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Dear Members of the House Medicaid Committee,

I am a concerned citizen writing to urge you to have compassion on Ohioans who are at 138% of the federal poverty level, especially as it relates to Medicaid health insurance. The proposed cuts to Medicaid expansion coverage will have devastating impacts and could cost lives and the health of our citizens.

A single individual has to make less than \$21,591 and a family of four has an income of no more than \$44,367 to be eligible for Medicaid under the expansion category 8. Cutting this coverage would be cool and extremely harmful. A budget is a reflection of what you care about and if you care about the people, you will seek better solutions.

In Montgomery County alone, 34,484 people will lose coverage if these cuts go through. These individuals rely on Medicaid for essential health services, and without it, they will face significant barriers to accessing the care they need. This could lead to worsening health outcomes and increased healthcare costs in the long run.

I implore you to consider the human impact of these cuts and to prioritize the health and well-being of our most vulnerable citizens. Please show compassion and support the continuation of Medicaid expansion coverage. This discussion is not just a reflection of dollars and cents but real people who are vital parts of our community. I believe that the members of the Ohio General Assembly do care about people so I hope your budget decisions related to Medicaid will reflect that belief

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

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