



Virginia MIRC <vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

Medicaid Expansion: a Good Idea

1 message

Janet Cook [REDACTED]
To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

Thu, Oct 10, 2013 at 12:45 PM

2 attachments

 **Expand Medicaid.pdf**
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Memo to the Virginia Medicaid Innovation and Reform Commission.

From: Janet C. Cook

[REDACTED]
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Subject: please vote to expand Medicaid to cover everyone who will not be covered by the Affordable Care Act.

Dear Members,

I am a great-grandmother who is concerned about the future of our Commonwealth. I urge you to vote to expand Medicaid to cover the thousands of Virginians who, even after implementation of the Affordable Care Act, will be left without health insurance.

Covering all Virginians is a basic act of decency. Many potential beneficiaries of an expanded Medicaid are hard-working parents with children who otherwise will be left untreated in our technically-advanced medical system.

Expansion is good for the Virginia economy for the following reasons:

1. An expansion would be largely paid for by the federal government.
2. It would keep Virginia residents healthy to work.
3. It would relieve the drain on expensive emergency medical care---many people without health insurance wait until their health has deteriorated seriously, then depend on emergency care to treat their much more advanced disease. If these people were under Medicaid, we could support their health care for a fraction of the cost.
4. It will create good health care jobs for Virginians. As you know health care is one of the few employment areas in our economy that is growing. Not only would the health care workers have good jobs, but would create a demand for education and training, thereby creating more jobs in those fields, also.

Importantly, Virginia taxpayers, through their federal income taxes, are paying for the federal government to support the expansion of Medicaid for other states to expand their Medicaid, but getting nothing in return. If we expand Medicaid, Virginia would receive our fair share of benefits.

Please protect the health, and jobs, and taxes of Virginians by expanding Medicaid in our Commonwealth.

Sincerely yours,

Janet C. Cook