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Where the states stand on Medicaid expansion

27 states, D.C. expanding Medicaid

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The **Supreme Court ruling** on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) allowed states to opt of the **law's Medicaid expansion**, leaving each state's decision to participate in the hands of the nation's governors and state leaders.

The *Daily Briefing* and *American Health Line* editorial teams have been tracking where each state stands on the issue since the ruling, combing through lawmakers' statements, press releases, and media coverage. In this latest iteration of our Medicaid map, we've determined each state's position based on legislative or executive actions to expand coverage to low-income residents using ACA funding.



Primer: The 3-minute story behind the Medicaid expansion

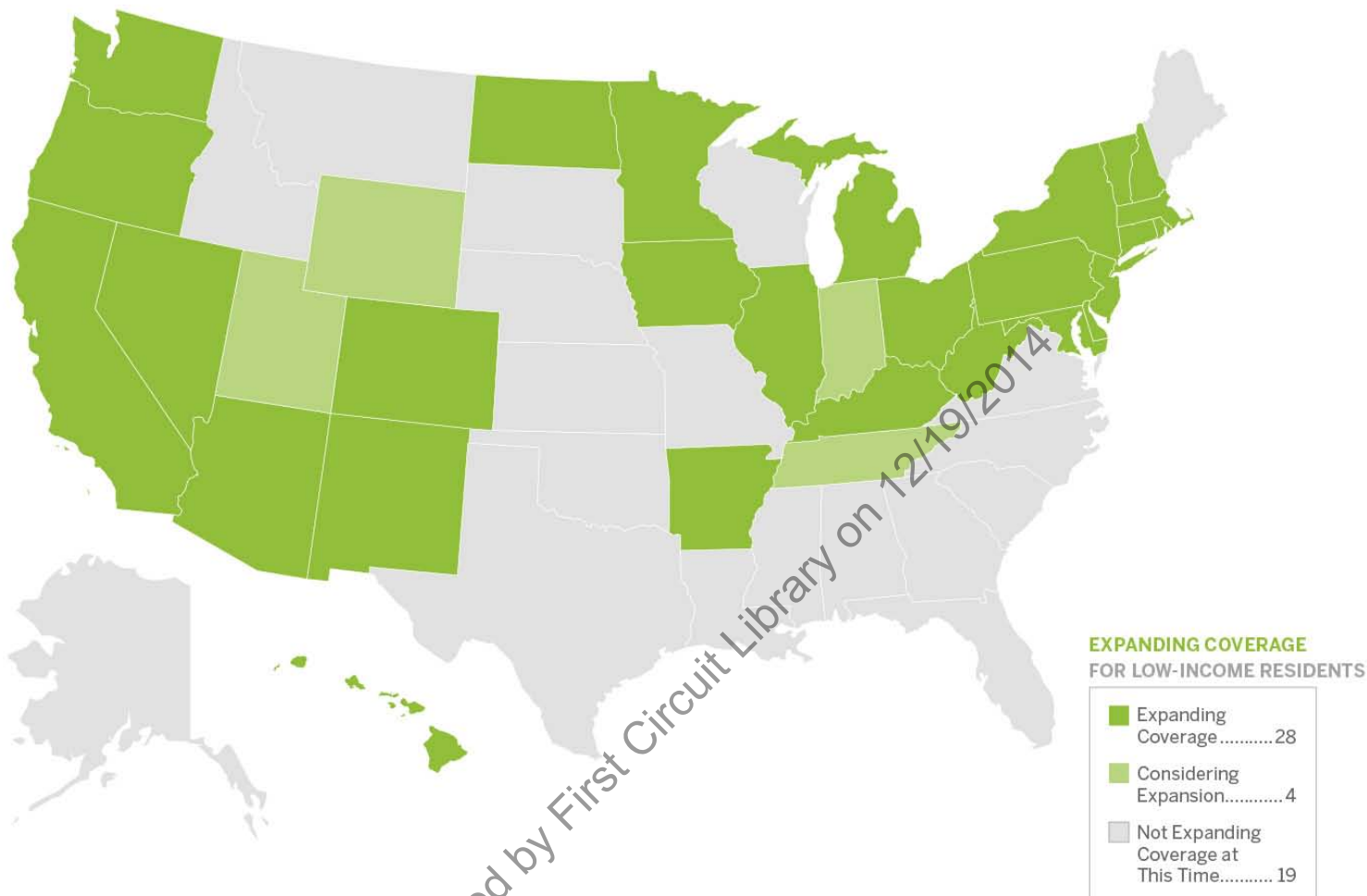


debate →

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Where the States Stand on Medicaid Expansion

