



SENATE MEDICAID COMMITTEE

Proponent Testimony: SCR 5

Maureen M. Corcoran, Director, Ohio Department of Medicaid

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

Chair Romanchuk, Vice Chair Huffman, Ranking Member Liston, and members of the Senate Medicaid Committee, thank you for the opportunity to be here today. I am Maureen Corcoran, Director of the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM), and I am here to provide testimony in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 5 which urges the President of the United States to support ODM's request to implement work requirements for certain Medicaid recipients.

In July 2023, the Ohio General Assembly enacted House Bill 33 (HB 33), which included Ohio Revised Code (ORC) section [5166.37](#) requiring new eligibility limitations for the adult Medicaid expansion population under Sec. 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII) of the Social Security Act (Group VIII). These new limitations require that to qualify for enrollment in Group VIII, an individual must satisfy at least one of the following criteria:

1. Be at least fifty-five years of age;
2. Be employed;
3. Be enrolled in school or an occupational training program;
4. Be participating in an alcohol and drug addiction treatment program;
5. Have intensive physical health care needs or serious mental illness.

There is a connection between improved health, social interactions with others, being employed and engaged in one's healthcare choices. I'd like to recognize your leadership, Mr. Chairman, in the last two biennial budgets, helping us to establish work related supports with our managed care partners, albeit on a voluntary basis. With almost 90% of individuals served by Medicaid in managed care, the plans will work with individuals who are not otherwise deemed to be exempt or already meeting the Work and Engagement Requirement to ensure that they have the tools and supports they need to comply with the waiver.

On Friday, February 28, the Department formally submitted the waiver application to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). This was accompanied by a letter jointly signed by the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate and the Governor, urging approval. We have been notified that the waiver has satisfied the completeness review and is now undergoing federal public comment period which will close on April 7, 2025. Afterward, the application will enter the review and negotiation period which precedes formal approval. If approved as submitted, the waiver first demonstration year will begin on January 1, 2026.

Chair Romanchuk, Vice Chair Huffman, Ranking Member Liston, and members of the Senate Medicaid Committee, thank you for the opportunity to be here today, and I am happy to answer any questions.