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Attn: Health & Human Services Committee  
300 10<sup>th</sup> street  
Topeka, KS 66612

To whom it may concern:

Hello, my name is Ruth Stieb, I am writing this to you the committee of the Health & Human services of the State of Kansas, requesting you consider the importance of expanding the Medicaid rolls to include those of us that fall within the "Insurance Gap".

At present there are over 100,000 adults that live in Kansas that either don't make the taxable wage needed to qualify for the Affordable Care Act, and or, have someone in their home that makes a non-taxable income through for example, SSDI that disqualifies them from normal Medicaid avenues and yet they themselves do not qualify for disability payments. I fall in this group of people.

I have been unemployed for the past five years. I tried to get SSDI two years ago for fibromyalgia and depression, soon after I was denied, because I didn't have enough medical evidence to qualify for services. Since that time I have attempted to care for my health through homeopathic avenues with little success.

In the year 2014 I was in the emergency room twice, once for a broken tailbone and the other was for a possible blood clot on my knee. I now owe upwards of \$3,500.00 for these services and do not have any way to pay them as my family's income is \$791.00 a month. This is what we live on for rent, electric, one phone, car insurance, house stuff etc. We do not have cable, or internet. We do not get to go out to eat. We do not have memberships to the gym or anything else people of a normal living wage get to do.

In conclusion, I am asking you, the Health & Human service of the state of Kansas to consider expanding the Medicaid roles by accepting the federal funds available so that we can all exhibit good health, and work towards making Kansas a great place to live.

Please don't punish me because I fall within the gap.

Ruth E. Stieb