



Virginia MIRC <vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

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## New MIRC Comment

1 message

Wed, Oct 16, 2013 at 6:13 AM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

**First Name** - Mary Beth

**Last Name** - Testa

**Organization Name** - individual

**Comment** -



**MIRC comments MBSTesta.pdf**

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October 16, 2013

Dear Members of the Medicaid Innovation and Reform Commission,

You have a very important decision to make and I appreciate the opportunity share my support for the expansion of Medicaid in Virginia.

Please consider that 25% of the eligible adults who would benefit from Medicaid expansion are parents of children under the age of 18. Research shows that when parents have health insurance, they are more likely to enroll their kids in health insurance and take them to the doctor. That means more kids getting well-child check-ups, staying healthier, and whole families staying out of the emergency room when they get sick. Not only does that mean better health, but smarter spending of healthcare dollars.

I am thankful for my family's access to health insurance which means access to doctors when we need them, for speedy recoveries that get us back to work and back in school. All of my neighbors and members of my community should have this peace of mind to take care of their families too. Medicaid expansion will make a difference.

I care about Virginia's youngest children, and I care about the early childhood teachers and caregivers who are with them each day while their parents work to support their own families. Many of those teachers and caregivers do not have access to insurance through their employer, and at their wages, would benefit tremendously from the Medicaid expansion.

Healthy kids are able to stay in school and healthy parents are able to go to work. Access to health care is crucial, and the Medicaid expansion is crucial. Virginia should welcome the federal investment in Medicaid expansion.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Testa  
Falls Church, VA