



Virginia MIRC &lt;vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov&gt;

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**New MIRC Comment**

1 message

Sun, Oct 13, 2013 at 9:04 PM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

**First Name** - Phil**Last Name** - Stump**Organization Name** -

**Comment** - I urge the committee to accept the expanded Medicaid offered to Virginia under the Affordable Care Act. Around four hundred thousand people in the state will not have access to affordable health insurance if Virginia does not expand Medicaid. These are the people with incomes between the poverty line and 100% more than the poverty line. They are not eligible to receive the tax credits that help to subsidize purchase of insurance on the new marketplaces under the Affordable Care Act and thus fall into the "Medicaid gap". This is a huge number of people who will not have their basic needs for health care met. Expanding Medicare in Virginia will not cost the state anything in the first year, and most of the expense will be borne by the Federal government in subsequent years. Expanding Medicare will bring almost 30,000 good, well-paying jobs to Virginia and will improve overall health of our citizens, causing medical expenses to decline and generating increased revenues for the commonwealth. We need to provide health care for the working poor and for people with disabilities. We also need to find a way to induce more health providers to accept Medicaid insurance. I know several people who are not able to find care in their home town because no provider will accept their Medicaid insurance.