Week 5 Policymaking Assignment Template:

Please fill out the template in the boxes on the right side of each prompt. Each box will expand as you write. Please see the integrated Week 5 Policymaking assignment instructions, examples, sources, and grading rubric for guidance.

Name: Student Name (First & Last): Tania Valdes **Class: POLI 330** **Professor Name: Dr. [redacted]** **Date: [redacted]**	
State the name of your chosen topic from the provided list OR choose a topic of your own.	The Affordable Care Act
Provide a brief background of issues that may have led to the policy.	The Affordable Care Act was enacted in 2010 in response to rising healthcare costs, high rates of uninsured Americans, and uneven access to quality care. Prior to the ACA, many individuals faced barriers to obtaining affordable health insurance, leading to preventable health disparities and financial hardship. The policy aimed to increase healthcare coverage, reduce costs, and improve overall health outcomes by expanding Medicaid, establishing health insurance exchanges, and implementing requirements for coverage for pre-existing conditions (Kaiser Family Foundation, 2020; Obama, 2016). These efforts sought to address systemic inequities and promote a healthier population domestically.

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