



Virginia MIRC <vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

letter of support for the work of the Committee

1 message

Karen Kolet [REDACTED] T
To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

ue, Oct 15, 2013 at 7:00 PM

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Machipongo [REDACTED]
October 15, 2013

Medicaid Reform and Innovation Commission
Richmond, VA

Dear Chairman Hanger and Members of the Commission:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments of the MIRC.

I am a retired public school administrator who worked in some of the school divisions on the Peninsula. There I saw poverty. But I have never seen poverty as I have observed it in Northampton County on our beautiful Eastern Shore, my present home. So, I am pleased that the General Assembly has agreed to reform Medicaid and then expand it.

I believe that you can close the health care gap for the thousands of people who do not qualify under the current Medicaid rules in Virginia. So many of these people work but earn too little to buy their own coverage and too much to qualify under Medicaid rules. These are real people who are caught with no alternative but to use emergency rooms in hospitals and we all pay for that in higher costs. In states where Medicaid has been expanded, federal dollars flow but Virginia is not on the receiving end of those dollars. In my opinion, the failure to care for all of our citizens is short-sighted and mean-spirited.

It is time to do the right thing for all the citizens of Virginia. Please take the necessary steps to expand Medicaid and restore my pride in being a Virginian.

Sincerely,

Karen L. Kolet, Ed.D.