



Virginia MIRC <vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

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**medicaid expansion va**

1 message

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**John & Barbara Rose** [REDACTED] T  
To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

ue, Oct 15, 2013 at 8:50 AM

Please do NOT expand Medicaid in Virginia. See attached.

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 **medicaid expansion va.pdf**  
75K

October 15, 2013

Medicaid Reform and Innovation Commission  
[vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov](mailto:vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov)

Dear Chairman Hanger and Members of the Medicaid Reform and Innovation Commission:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the work of Medicaid Reform and Innovation Commission (MIRC). I am a resident of Virginia speaking on behalf of myself but know I am not alone – so many of us are worried about fiscal responsibility in government.

While reforms of Medicaid, part of the MIRC's charge, are always welcomed and indeed needed, I can see no way any expansion of Medicaid is feasible if the Commonwealth of Virginia is to be run in a fiscally responsible way.

Some say that the federal government will pick up the tab for this huge new cost. Even if they do, how long will it last and it is still being paid with tax dollars – we the citizens tax dollars. So can you tell us how the Commonwealth of Virginia will pay for this increase on top of the large dollars we already put into Medicaid – YES, tell us now how much it will cost in raised taxes to fund in year 3, 4, 5 when the feds stop paying.

And the need, is it real? With all the changes in health insurance with The Affordable Care Act, why is this needed. Some say 400,000 not covered, well isn't that what The Affordable Care Act is addressing. In addition I have worked with those on Medicaid and because of all the mismanagement/late payments, etc., many doctors will not take Medicaid patients. I have also seen that the medical community and nonprofits (churches and others) help those in need. Personally I have seen the community (without the government) over and over again provide the treatment needed (yes I am sure there are examples to the contrary but in balance not enough to warrant this expansion of Medicaid under consideration by MIRC).

Note that on the federal level Medicare and Medicaid are expected to double in cost by 2023 (WSJ p. A12 March 15, 2013). Please tell me why it will be any different for the current Medicaid program in Virginia and then add this expansion!

I urge you to stand up for fiscal responsibility and take NO ACTION which would expand Medicaid in this Commonwealth. Let's see if the federal government can clean up the abuse in the current program; let's see what happens with the changing health coverage under the Affordable Care Act.

Thank you for your consideration.

Barbara M. Rose



Richmond, Virginia

c: Delegate John O'Bannon