27 States, DC, Expanding Coverage—December 17, 2014



Notes: Based on literature review as of 12/17/14. All policies subject to change without notice.
 HHS has announced that states can obtain a waiver to use federal funds to shift Medicaid-eligible residents into private health plans.
 The District of Columbia plans to participate in Medicaid expansion and will operate its own exchange.



Learn more about ACA implementation at advisory.com/daily-briefing

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A state-by-state look at expansion

EXPANDING COVERAGE (27 STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA)

- **Arizona:** On June 17, 2013, Gov. Jan Brewer (R) **signed into law** legislation that will expand Medicaid to an additional 350,000 people in the state. The signing came after Brewer called a surprise special session on the

2014 budget and Medicaid to try to resolve a deadlock among lawmakers on the two issues.

- **Arkansas:** Gov. Mike Beebe (D) on April 23, 2013, **signed** the state's expansion plan into law. Under the plan, Arkansas would accept the federal money for Medicaid expansion provided through the ACA but would use it to buy private insurance for about 250,000 eligible low-income residents. The federal government **approved the plan** in September 2013.
- **California:** Gov. Jerry Brown (D) on June 27, 2013, **signed legislation** that would expand the state's Medicaid program, Medi-Cal, to more than 1.4 million additional residents under the ACA.
- **Colorado:** Gov. John Hickenlooper (D) **signed the expansion** into law on May 13, 2013. He says that the expansion will save the state \$280 million over 10 years and help cover an additional 160,000 adults.
- **Connecticut:** Gov. Dannel Malloy (D) was among the first governors to sign up for the Medicaid expansion after the ACA was enacted. The state was **one of five states** that opted to **expand** eligibility early.
- **Delaware:** Gov. Jack Markell (D) in January 2013 **reiterated** his support for the Medicaid expansion, including an additional \$35.8 million for Medicaid in his FY 2014 spending plan. On July 1, 2013, Markell **signed** a FY 2014 budget plan that includes \$29.8 million to "fund the State's Medicaid commitment."
- **District of Columbia:** D.C. Mayor Vincent Gray (D) in a statement on June 28, 2012, **said**, "The District is not at risk of losing any Medicaid funding as a result of [the Supreme Court] ruling, because District officials have already begun implementation of the ACA's Medicaid-expansion provisions and will continue to implement the expansion." D.C. **sought permission** from the federal government to expand its Medicaid program on May 13, 2010. The move expanded Medicaid to an additional 35,000 residents.
- **Hawaii:** Gov. Neil Abercrombie (D) has said his state will participate in the expansion. In a **statement** on June 28, 2012, Abercrombie said, "The Affordable Care Act is our ally in this effort" to "to support a healthcare system that ensures high quality, safety and sustainable costs." According to the **Department of Human Services**, the state is expanding Medicaid eligibility through the ACA.
- **Illinois:** Gov. Pat Quinn (D) **signed** Medicaid expansion into law on July 22, 2013. Approximately 342,000 low-income Illinois residents will be newly insured under the expansion.
- **Iowa:** On Dec. 12, 2013, Gov. Terry Branstad (R) **announced** that his administration and the White House had **agreed on the final details** of his plan to expand Medicaid. Two days earlier, **CMS approved** Iowa's alternate expansion proposal, which would allow the state to use federal funding under the ACA to help more than 100,000 low-income residents purchase private health coverage through the new Iowa Health and Wellness Plan. Branstad also proposed a small additional premium for certain beneficiaries. Under the agreement, Iowa will levy the **additional premium** on individuals with incomes exceeding 50% of the federal poverty level beginning in 2015. The state promised that it will not drop individuals' coverage if they fail to make payments.
- **Kentucky:** On May 9, 2013, Gov. Steve Beshear (D) **said that** expanding Medicaid is the **right choice** for Kentucky, noting that it would halve the number of uninsured in the state. He reiterated that sentiment in a Sept. 26, 2013, opinion piece in the *New York Times*. On Sept. 3, 2013, a federal judge **cleared the way** for the state to participate in the Affordable Care Act, ruling that the governor has the authority to expand Medicaid and establish an insurance exchange.
- **Maryland:** On May 5, 2013, Gov. Martin O'Malley (D) **signed into law HB 228** to fully implement the Affordable Care Act.
- **Massachusetts:** On July 5, 2013, Gov. Deval Patrick (D) signed into law **HB 3452**, requiring Massachusetts to come into **compliance** with new federal regulations under the ACA. On July 12, 2013, Patrick **signed into law** the state's FY 2014 budget, which supports full implementation of the Affordable Care Act, including the Medicaid expansion.
- **Michigan:** On Sept. 3, 2013, the Michigan House **voted** 75-32 to grant final approval to a bill that would expand the state's Medicaid program beginning in April 2014. Gov. Rick Snyder (R) **signed** the bill into law on Sept. 16, 2013. The proposal contains cost-sharing provisions for Medicaid beneficiaries; it **received** federal approval in December.
- **Minnesota:** Gov. Mark Dayton (D) in February 2013 **signed legislation** that expanded Medicaid to an additional 35,000 childless, low-income adults in the state.
- **Nevada:** Gov. Brian Sandoval (R) in December 2012 became the **first GOP governor** to commit his state to expanding Medicaid under the ACA. According to Sandoval's announcement, nearly 78,000 Nevadans would be covered by the expansion.
- **New Hampshire:** On March 27, 2014, Gov. Maggie Hassan (D) **signed** bipartisan **legislation (SB 413)** to **expand** Medicaid coverage to an estimated 50,000 low-income state residents. Starting in April 2014, the state **will move**

