

PRESS RELEASE

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Arizona's Expected Approval of Medicaid Expansion is a Win-Win-Win

Today the Arizona Senate, following this morning's action by the Arizona House, is expected to approve a budget that includes an expansion of the state's Medicaid program under the terms of the Affordable Care Act. The following is the statement of Ron Pollack, Executive Director of Families USA, to this legislative action:

"The Arizona legislature is responding positively to Governor Jan Brewer's proposal and is expected to approve an expansion of the state's Medicaid program. This is a win-win-win for the people of Arizona because it will reduce the number of people who can't afford health care, will increase the number of jobs throughout the state, and will strengthen the state's economy.

"Any state rejecting the Medicaid expansion is committing fiscal malpractice. Not only is the expansion fully funded by the federal government in the next several years, but it will reduce current state costs for the uninsured and increase state revenues.

"As chief executive of Arizona, Governor Brewer understands the importance of the Medicaid expansion for residents in her state, and she has stood firm in her call for its legislative approval. Brewer's foresight and fortitude stand in marked contrast to the actions of some other Republican governors, who may well understand the value of the Medicaid expansion to the health and well-being of their states, but who succumb to rigid ideology and anti-Obama partisanship."

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Families USA is the national organization for health care consumers. It is nonprofit and nonpartisan, and its mission is to secure high-quality, affordable health coverage and care for all Americans.

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