

Equity Provisions in Health Care Reform



Access to high quality health care in the United States is not always within reach, especially for vulnerable populations such as racial minorities, those lacking proficiency in English, and the uninsured. By expanding health insurance coverage and tackling barriers related to access to care, quality of care, patient empowerment, infrastructure reforms, and social and community-level determinants of health, states have the power to achieve equity.

A report entitled *Identifying and Evaluating Equity Provisions in State Health Care Reform* seeks both to identify state policies that promote equitable health care access and quality, and to evaluate existing laws, regulations, or reform proposals in five states – Massachusetts, Washington, Illinois, Pennsylvania, and California. These states' initiatives, all of which move toward universal health insurance coverage, also address other innovative strategies such as improving health care provider diversity, distribution, and cultural competence.

[Click here](#) to access the complete document through the Families USA website.