eligible residents into Medicaid programs. The plan then calls for enrolling those residents in private coverage options through the ACA insurance exchange in 2016, which would require a federal waiver. The law **requires** the state to receive that waiver by March 31, 2015; failure to do so would result in termination of the program three months later.

- **New Jersey:** Gov. Chris Christie (R) on June 28, 2013, **signed** a state budget that includes \$227 million for Medicaid expansion in the state. However, he **vetoes** legislation that would have made the expansion permanent in the state.
- **New Mexico:** Gov. Susana Martinez (R) on Jan. 9, 2013, **announced** that the state would participate in **the Medicaid expansion**.
- **New York:** On June 28, 2012, in an **announcement** immediately following the Supreme Court's ruling on the ACA, Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) said the state would participate in the expansion.
- **North Dakota:** Gov. Jack Dalrymple (R) in April 2013 **signed** legislation expanding Medicaid in the state.
- **Ohio:** The state's Controlling Board—a special bipartisan legislative panel—**approved Medicaid expansion** in 5-2 vote on Oct. 21, 2013, allowing Gov. John Kasich (R) to expand the program on Jan. 1, 2014, without approval from Ohio's Republican-controlled Legislature. Conservative lawmakers have **pledged to mount** a fierce legal campaign against the move.
- **Oregon:** The state **has moved forward** on Medicaid expansion with the support of Gov. John Kitzhaber (D). Starting on Jan. 1, 2014, state residents earning up to 138% FPL will qualify for Medicaid, up from 100% FPL in 2013.
- **Pennsylvania:** HHS on Aug. 28, 2014, **reached a deal** with Gov. Tom Corbett (R) to expand Medicaid coverage to **as many as 600,000** Pennsylvania residents. The state obtained a waiver for an alternate expansion model, which **includes** premiums for certain beneficiaries. The expansion is slated to begin on Jan. 1, 2015.
- **Rhode Island:** On July 3, 2013, about one week before the state General Assembly **adjourned** for the year, Gov. Lincoln Chafee (I) **signed** a fiscal year 2014 budget measure that included a plan to expand Medicaid, which he endorsed in June 2012 and outlined in his 2014 budget **proposal**.
- **Vermont:** Health Care Access Commissioner Mark Larson in July 2012 **said** that Vermont would receive federal funds to **expand** its Medicaid program under the ACA. The expansion is expected to insure an additional 47,000 state residents.
- **Washington:** Gov. Jay Inslee (D) on June 30, 2013, **signed** a state budget that would expand Medicaid in the state.
- **West Virginia:** Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin (D) in May 2013 **announced** that the state would expand Medicaid, extending coverage to an additional 91,500 state residents.

