

IN THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

A RESOLUTION supporting the Missouri Medicaid Expansion Initiative for the November 3, 2020 election.

RESOLUTION NO. 20253, September 16, 2019

INTRODUCED BY Crystal Williams, Jalen Anderson, Scott Burnett, Tony Miller, and Charlie Franklin, County Legislators

WHEREAS, if passed, the Missouri Medicaid Expansion Initiative will require the State of Missouri to provide Medicaid for persons under the age of 65 whose income is equal to or below 138 percent of the official poverty line; and,

WHEREAS, petition backers need 172,000 valid signatures to qualify for the ballot measure to be placed on the November 3, 2020 general election ballot; and,

WHEREAS, in 2010 the Affordable Care Act (ACA) directed states to expand Medicaid, but a 2012 U.S. Supreme Court ruling made such expansion optional; and,

WHEREAS, Missouri is one of only fourteen states that have rejected federal funds to cover the costs of the recommended Medicaid expansion; and,

WHEREAS, it is estimated that over 200,000 citizens of Missouri will benefit if Medicaid is expanded in the state, with the federal government covering ninety percent of the cost through the ACA; and,

WHEREAS, expansion of Medicaid in Missouri is supported by the Missouri Hospital Association, the Missouri Primary Care Association, and Missouri Health Care for All, a grassroots coalition of individuals, health care providers, and faith organizations; and,

WHEREAS, healthcare providers are mandated to serve everyone who enters an emergency room, resulting in a financial burden of uncompensated care for these providers; and,

WHEREAS, in rural Missouri, at least nine hospitals have closed since 2014 and roughly one-quarter of patients of Missouri Community Health Centers are uninsured, situations that may be alleviated by the expansion of Medicaid; and,

WHEREAS, presently MO HealthNet, Missouri's Medicaid program, provides health insurance only to children, pregnant women, those with disabilities, and some senior citizens; and,

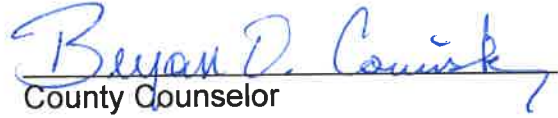
WHEREAS, support for this ballot initiative is vital to helping lower-income people get access to cost-effective preventative and primary healthcare; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the County Legislature of Jackson County, Missouri, that the Legislature hereby proclaims its support for a ballot initiative to expand Medicaid health insurance within the state of Missouri.

Effective Date: This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage by a majority of the Legislature.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Chief Deputy County Counselor


County Counselor

Certificate of Passage

I hereby certify that the attached resolution, Resolution No. 20253 of September 16, 2019, was duly passed on September 30, 2019 by the Jackson County Legislature. The votes thereon were as follows:

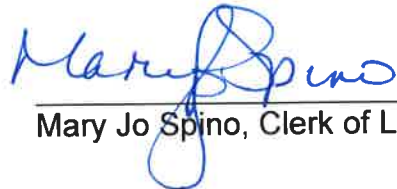
Yeas 7

Nays 1

Abstaining 0

Absent 0

9/30/19
Date


Mary Jo Spino, Clerk of Legislature