



Montana Loses Millions Each Day by Not Expanding Medicaid December 2014

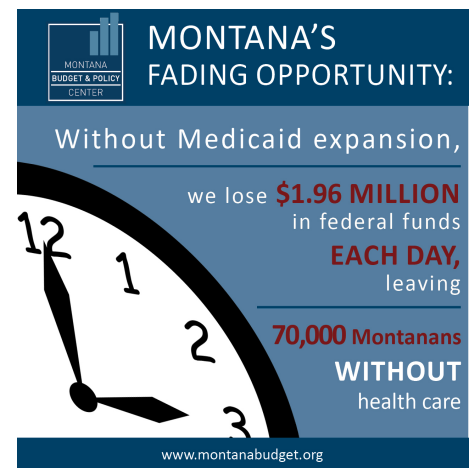
Montana is missing out on millions of dollars every day, in addition to thousands of jobs, by not expanding the state's Medicaid program so more Montanans can gain health coverage.

On January 1, 2014, the federal government made funds available to states that choose to expand their Medicaid programs to those with incomes below 138% of the federal poverty level (roughly \$16,000 a year for an individual, or \$27,000 for a family of three). Because Montana's legislature has so far refused to accept the federal funds and extend Medicaid coverage to as many as 70,000 low-income individuals, Montana has been losing as much as **\$1.96 million of federal funds every day.**¹

Expansion is a good deal for Montana

Between 2014 and 2017, the federal government will cover the *entire* cost of this expansion. Starting in 2017, and for each year thereafter, federal funds will cover no less than 90 percent of the cost. States that delay the expansion miss out on these years that are fully funded by the federal government. This means that for every day that Montana delays, our state foregoes \$1.96 million that could have been used to provide health care coverage, create jobs, and improve communities.

Additionally, Montana is missing out on **\$143,750 each day in potential state and local tax revenue** that would be generated from new jobs created by expansion.¹



Montana is losing out on \$1.38 million in labor income each day

The millions of federal dollars Montana is forgoing would strengthen our economy. Accepting federal funds for Medicaid expansion would support **12,000 good-paying jobs** in communities across our state. Without these jobs, Montana is losing **\$1.38 million in increased labor productivity** each day.¹

70,000 Montanans are missing out on health care coverage

Most importantly, 70,000 low- and moderate-income Montanans would be eligible for Medicaid coverage if the state expands. This number includes 9,500 veterans and their families, 20,000 American Indians, and 43,000 working adults.

It is time to expand Montana's Medicaid program and provide quality health care coverage to thousands of Montanans. Every day that Montana delays the implementation of the Medicaid expansion means millions of dollars lost, thousands of jobs forfeited, and health care coverage denied.

¹ Author's calculations based on Commissioner of Securities and Insurance report. Bureau of Business and Economic Research, January 2014. http://csi.mt.gov/health/media/BBER_MedicaidExpansion.pdf. Figure derived by calculating the estimated federal funds, potential state and local tax revenue, and increased labor productivity for calendar year 2014 as a daily figure.