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Health Provisions in House Relief Bill Would Improve Access to Health Coverage During COVID Crisis

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COVID-19 relief legislation that House committees are considering includes several vital provisions that would make comprehensive coverage more affordable and accessible for millions of people. The legislation would enhance premium tax credits available through the health insurance marketplaces for two years, boost financial incentives for additional states to rapidly expand Medicaid, and enact other proposals to improve access to health coverage during the health and economic crisis.

Consistent with a proposal President Biden outlined in January, the House bill would eliminate premiums for many low-income people who are already eligible for plans in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) marketplaces and vastly reduce premiums for others. It would extend new help with premiums to people with somewhat higher incomes who face high premium burdens. And the bill would protect marketplace enrollees who experienced income fluctuations last year from large repayments of their premium tax credits to the federal government. Additional provisions would bring down insurance costs for specific populations, such as those who receive unemployment benefits and those who lose their jobs but want to temporarily maintain their job-based health insurance.

The bill also offers a strong incentive for the 14 states that have not yet implemented the ACA's Medicaid expansion to quickly do so by providing increased federal funds to states that newly expand. If the remaining states expanded Medicaid nearly 4 million uninsured low-income adults, including about 640,000 essential or front-line workers, could gain coverage. Also among those gaining coverage would be over 2 million people now in the so-called coverage gap — that is, people whose incomes are below the poverty line, and thus ineligible for premium tax credits for marketplace coverage, but who are ineligible for Medicaid under their state's rules.

Improving premium tax credits and further expanding Medicaid, in particular, would provide much-needed assistance to people who need help obtaining or affording health coverage. Comprehensive health coverage is important under any circumstances because it improves people's access to care, financial security, and health outcomes when they get sick. But preserving and extending coverage is even more important in the COVID crisis because it shields families from financial hardship and supports public health efforts, easing people's access to testing, treatment, and vaccines.

So far, the federal legislation enacted in response to COVID-19 has not included provisions that extend health coverage or make it more affordable. The House package represents a fresh opportunity to address this gap and ease the strain of health costs for families at a critical time.

Premium Tax Credit Improvements Would Provide Significant Financial Help

The House bill would boost premium tax credits for 2021 and 2022, eliminating or reducing premiums for millions of current marketplace enrollees to ensure that no marketplace enrollee spends more than 8.5 percent of their income on premiums, irrespective of their income. This reduces the current 9.83 percent limit for people with income of 300 to 400 percent of the poverty line and newly establishes a premium cap for marketplace enrollees with higher incomes. Under the bill, people with income below 150 percent of the poverty line (about \$19,000 for a single person and \$39,000 for a family of four) would pay no premiums for a benchmark plan, after accounting for premium tax credits, and other families would pay a capped share of income toward health coverage.

The proposed improvements to premium tax credits would help a broad group: almost everyone enrolled in marketplace coverage, except for higher-income people whose premiums are already less than 8.5 percent of their incomes. (See Appendix tables 1 and 2.) The Urban Institute estimated that similar improvements would lead about 4.5 million people to gain coverage. And the enrollment period authorized by President Biden, from February 15 to May 15, gives people a new opportunity to enroll and take advantage of any improvements to the premium tax credits enacted as part of the relief package.

Increasing Subsidies for Low- and Moderate-Income People Is Key to Increasing Coverage

People with incomes up to 400 percent of the poverty line (about \$51,000 for a single person and \$105,000 for a family of four) are already eligible for premium tax credits that help them afford marketplace coverage. But data suggest that low- and moderate-income people still face the greatest challenges affording coverage and care.²

The premium tax credit has made insurance more affordable for many people, yet the uninsured rate for lower-income people eligible for the most generous subsidies remains high: 14.1 percent of people with incomes between 138 and 250 percent of the poverty line are uninsured, compared to 3.1 percent for people with incomes above 500 percent of the poverty line. Uninsured people at all income levels cite cost as the greatest barrier to coverage, so making financial assistance more adequate is key to appreciably reducing uninsured rates and improving access to care.³ For example

¹ Linda J. Blumberg *et al.*, "Cost and Coverage Implications of Five Options for Increasing Marketplace Subsidy Generosity," Urban Institute, February 2021, https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/103604/cost-and-coverage-implications-of-five-options-for-increasing-marketplace-subsidy-generosity.pdf. The Urban Institute estimates assume the benchmark of a higher-value gold plan instead of the second-lowest-cost silver plan.