CONSIDERING EXPANSION (4 STATES)

- **Indiana:** Gov. Mike Pence (R) on May 15, 2014, **unveiled a plan** to expand the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP), an insurance program for low-income residents, as an alternative to expanding Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act. Indiana launched HIP in 2008 with a five-year federal waiver, billing it as the nation's first consumer-directed health plan for low-income residents. The program has been distributing Medicaid funds to eligible residents, each of whom gets \$1,100 in an HSA-like account. The new proposal, which could extend access to HIP to as many as 500,000 people, **requires federal approval**. However, as of Nov. 18, 2014, the agency still had **not decided** whether to approve that plan.
- **Tennessee:** Gov. Bill Haslam (R) on Dec. 15, 2014, **announced** an alternative **plan** to expand the state's Medicaid program under the Affordable Care Act. The plan **would use** federal funds to extend coverage to an additional 200,000 low-income state residents by helping them to purchase health plans offered by their employers or by placing them in the state's Medicaid program. State residents with annual incomes up to \$16,100, or 138% of the federal poverty level, **would be eligible** for the program. The plan must be approved by the state's Republican-led Legislature and HHS to take effect, but Haslam said he already has received "verbal approval" from the administration.
- **Utah:** Gov. Gary Herbert (R) in December 2014 **outlined his plan** to expand Medicaid in his state. His plan still needs the approval of the state Legislature and formal federal approval.
- **Wyoming:** The state's Wyoming's Department of Health in November 2014 **proposed** an alternative Medicaid expansion plan that would extend the program to about 18,000 state residents with incomes up to 138% of the

federal poverty level. The expansion plan, which has the support of Gov. Matt Mead (R), **calls for** a federal waiver to allow the state to charge monthly premiums and copayments to low-income individuals who choose to participate.

NOT EXPANDING AT THIS TIME (19 STATES)

