## **Extend Enhanced Premium Tax Credits** to Protect Hispanic-Owned Businesses

## 4.8 million

#### Hispanic Americans enrolled in Marketplace coverage in 2024.

29% of total enrollment and a 185% increase since 2020 – driven largely by Enhanced Premium Tax Credits

#### ... But 970,000 are projected to lose health coverage if these tax credits expire in 2025.

Enhanced Premium Tax Credits (EPTCs) have been a key driver of recent coverage gains for Hispanic-owned small businesses and workers since 2021. By making Marketplace plans more affordable, **EPTCs have helped reduce uninsured rates and individual healthcare costs**. Letting them expire would undo this progress, straining budgets of hardworking families and entrepreneurs.

### Marketplace Coverage Fuels Hispanic Small Business Success

For many Hispanic small business owners and workers, individual Marketplace plans are their only option for health coverage – and **EPTCs make it affordable**.

#### Entrepreneurs

Hispanic small business owners, often operating on thin margins, rely on Marketplace coverage with EPTCs as an entrepreneurial safety net.

### **Self-Employed**

From 2019 to 2024, the number of Hispanic self-employed workers grew 30%, a surge of self-sufficiency driven by access to affordable health insurance.

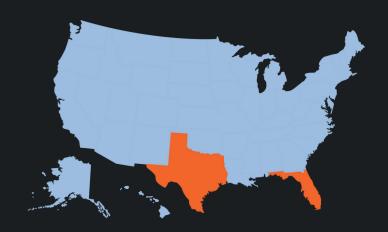
### Workers

Hispanic workers are more likely to be employed by very small firms or in low-wage sectors that do not offer health insurance, so Marketplace coverage is their only option.

### 4.2 million

small business owners and self-employed individuals across the United States get their health insurance through the Marketplace.

Florida (600,000+) and Texas (500,000+) lead the nation in Marketplace enrollment by small businesses, with many business owners and workers relying on it for coverage.



### Why EPTCs Matter for Local Economies



#### **Small Business Growth**

Rising premiums and administrative burdens have made it increasingly difficult for small businesses to offer health benefits. EPTCs help employees afford their own coverage, allowing business owners to reinvest savings into growth and job creation.

### Self-Employed and Gig Workers

As the gig economy grows, more workers won't have access to employer-provided health benefits. EPTCs ensure these workers can maintain affordable, stable health coverage without giving up their flexibility or independence.

### What's at Stake if EPTCs Expire?

# Nearly 4 million

Americans, including **at least 1 million** Hispanic individuals, could become uninsured

## **Nearly half**

of Hispanic Marketplace enrollees say **they would drop coverage if premiums skyrocket** 

Enhanced Premium Tax Credits have helped to **cut the uninsured rate among Hispanic Americans in half** since 2020. If the tax credits expire, these gains could be reversed, with Hispanic workers seeing some of the largest coverage losses, including roughly **half of Hispanic employees at small firms** losing insurance altogether.

### **Being Uninsured Has Serious Consequences**

Uninsured workers are far more likely to delay care, lack a primary doctor, and rely on emergency rooms for treatment – **leading to worse health outcomes and higher strain on hospitals**.

### The Bottom Line

**Extend the Enhanced Premium Tax Credits beyond 2025** to support Hispanic-owned small businesses, empower entrepreneurs, and protect workers. These tax credits help drive local economic growth by ensuring that healthcare costs don't stand in the way of innovation, job creation, or economic opportunity.



#### Sources:

<u>Health Insurance Coverage and Access to Care Among Latino Americans: Recent Trends and Key Challenges |</u> <u>HealthCare.gov Plan Selections by Race and Ethnicity, 2015-2024 | Impact Of Enhanced Tax Credits On ACA</u> <u>Coverage By Race | The Impact of Enhanced Premium Tax Credits on Coverage by Race and Ethnicity</u>