



Virginia MIRC< vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

New MIRC Comment

1 message

Sun, Dec 15, 2013 at 11:52 PM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

First Name - Floyd**Last Name** - Maxey**Organization Name** -

Comment - While all can sympathize with the "sentiments" that are driving the medicaid expansion, budgets are not balanced on emotion. All concerned must look at this issue without emotional filters or allowing others to tug at heart strings. If viewed in that light, and with clear eyes, the proposed Medicaid expansion has the potential to be the largest single factor, in Virginia's history, to drive our State onto the path of financial ruin. As it is, Medicaid is an ever expanding burden to Virginia's middle class that consumes in excess of 20% of the budget. Expanding Medicaid further, on a promise that the Federal Government will pay the bill for 3 years and reduce to 90% thereafter is analogous to "If you like your doctor, you can keep your Doctor. Period." (Period meaning no stipulations, no proviso's, no qualifiers.) It took considerably less then 3 years before that particular promise was broken. Think about it. Promises were made to all Americas about keeping their health plans and Doctors. With that noted, what would make Virginia legislators believe that the Federal Government would keep their word to the State? With Federal primacy being asserted above one and all, history suggests that they won't. We're in an entirely new era where a promise is only good as long as it's convenient. In this particular example, regarding ACA, we've all had it demonstrated to us that a solemn promise, with no caveats or provisos, can be walked back in a year or two. Given that the Medicaid expansion is not based on realistic numbers or good accounting principles, the prudent course of action would be to "wait and see" how it goes with other States. As we're watching the Medicaid expansion and other programs play out, it seems that the prudent course of action would be to wait at least two or three years until some solid and verifiable statistics are available. Only after verifiable data is in hand, that has been carefully studied, can an informed decision be made.

**Medicaid expansion - 2013.doc**

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