- **Alabama:** Gov. Robert Bentley (R) in December 2014 **suggested** that he might be open to an alternative option for expanding Medicaid in his state. Bentley had previously opposed expanding the state-federal insurance program, but he says creating a state-designed program that uses the federal Medicaid expansion dollars may be an option for his state.
- **Alaska:** The newly elected governor of **Alaska**, Bill Walker (I), is **hoping to expand** Medicaid in 2015, an issue that he had campaigned on. However, he will have to go up against a Republican Legislature that has refused to consider it.
- **Florida:** On May 3, 2013, the Florida Legislature **ended** its session without granting final approval to a compromise **measure** that would have authorized an expansion of Medicaid, which Gov. Rick Scott (R) supports. No further action on expansion is expected this year.
- **Georgia:** Gov. Nathan Deal (R) on Jan. 16, 2013, **confirmed** he does not support Medicaid expansion. On March 28, 2013, both the House and Senate **adjourned** for the 2013 session. A **bill** to encourage Deal to consider expanding Medicaid died in the House in February 2013. Deal in May 2013 signed **legislation** creating the Joint Study Committee on Medicaid Reform, but it was "for the purposes of determining an appropriate plan for Medicaid reform," not specifically expanding the program under the ACA.
- **Idaho:** Gov. Butch Otter (R) on Jan. 7, 2013, in his state-of-the-state **address** said Idaho would not expand Medicaid. The state House and Senate both adjourned on April 4, 2013.
- **Kansas:** Gov. Sam Brownback (R) **punted the decision** on expanding Medicaid to state lawmakers, and the state Legislature wrapped up its session for the year on June 2, 2013, **without taking action** on any expansion proposals.
- **Louisiana:** On Feb. 6, 2013, Gov. Bobby Jindal (R) **reiterated his opposition** to expanding Medicaid in Louisiana. In an op-ed for the *Washington Post*, Jindal argued that the expansion would cost his state \$1 billion over the first 10 years. The Louisiana Senate in May 2013 **rejected an amendment** that would permit state voters to decide on Medicaid expansion, effectively ending any possibility for action on the issue before the Legislature recessed for the year.
- **Maine:** On June 17, 2013, Gov. Paul LePage (R) **vetoed a bill (LD 1066)** that would have expanded the state's Medicaid program. LePage objected to the cost of expansion and also noted that previous hikes to Medicaid eligibility—which he **termed** "a massive increase in welfare expansion"—have not worked to reduce the number of uninsured in the state. Two days later, on June 19, 2013, House lawmakers **failed to gain** the two-thirds majority necessary to override the veto.
- **Mississippi:** Republicans in the Legislature in June 2013 **blocked plans** to expand Medicaid to an additional 300,000 state residents under the ACA.
- **Missouri:** In February 2014, the state Senate **defeated** an effort to expand Medicaid in Missouri. However, at least one Republican lawmaker in the state says that the issue isn't over; State Senator Ryan Silvey **says he has** the support for an expansion proposal. Gov. Jay Nixon (D) **favors** expanding Medicaid.
- **Montana:** Republicans in the statehouse in April 2013 **rejected plans** to opt into the Medicaid expansion, which could have added another 70,000 state residents to the program.
- **Nebraska:** In May 2013, Republicans in the Legislature **filibustered** the Medicaid expansion, which is also opposed by Gov. Dave Heineman (R). The expansion could have extended Medicaid coverage to up to 80,000 residents.
- **North Carolina:** Gov. Pat McCrory (R) in October **said that he would consider** expanding Medicaid. Specifically, he said, "I'm also trying to figure out what to do with Medicaid and whether to expand that or not, because the feds are offering all this money, and yet I've got to be concerned with the bureaucracy that could be grown because of that."
- **Oklahoma:** Gov. Mary Fallin (R) **rejected** the Medicaid expansion in November 2012 and has not proposed an alternate model for expanding insurance coverage for low-income state residents. However, some administration allies **have said** she has "not closed the door" on a possible, future plan to expand coverage.

South Carolina: On March 12, 2013, the state House Republican majority **rejected** an expansion of Medicaid, opting instead to allocate \$80 million in state and federal funding in South Carolina's budget for a hospital incentive payment program. Gov. Nikki Haley (R) announced in July 2012 that she opposes expansion.

- **South Dakota:** In an interview with the *Associated Press* on Oct. 25, 2013, Gov. Dennis Daugaard (R) said he is leaning against expanding Medicaid. He said he will ask the Legislature to hold off on any Medicaid expansion plans until there is more evidence on how the ACA is working nationally.
- **Texas:** Gov. Rick Perry (R) and the Republican majority in the state Legislature have unanimously **rejected** the Medicaid expansion, although Democrats have introduced legislation (**HB 3791**) that would establish a strategy to expand Medicaid. The bill is pending in the House.
- **Virginia:** Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D) has pushed for Medicaid expansion in Virginia, but the Virginia Legislature in June 2014 passed a budget that did not include expansion. In December 2014, McAuliffe **presented** a budget proposal that included an expansion provision, but lawmakers are not expected to accept the provision.
- **Wisconsin:** Gov. Scott Walker (R) on Feb. 13, 2013, **said** Wisconsin will not participate in the ACA Medicaid expansion, but will pursue its own strategy to expand health coverage across the state. In addition, the legislature's Joint Finance Committee in June 2013 **voted** against the expansion.

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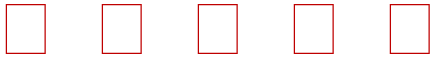
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