



Virginia MIRC <vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

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## New MIRC Comment

1 message

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Thu, Oct 10, 2013 at 1:48 PM

Reply-to: [REDACTED]  
To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

**First Name** - Rosemary

**Last Name** - Malfi

**Organization Name** -

**Comment** -

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 **Medicaid Expansion.pdf**  
141K

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

First, I would like to say that I greatly appreciate the opportunity that the MRIC has given the public to comment on the issue of Medicaid Expansion in the state of Virginia. My name is Rosemary Malfi; I am a Ph.D. candidate in Environmental Sciences at [REDACTED]

I was deeply disheartened to learn in recent weeks that a large group of American citizens will continue to go without affordable health insurance because of a “coverage gap” that exists in states that refused Federal aid to expand Medicaid in conjunction with national health care reform. A recent news segment by NPR highlighted the situation of one Virginia woman who makes \$10,000 a year – too little to qualify for a subsidy under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and too much to qualify for Medicaid. I think most legislators, if placed her shoes, would find that it is an overwhelming struggle to live on \$10,000 a year even *without* serious medical issues.

I strongly urge the MRIC to expand Medicaid to bridge this coverage gap, to provide quality health insurance options to hard-working Virginians who cannot afford to buy private coverage with the income they earn. I volunteer for an after-school program in a low-income neighborhood here in Charlottesville. The parents of my students work various jobs, including positions in the fields of cosmetology, fast-food, community outreach, and maintenance. They work hard to put food on the table, to buy clothing for growing children, to send their children on school field trips, to make Christmas a special holiday when that time of year comes around. These people occupy an important part of our service-based economy; they are your constituents, and they deserve access to health coverage for themselves and their families.

I thank you all for your time and consideration.

Best Regards,

Rosemary Malfi