



Virginia MIRC <vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

New MIRC Comment

1 message

Tue, Oct 15, 2013 at 2:34 PM

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

First Name - Tracy

Last Name - Roof

Organization Name -

Comment -

 **Roof_Tracy.pdf**
8K

October 15, 2013

To: The Medicaid Innovation and Reform Commission

I strongly endorse Virginia choosing to accept the generous federal funds offered under the Affordable Care Act to expand coverage under the Medicaid program. If we choose not to take this money, we will be sending our tax dollars to Washington to subsidize coverage in other states with no benefit for Virginia. It is time for both Congress and state governments to get over their ideological crusade against this law and address what is good for their citizens and their health care systems. Under both Democratic and Republican governments, Virginia has tended to be a state that was well-run and governed by pragmatism. If it chooses not to cover thousands of working people who cannot afford access to health coverage and will not be eligible for subsidies on the exchanges because they are working and contributing to society, Virginia will forgo pragmatism in favor of a making a political statement that will cost the lives of Virginians. This is inexcusable. While it will be a challenge to cover the 10% of Medicaid costs incurred by the expansion in the future, it is a challenge the state can meet if it chooses to do the responsible thing. I would be happy to pay the small fraction more in taxes required to cover these costs in order to meet our social obligation to ensure that everyone – including the working poor – has the opportunity to obtain health care. Coverage under Medicaid is also much better public policy and a better use of resources than relying on the uninsured to seek high cost care in emergency rooms.

Sincerely,

Tracy Roof