

Transcript, Robert Treviño Jr.

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Growing up in the military, growing up and just kind of moving around, health care was just a guarantee – it's something I took for granted. But then, like talking to my family and friends just a little bit – my family still lives in Alice, Texas, San Antonio, or just areas where health care is not just something that you can wake up every day and be like, “Oh, I need to go to the doctor, I need to accomplish that.” – I just couldn't understand that. I suppose talking, I saw it firsthand. I would go visit my grandparents and I was around poverty and there was a time where financial insecurity was a real thing, but seeing it firsthand where it was life or death was changing for me. In times of uncertainty where I really didn't know what I was supposed to do, or what I wanted to do with my life, I think that it just made so much sense seeing this inequality I suppose, that didn't have to be there, that could be fixed, that has been fixed in other places, and I wanted to become a part of that. Kind of just copy the careers or trying to forge my own career of making sure that everyone can take that for granted, can at least rely on, you know, their health. At a certain point, it's the foundation of everything else. Everything else can be built from there as long as they can work at providing something as basic as health care that has shown in a lot of places as a real possibility, could just make the world a lot better, I suppose. Like I am fortunate enough to still believe in utopia, whatever that means, even if it means I'm not a realist. But I think that in order to reach for it, in order to become a better place, providing those basic needs such as health care is definitely one of the first steps we can accomplish.