



Keep your hands off
My
Medicaid



**Tell These Members of House
Appropriations Committee
To Vote NO on SB 897
That Cuts People Off Medicaid**

SUMMARY

The Michigan Senate voted earlier this month to adopt SB 897, a scheme to reduce the number of people on Medicaid by requiring recipients of this vital health insurance program to either work 29 hours a week or spend an equivalent amount of time in job training -- regardless if they are able to do this. Exceptions to the work requirement include: being over age 64; having a disability; being pregnant; or being a caregiver for child under age 6. This bill, introduced by Sen. Mike Shirkey, is the most extreme bill in the country and is opposed by Governor Rick Snyder whose spokesperson said this bill "is neither a reasonable nor a responsible change to the state's social safety net".

Call FIVE of these Appropriations Committee members tonight:
(Their meeting starts at 9 a.m. tomorrow, May 2nd)

Rep. Chris Afendoulis (Vice Chair) - 1-855-347-8073

Rep. John Bizon - 1-888-347-8062

Rep. Tommy Brann - 1-855-866-4077

Rep. Larry Inman - 1-800-737-1046

Rep. Kimberly LaSata - 1-888-656-0079

Rep. Steve Marino - 1-888-347-8024

Rep. Dave Pagel - 1-888-373-0078

Rep. Scott VanSingel - 1-877-999-0995

Rep. Rob VanHeulen - 1-855-762-8474

Rep. Jeff Yaroach - 1-800-209-3330

REASONS TO VOTE NO ON THIS BAD BILL: IT'S NOT FAIR
Medicaid (aka "Healthy Michigan") protects the health of 2.4 million people, the majority are elderly, disabled or children.



- **According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, 60% of people on Medicaid are ALREADY working.**
- **Even for "able bodied" people, work requirements can insurmountable for low-income individuals who can't afford transportation or child care or who may have chronic mental and physical illnesses that may not be classified as "disabled".**
- **The law only makes work exemptions for parents caring for children under age six.**



MORE REASONS TO VOTE NO: IT DOESN'T MAKE FISCAL SENSE

- **Michigan's Senate Fiscal Agency did an analysis of SB 897 and projected that it will cost the state \$30 million to implement and police this program.**
- **Furthermore, when individuals lose their health care coverage, they are more likely to use expensive Emergency Room services when they get sick, deepening hospitals' "uncompensated care" burdens -- which they then pass along to rest of us.**
- **The more people who use the ER, the longer the waiting time in the ER for people who DO have insurance coverage.**
- **Gilda Jacobs, Director of the Michigan League for Public Policy, says that other states with work requirements have found that it costs them MORE when poor people lose their coverage and become too sick to work!**

This bill will punish women and children instead of protecting them when they get sick.

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Randy Block, Director
Michigan UU Social Justice Network

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