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## New MIRC Comment

1 message

Thu, Oct 17, 2013 at 1:15 AM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

**First Name** - Virginia

**Last Name** - Kirby

**Organization Name** -

**Comment** - My Comment Contribution that I was unable to give as Speaker #115 at the Oct. 15'13 Hearing due to time constraints: Thank you for this opportunity to share in this forum. I come here as a concerned long time resident of the state of Virginia. I do not support Medicaid expansion in our state for many reasons which I will now enumerate: 1. Medicaid has proven to provide worse healthcare outcomes than private insurance and in some cases than no insurance at all. 2. The Program's broken system of doctor reimbursements and its exorbitant amount of red tape mean that many doctors have to choose between taking Medicaid patients and staying in business. 3. Expanding an already inefficient insurance program with an estimated 10 to 20 percent fraud, leading to around \$2 billion in waste annually will bankrupt Virginia. It is emphatically wrong to subject Virginians to the worst health care available and saddle our children with massive tax hikes. 4. Medicaid expansion is a significant part of the Obama Administration's attempt to transform our health care system into a single-payer, government run system. 5. This attempt to transform our healthcare system into a single-payer system is the antithesis of free market economics. 6. Obamacare takes 1/7th of our economy and puts it into the hands of bureaucrats, instead of those of patients and their doctors. 7. All of the reports supporting Medicaid expansion conveniently ignore one fact: the long term cost to Virginia. Uncertainties about its costs increase after 2019. With our excessive amount of federal debt, it is unlikely the federal match will be anymore than 50% past 2019, costing Virginians, then, ~\$2.0 billion/year with the additional 400,000 people to be covered. 8. Proponents of expansion argue that if we don't expand, our money will go to other states. This is not true. States are limited to the money they receive based on a formula. 9. The success of this Medicaid-funded Obamacare is completely dependent on full participation by all states. Already 15 states have decided to not expand Medicaid. As more states reject Obamacare, the federal government will decrease its support and VA will be in a budget crisis long before 2019. 10. Medicaid requires a major overhaul. Real reform needs to be patient and doctor driven.



Comments-MIRC, Oct.15,'13 Hearing.doc

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2. The Program's broken system of doctor reimbursements and its exorbitant amount of red tape mean that many doctors have to choose between taking Medicaid patients and staying in business.
3. Expanding an already inefficient insurance program with an estimated 10 to 20 percent fraud, leading to around \$2 billion in waste annually will bankrupt Virginia. It is emphatically wrong to subject Virginians to the worst health care available and saddle our children with massive tax hikes.
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