



Michigan Consumers for Healthcare

Dollars and Sense: Accepting Federal Funds to Cover Michigan's Uninsured with Medicaid

- Saves Michigan money:
 - With **100 percent federal funding** for the first three years and a gradual reduction to a minimum of 90 percent later, this is the highest federal match in history.
 - We will save more than **\$200 million** in the first several years alone when we use federal Medicaid funds instead of state funds for current programs.
 - Michigan can **save more than \$1.3 billion** dollars over a decade.
- Injects billions of dollars into the state's economy, **providing jobs** in fast-growing health-related fields and associated industries. These are dollars and jobs that **stay in Michigan**.
- Poses no risk to the state: **Michigan can withdraw** from the program at any time.
- Makes sure Michigan gets **our fair share** of dedicated federal funds and doesn't increase our role as a "donor state."
- Makes business sense by ensuring **nearly half of Michigan's uninsured get coverage**, helping lower healthcare costs for all state residents, hospitals, and businesses.
- Helps larger businesses who employ lower-income workers, including home health care workers, **avoid penalties** because their employees can work *and* still be eligible for Medicaid coverage.
- **Lowers the "hidden tax" on the insured.** Today, the insured pay at least \$1000 more for health insurance to cover those who have none. Using federal funds to insure lower income Michiganders, we can lower this "tax" on the insured.
- **Protects veterans:** Many of our veterans and their families will qualify for Medicaid due to income. VA and Tri-Care don't cover all veterans equally, and sometimes VA facilities are inaccessible to veterans. Medicaid coverage can close these gaps for those who have served.
- Ensures **rural and underserved areas** receive funds to **keep their hospital doors open**.
- Helps single, childless adults—**many who work**—get coverage through Medicaid for the first time, as long as their incomes are at or below \$15,000 (138% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL)).
- **Assists persons with disabilities and mental illness benefit, as well as their caregivers.** Many with disabilities don't receive Medicaid under current law, and go without insurance. Many care-giving family members cannot work or can only work part-time to care for loved ones. Both groups can receive coverage if their incomes meet simplified eligibility requirements.