



**May 6, 2025**  
**House Medicaid Committee**  
**Opposition Testimony on S.C.R. 5**  
**Melissa Cropper, President of Ohio Federation of Teachers**

Chair Gross, Vice Chair Barhorst, Ranking Member Baker, and members of the House Medicaid Committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on S.C.R. 5.

On behalf of the 20,000 public school educators and support staff, higher education faculty and support staff, and public employees represented by the Ohio Federation of Teachers, many of whom work with Medicaid recipients, I call upon you to reject S.C.R. 5, the resolution to urge Presidential support of Medicaid work requirements. We oppose the work requirements for a variety of reasons.

First off, most Medicaid recipients already work. 92% of adults under 65 on Medicaid are working or unable to work due to caregiving, disability, or school. The many who work are in low-wage industries without affordable employer-sponsored insurance.

We have seen that when work requirements are implemented, we see a reduction in coverage without an increase in employment. In Arkansas, 18,000 people lost Medicaid due to work requirements. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated a proposed national work requirement would lead to 1.5 million losing eligibility, \$109 billion in federal savings, and 600,000 more uninsured—without increasing employment.

On top of them not increasing employment while robbing Ohioans of potentially life saving care, work requirements are confusing and costly. Enrollees struggle with reporting and technology barriers. Administrative costs for the state will rise. In Georgia, \$40 million was spent on administrative costs with the ceiling being north of \$250 million.

Moreover, having access to health insurance supports employment. Medicaid is critical for mental health and addiction treatment, which improves stability. An unmet need for mental health or addiction treatment results in greater difficulty with obtaining and maintaining employment, and Medicaid is an important source of coverage for mental health and addiction treatment services, such as opioid addiction. Having access to regular preventive health care to manage chronic conditions, access medications, and address health issues before they worsen can help support work. The loss of health care will have a negative impact for rural hospitals whose margins are very slim as seen last year when Stewart Hospital closed in Warren, Ohio.

Work requirements will force people off of Medicaid because of bureaucratic red tape, which will increase administrative costs for Ohio, all while not expanding the work force because most people on Medicaid who are able to work already are. Our members work with families, individuals, and children who would needlessly struggle if Medicaid work requirements were enacted. We ask for your no vote on S.C.R. 5.

**Community Solutions released county fact sheets.**

<https://www.communitysolutions.com/fact-sheet/ohio-medicaid-county>

**Additional resources**

Grant Thomas, "Georgia Pathways to Coverage," Georgia Department of Community Health, September 5, 2024,

<https://dch.georgia.gov/document/document/comprehensive-health-coverage-meeting-slide-deckdch-presentation-002/download>.

Robin Rudowitz, MaryBeth Musumeci, and Cornelia Hall, "February State Data for Medicaid Work Requirements in Arkansas," KFF, March 25, 2019,

<https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/state-data-for-medicaid-work-requirements-in-arkansas/>.

Congressional Budget Office, "CBO's Estimate of the Budgetary Effects of Medicaid Work Requirements Under H.R. 2811, the Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023," April 26, 2023,

<https://www.cbo.gov/publication/59109>.

<https://www.communitysolutions.com/resources/public-comment-medicaid-proposals-work-requirements-kids-coverage> Public comment now open for two Medicaid proposals: work requirements and continuous kids coverage

Loychik Weighs in on Closure of Steward Health Care Hospitals in Warren

<https://ohiohouse.gov/news/repUBLICan/loychik-weighs-in-on-closure-of-steward-health-care-hospitals-in-warren-121926>