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## New MIRC Comment

1 message

Mon, Oct 7, 2013 at 3:21 PM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

**First Name** - raymond

**Last Name** - porfiri

**Organization Name** -

**Comment** - Access to affordable health care is a basic human right and an affirmation of human dignity from conception to natural death. Currently, there are 400,000 uninsured Virginians waiting for Medicaid expansion in order to have health coverage. The decision to expand the Medicaid program to these 400,000 uninsured Virginians rests with the newly created Medicaid Innovation and Reform Commission ("MIRC"). The Commission is responsible for overseeing reforms to Medicaid delivery in Virginia before expanding eligibility. MIRC has opened up a comment period enabling Virginians to express their opinions about expanding Medicaid. Please post your comments in support of increased access to healthcare on the MIRC website. Post your comments on the MIRC comment portal here. After entering your name copy and paste the following message. Feel free to add additional comments. Dear Members of the Medicaid Innovation and Reform Commission, Please protect the vulnerable and expand the Medicaid eligible population to 133% of the Federal Poverty level (a single adult making \$15,281 a year). Access to affordable health care is a basic human right and should be available to all. Currently Virginia has among the strictest eligibility criteria in the country and ranks 48th in per capita contributions to Medicaid. Healthier Virginians mean overall lower healthcare costs across the state. Thank you for considering my perspective in this important matter. Optional Comments:- The Affordable Care Act also eliminates uncompensated care reimbursement to hospitals. Without Medicaid expansion, hospitals will be left to completely cover those costs for the most vulnerable patients.- According to a Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association study, Medicaid expansion in Virginia would provide an economic boost of some \$3.9 billion annually and create an estimated 30,000 new jobs in the Commonwealth.- Without Medicaid expansion, Virginia residents' federal tax dollars will leave Virginia and benefit states expanding Medicaid.