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RE: Medicaid Expansion

Date: March 16, 2015

Daniel Hawkins
Kansas House of Representatives
Chair, Committee on Health and Human Services
dan.hawkins@house.ks.gov

Honorable Daniel Hawkins:

I request the Medicaid Expansion not be allowed due to the damage it will do to the poor, the expansion of government bureaucracies, employees, and costs. I have had personal experience with the medical system of the poor and it is the best in the world in its operation and cost. An expansion in Medicaid will not improve the medical system.

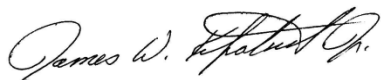
Currently the indigent and "working poor" utilize a system of income scale adjusted pricing. The clinics like Grace Med in Wichita take a patient and furnish medical care either free or based on a scale according to what the client earns. I do know of cases where a person turned down an employer's medical insurance due to the cost and it was more economical to use the sliding scale system at the medical clinics. This system of caring for the poor has been in operation since the 50's according to my own experience. The clinics are the best method to serve those with no or minimal income.

Medicaid makes the poor indentured servants for generations. It is appropriate that persons using the system lose their assets to aid in paying the costs. The assets of the patient's mate is also attached and taken at the mate's death. This deprives any inheritance to the children. Worse, the law now allows the government to attach the assets of the children making them serfs of the State. Continued evolution of Medicaid is detrimental to encouraging people to gain personal wealth.

The expanding costs of Medicaid are not sustainable. The Affordable Care Act and independent State systems demonstrate the costs are not affordable and have yet to produce any additional benefit in medical care. Kansas is already in budget difficulties and cannot afford an increase in costs.

I ask you not to increase the size and cost of government. There are better free market proposals. Consider the Concierge Direct Patient Care system of Atlas MD instead of a costly system Kansas cannot afford.

Sincerely



Cc: Jeff Glendening