



FAST FACTS:

The Need for Medicaid Expansion Creating a Healthier & Stronger Florida, Together.

The nurses, doctors and healthcare workers of SEIU Local 1991 recommend that the state of Florida accept billions of dollars in federal funding under the Affordable Care Act to expand eligibility for Medicaid in Florida to 138% of the federal poverty level (\$26,344 for a family of three in 2012).

We urge the Florida Legislature to approve the expansion by the end of the 2013 legislative session and the governor sign it into law, because it will save lives, create jobs and strengthen Florida's economy.



healthierfloridanow.org



MEDICAID EXPANSION BENEFITS:

- **Medicaid expansion will save lives, create jobs and strengthen Florida's economy.** It will lead to healthier, more productive families and strengthen businesses.
 - **Expands Medicaid coverage to as many as 1.2 million additional Floridians.** There are nearly 4 million people in Florida without health insurance. When the uninsured visit the emergency room for their primary healthcare needs, it drives up the cost of healthcare for everyone.
 - **Expanding Medicaid is a smart investment and is financially a good deal for our state.** It will bring billions of dollars in federal funding to Florida that we pay in taxes.
 - **Creates an estimated 65,000 quality healthcare jobs over the first six years of expansion.**

MEDICAID EXPANSION FACTS:

- **Provides an estimated \$27 billion in federal funding in the first 10 years,** according to Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA) estimates. The federal government will cover 100% of the cost of expansion from 2014-2016, which will gradually be reduced to no less than 90% in 2020 and beyond.
- **The estimated 10-year cost to the state of Florida is \$3 billion according to AHCA.** However, the cost to the state will likely be offset as a result of savings from reductions in uncompensated care.
- **Failure to expand Medicaid would have a devastating impact on hospitals such as Jackson Health System, due to its public mission of providing healthcare even to the uninsured.** At Jackson, up to 70% of all admissions come in through the ER and roughly 14% of JHS' \$1.6 Billion cost of care is uncompensated. Years of Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement cuts by the Florida Legislature have already hurt Jackson. Better primary care afforded by expanding coverage will reduce those costs.

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