.

Right now, under current law, immigrants have to navigate a complicated patchwork of care that often forces them to pay out-of-pocket, particularly if a community health center or employer-sponsored health insurance is not available to them. **Obtaining health care is not a reality for immigrants if it is not affordable.**

The HEAL for Immigrant Women and Families Act removes the five-year bar and opens up the ACA marketplace so that immigrants can access the affordable health care they need.

From threats to health care and nutrition to affordable housing to separating families at the border and mass deportation, the Trump Administration has been relentless in attempting to strip away agency and dignity from immigrant families. In light of these threats and constant attacks, we need **bold and impactful legislation** that expands access to the basic care that immigrants and their families need and deserve.

**We need the HEAL Act so that immigrants can get affordable health care.** Every person should be able to get affordable health care no matter how long they have been in the U.S. or the status they have been granted, especially now.

Nearly half of low-income immigrant women are uninsured. 2.3 million AAPI women are uninsured.