BY THE NUMBERS Medicaid Work Requirements Are Still a Bad Idea

Despite worsening public health and economic crises, some state policymakers still think it's a good idea to implement Medicaid work requirements. In these states, policymakers are ignoring the significant evidence showing that work requirements don't boost employment and have resulted in coverage losses for families, increased state spending, and spurred a series of uphill legal battles.

COVERAGE LOSSES



THOUSANDS

of working people have lost coverage due to work requirements, and thousands more could lose coverage if other states follow suit

INCREASED STATE SPENDING



MILLIONS

of state dollars
have been wasted
to implement
work requirements
that never went
into effect

LEGAL BATTLES



FOUR

states have had their work requirements ruled illegal in federal court

COVID-19



ZERO

states have implemented work requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic

THOUSANDS of working people have lost coverage due to work requirements, and thousands more could lose coverage if other states follow suit.

- In Arkansas the only state to implement and enforce Medicaid work reporting requirements approximately 18,000 Medicaid enrollees lost coverage in the first seven months after implementation. Most of the people who lost Medicaid coverage in Arkansas were actually working or were otherwise exempt from the requirements, but they still lost coverage due to the state's complicated processes for reporting their compliance or exemption.
- In New Hampshire, despite extensive efforts to inform beneficiaries of the work requirements, the state failed to obtain compliance information for nearly 17,000 beneficiaries who were at risk of losing coverage, prompting the state to suspend its work reporting requirements.
- In Michigan, 100,000 beneficiaries were projected to lose coverage before a U.S. District Court judge blocked the work requirements.
- The Commonwealth Fund estimates that, if nine of the states with approved work requirement waivers were to implement them, over <u>600,000</u> Medicaid enrollees would lose coverage.

States have wasted MILLIONS of dollars to implement work requirements that never went into effect.

- According to a report from the U.S. Government Accountability Office, the estimated administrative costs of
 implementing work requirements in five states (Kentucky, Wisconsin, Indiana, Arkansas, and New Hampshire) varied
 from \$6 million to \$271 million per state for information technology systems changes, beneficiary outreach,
 contracting, and other administrative costs.
- Many of these costs do not appear to be allowable for enhanced federal match and would therefore require significant state spending. There is no room in state budgets for such reckless spending during an economic crisis.

Federal courts have ruled work requirements illegal on FOUR occasions.

- Federal courts vacated approval of work requirements in <u>Kentucky</u>, <u>Arkansas</u>, <u>New Hampshire</u>, and <u>Michigan</u>. None of these states currently have work requirements in effect.
- Arizona postponed implementation of its work requirement to avoid similar litigation.

ZERO states have implemented work requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Indiana suspended its work requirements, and legal proceedings have been stayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- <u>Utah</u> also suspended implementation of its work requirement due to the pandemic.
- In addition, Wisconsin, Ohio, South Carolina, Georgia, and Nebraska have approved work requirement waivers, but none of these states have implemented them during the pandemic.

STATES MUST TERMINATE THEIR MEDICAID WORK REQUIREMENTS NOW



State policymakers should heed the data and evidence, which show that work requirements are costly to implement, illegal, and risk the health of vulnerable Americans.