

Virginia MIRC< [vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov](mailto:vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov)>

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**New MIRC Comment**

1 message

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

Thu, Oct 10, 2013 at 11:05 AM

**First Name** - Kathy**Last Name** - Virag**Organization Name** -

**Comment** - Dear Chairman Hanger and Members of the Medicaid Reform and Innovation Commission: Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the recent work of the Medicaid Reform and Innovation Commission (MIRC). I am writing for my son who was let go from his job last spring due to a behavior disorder and he receives no income at this time. We are helping him to pay for COBRA to continue the medical coverage he had while employed. It is way too costly for someone who has no income. We supported the compromise language of the General Assembly and agreed upon by the Governor, to first reform Medicaid and then to expand. 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. With recent cuts to Medicare payments and Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments under the Affordable Care Act, Medicaid expansion is needed to fill the gaps for providers and our safety net. 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. In addition, Medicaid expansion will boost the economy by creating 30,000 new jobs. We urge you to stand up for Virginian women and their families and take action to expand Medicaid. Thank you for your time.