



Virginia MIRC< vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

New MIRC Comment

1 message

Wed, Oct 16, 2013 at 3:21 PM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

First Name - Alfred

Last Name - Dougherty

Organization Name - citizen

Comment - Dear MIRC, I support the expansion of Medicaid in Virginia. The poorest groups of people in Virginia need and deserve decent health care. Medicaid in Virginia should be expanded to include all income-eligible individuals, not just those currently covered. Currently, many poor Virginians do not get preventive care or decent medical treatment when illnesses and other medical conditions first appear. They end up going to emergency rooms for routine and non-emergency care or only seek care when their conditions become acute and expensive to treat. Because they lack coverage, those of us with medical coverage are charged higher premiums. These added costs to the medical system can be greatly reduced by including this population in Medicaid, while increasing the opportunity for decent care for this large segment of Virginia's population. Since the cost of Medicaid expansion will be paid by the federal government in its entirety for 3 years and at 90% after that, it is a "no-brainer" for Virginia to participate in the program. Not taking the federal dollars for medicaid is like refusing federal funds for roads and bridges and other infrastructure projects. In a word, it's dumb. Sincerely, Alfred F. Dougherty