

Testimony for bringing Medicaid Expansion to Kansas

I am a retired Family Nurse Practitioner. The most frustrating times for me in my practice involved trying to help care for those who had no health insurance coverage. These are obviously people, usually working at low wage jobs, who can find no means of paying for health insurance policies. Of course, if that is out of financial reach for them, so is paying for health care itself, especially when a diagnostic workup or expensive treatment is needed.

When I watched the poorest of the poor go without health care, I felt less than whole. I strongly believe that health care is a basic human right, not a privilege of a few. And being part of the health care system has only strengthened that view.

As you know, this health care is already paid for. A Harvard study has determined that over 300 Kansans will die for lack of health insurance coverage if Medicaid Expansion is denied. This is a life and death matter, so please consider the lives of these innocent hardworking people over your own political agenda.

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