



Advocates for Ohio's Future

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ADVOCATES FOR OHIO'S FUTURE PRAISES THE GOVERNOR FOR EXPANDING MEDICAID

COLUMBUS – This afternoon, Governor Kasich announced his decision to include the expansion of Medicaid eligibility in his proposed budget. This decision will strengthen Ohio's health care economy, improve the health of thousands of families and communities, and continue comprehensive reforms to Ohio Medicaid.

The following quotes can be attributed to Gayle Channing Tenenbaum, Co-Chair of Advocates for Ohio's Future:

"Governor Kasich's decision to include Medicaid expansion in his biennial budget will be a boost to Ohio's economy. Medicaid expansion will bring 30,000 new health care jobs to the state of Ohio by 2022. This decision makes Ohioans healthier—healthy citizens build strong communities, and healthy workers strengthen Ohio's economy."

"This decision will support the mother of two children who is on a 4 month waiting list at a community mental health center. Today, she struggles with depression and taking care of her children. She is hanging on to her job by a slim thread. Medicaid expansion will allow her to get the treatment she needs and strengthen her family and her chances of success at work. "

"By investing in public services that make Ohio's workforce healthier and more competitive, our economy is strengthened and Ohio thrives. The expansion of Medicaid is a step in the right direction. We look forward to working with the Legislature and the Governor as they make important choices on how to transform health care in Ohio."

The following quotes can be attributed to Mark Davis, Co-Chair of Advocates for Ohio's Future:

"Two years ago, state government began transforming Medicaid in Ohio. Since then, we've seen bold health care reforms that are focused on improving outcomes and making Ohio a more attractive place to work and live. The Governor is positioning Ohio to be a national leader in the health care industry through innovation in research, education, and delivery."

"Advocates for Ohio's Future strongly urges the Ohio legislature to extend Medicaid coverage to low income workers and their families. Doing so will position Ohio to fill thousands of health care jobs, make Ohioans more competitive, and continue important reforms that are transforming health care delivery. A decision to include Medicaid extension to the working poor in the next state budget will help Ohio realize nearly \$1.4 billion in savings, create over 30,000 jobs, and result in nearly 500,000 uninsured Ohioans gaining health coverage through 2022."

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Advocates for Ohio's Future is a statewide coalition of over 350 local and statewide organizations that works to maintain vital public services – health, human services, and early care & education – to strengthen families and communities in Ohio.