

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS24228

This bill directs the Department of Health and Welfare to change their definition of Medicaid eligibility to include all individuals whose income is below 138% of the Federal Poverty level. The purpose of this legislation is to provide access to medical care for approximately 78,000 Idahoans, most of whom are employed in full time work but earn too little to obtain health insurance on Your Health Idaho, the state based health insurance exchange. This is expected to have a positive impact on the health and productivity of our citizens by increasing access to health care. It will unburden our economy by reducing bankruptcies due to uncovered medical expenses. It will reduce recidivism since many released prisoners currently have no access to medical care. Finally, it will reduce government by eliminating the need for county indigent programs and the State Catastrophic Health Cost Payment program..

FISCAL NOTE

Fiscal Impact 2017 (Assume 98% FMAP for 2017)

State Costs: \$12.2 M

State Savings

CAT Fund (\$22M)

DHW Behavioral Health (\$9.7M)

Public Health (\$.8M)

County Savings

Indigent funds: (\$18.8M)

Indigent Admin (\$4.6M)

Net State and County Costs (Savings) (\$43.7 M)

If the Transitional Medicaid Program is instituted for 2016, the newly required General Fund costs of \$2.83M would also be saved

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