Undocumented immigrants make significant contributions to our state. Numbering over 2 million, these Californians comprise nearly one-tenth of the workforce and pay about $3 billion in state and local taxes each year.

Nearly 9 in 10 undocumented adults with low incomes are uninsured. Due to their immigration status, undocumented adults are ineligible for comprehensive Medi-Cal coverage. Moreover, relatively few have private health insurance due to cost or other factors.

California can provide health coverage to low-income undocumented adults by expanding eligibility for Medi-Cal. While federal funds cannot be used to provide comprehensive Medi-Cal coverage to undocumented residents, California may use state dollars to do so. In fact, in 2016 California extended eligibility for full Medi-Cal benefits to undocumented children and youth through age 18.

Note: “Low income” is defined as having an income at or below 138% of the federal poverty line. Figures do not sum to 100 due to rounding.
Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research