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## New MIRC Comment

1 message

Thu, Sep 19, 2013 at 12:08 PM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

**First Name** - Karen

**Last Name** - Winstead

**Organization Name** - New Life Birth Center

**Comment** - Dear Virginia Medicaid Commission, I continue to be against Medicaid Expansion unless you do the following to make it equitable to all Virginia citizens and legal residents and to support freedom of health care choice: Medicaid must provide a basic dollar amount to every Virginia citizen in the form of vouchers or health savings account. These vouchers or health savings accounts can be used for ANY healthcare provider or product that the citizen chooses. This includes vitamins, nutrition counseling, chiropractic, midwifery, medical doctors, dentists, insurance premium, etc. The health savings accounts can be through any bank or insurance the citizen chooses and the citizen can add to the amount in the account. No requirement to go through any particular bank, business, or insurance company. As a health care provider, I am sick of seeing some people get off without paying a dime, while others struggle to make ends meet and forego to pay their bill. I am sick of having to meet the requirements of several different insurance companies, Medicaid, Medicare, accreditation bodies, and on and on that only raise the cost of care for all my clients, including the self-pay clients. I am sick of paying for people to show up at the Emergency Room for a pregnancy test or other non-emergency. I am sick of not being paid for months on end on not paid at all because of glitches in the billing system, clients who don't file paperwork on time, or other "rules" that change. Now we are being told we have to pay Medicaid a fee to apply to serve clients that we don't get paid for part of the time and do a monthly update to keep our Medicaid credential. Until we have real freedom in health care, costs will continue to rise and our health care system will continue to deteriorate. Please either hold the line with no expansion, or REFORM THE WHOLE MEDICAID SYSTEM. PLEASE HEAR US. Karen Winstead, RN, CNM, MSN New Life Birth Center [REDACTED] VA