

3/5/25

Chairman Gross, Vice Chair Barhorst, Ranking Member Baker and members of the Medicaid Committee,

I want to thank you for the opportunity to share my negative viewpoint of Ohio withdrawing enrollment opportunities for over 700,000 Ohioans to maintain current healthcare coverage. Medicaid expansion has made it possible for families, friends and neighbors to go to necessary medical appointments. Medicaid expansion has increased the health of Ohioans to go to work.

Medicaid expansion has increased the tax dollars from the earnings of well people going to their jobs. Medicaid expansion has enabled the non Medicaid citizens to stay healthy by reducing illnesses in the environment of those of us fortunate to be in good health.

When I go to a restaurant, I am depending on my food preparer and wait person to be in good health to enable me to stay in good health. It is for reasons that I want fellow bus passengers or Uber or Lyft users to be healthy when I travel in the same vehicle.

Our future economy depends on the success of today's students being well enough to attend classes. It depends on teachers and school staff to be well functioning each day. Sick students jeopardize their communities.

We need every Ohio resident to have healthcare access for the overall health of Ohio's whole population.

Shutting down healthcare access by failure to continue to fund the Medicaid Expansion is taking off bandages that result in expensive medical emergencies, suffering of individuals and families, and missed employment.

Nothing is more basic than a healthy Ohio.