



Virginia MIRC <vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

New MIRC Comment

1 message

Mon, Oct 7, 2013 at 3:56 PM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

First Name - Elaine

Last Name - Hammond

Organization Name -

Comment -



medicaid letter.docx

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- Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the recent work of the Medicaid Reform and Innovation Commission (MIRC).
- I am a teacher. I do not receive insurance coverage through my school, but do have insurance through my husband's work.
- I supported the compromise language of the General Assembly and agreed upon by the Governor, to first reform Medicaid and then to expand it.
- 400,000 uninsured individuals will now receive access to quality coverage they so desperately need. A majority of these individuals are hard-working employed Virginians who don't make enough to buy coverage.
- So many Virginians are being left out of affordable health care because Virginia cut Medicare payments and Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments. Medicaid expansion is needed to fill the gaps for providers and for those who cannot get insurance through the Affordable Care Act.
- Virginia taxpayers are paying for other states to take advantage of the federal money to expand Medicaid. We are sending about \$2 billion to Washington a year and receiving nothing in return. If we expand Medicaid, Virginia will see \$2.6 billion in 2015 alone returned to the where it belongs.
- Medicaid expansion will boost the economy by creating new jobs and helping people stay healthy enough to continue working. People who can't afford medications or routine health care are less likely to remain in the workforce.