

Virginia MIRC< vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

Medicaid expansion

1 message

Katherine Freshley<[REDACTED]>

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To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

I strongly support Virginia expanding Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act. Virginia's current Medicaid coverage is embarrassingly one of the lowest in the country while accepting Medicaid expansion will help thousands of Virginians secure health insurance and improved quality of care. Yet for political not health reasons Medicaid expansion is being rejected by the state. Our state depends on low-income people to do many service and hard labor jobs that are critical to our state's well-being and economy. Sick people can't work to their capacity so not expanding Medicaid not only hurts Virginia's uninsured but its economy as well. In addition, our current model of health care delivery that relies on emergency rooms and hospitals has been documented to be the most expensive way of delivering health care. We need to embrace more efficient and cost-effective models that improve quality of the care, which Medicaid expansion provides.

As a resident of Virginia and a taxpayer, *I would be happy to have my taxes raised in order to secure health insurance, equity and fairness for all Virginia residents.* I can not understand why Virginia is so opposed to Medicaid expansion, especially when the federal government under the ACA would pay 100% of all new Medicaid enrollees for the first three years and 90% after that. Virginia is rejecting significant federal funding that will help its residents tremendously. This makes no sense to me.

Sincerely,

Katherine T. Freshley

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