² Aviva Aron-Dine and Matt Broaddus, "Improving ACA Subsidies for Low- and Moderate-Income Consumers Is Key to Increasing Coverage," CBPP, March 21, 2019, https://www.cbpp.org/research/health/improving-aca-subsidies-for-low-and-moderate-income-consumers-is-key-to-increasing.

³ Sara R. Collins, Munira Z. Gunja, and Michelle M. Doty, "Following the ACA Repeal-and-Replace Effort, Where Does the U.S. Stand on Insurance Coverage?" Commonwealth Fund, September 2017,

in Massachusetts — which has the lowest uninsured rate in the country for people with incomes between 138 and 250 percent of the poverty line — sizable state subsidies on top of those the ACA offers greatly reduce premiums for people with income below 300 percent of the poverty line. People with income between 138 and 150 percent of the poverty line are guaranteed a plan with zero net premium (after accounting for premium tax credits), compared to monthly premiums of \$50 and \$66 for a benchmark plan in other states.

The relief package would significantly reduce premiums for people who are currently eligible for help by increasing their premium tax credits. For example:

- A single individual making \$18,000 would pay zero net premium rather than \$54 per month (3.6 percent of income) and would qualify for the most generous subsidies for deductibles and other cost-sharing amounts.
- A single individual making \$30,000 would pay \$85 rather than \$195 per month in premiums (3.4 instead of 7.8 percent of income) and would qualify for a plan with reduced deductibles and other cost-sharing amounts. (See Figure 1.) Or, with the bigger subsidy, the same person could opt to buy a gold plan with lower cost-sharing charges for \$115 per month.
- A family of four making \$50,000 would pay \$67 rather than \$252 per month in premiums for benchmark coverage (1.6 instead of 6.0 percent of their income) and would qualify for generous cost-sharing reductions.⁴
- A family of four making \$75,000 would pay \$340 rather than \$588 per month in premiums for benchmark coverage (5.4 instead of 9.4 percent of their income). A typical family could purchase a gold plan with lower deductibles and other cost sharing for about \$440 per month (roughly 7 percent of income).⁵

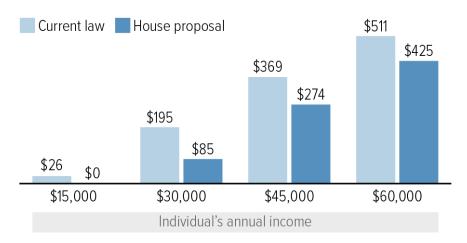
https://www.commonwealthfund.org/sites/default/files/documents/ media files publications issue brief 2017 s ep collins 2017 aca tracking survey ib v2.pdf.

⁴ CBPP calculations. Examples assume consumers face the national average marketplace benchmark premium. The family of four is composed of two 40-year-old parents, a 5-year-old, and a 10-year-old. The benchmark plan is the second-lowest-cost silver tier plan offered where the consumer lives.

⁵ CBPP calculations. Information on the lowest-cost gold plan is available at <a href="https://www.kff.org/health-reform/state-indicator/average-marketplace-premiums-by-metal-tier/?currentTimeframe=0&sortModel=%7B%22colId%22:%22Location%22,%22sort%22:%22asc%22%7D.

Proposal in House Ways and Means COVID Relief Legislation Would Make Marketplace Coverage More Affordable

Monthly premium for benchmark marketplace coverage for a 45-year-old, based on national average premium



Source: CBPP calculations based on House Ways and Means Committee COVID relief legislation

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Extending Premium Tax Credits Helps Older People and Those Living in High-Cost Areas

About 2.6 million people with income too high for premium tax credits under current law are uninsured. Extending premium tax credits for people with income above 400 percent of the poverty line who can't afford the full cost of coverage would help many of these uninsured people and ensure that middle-income people who purchase individual market coverage pay premiums no higher than 8.5 percent of their income.

Creating an income cap of 8.5 percent on premiums would be especially important to middle-income people, older people, and people who live in areas with high premiums.⁷ This cap would target the most assistance to people with high premium burdens. For example, marketplace benchmark coverage for a 40-year-old in Charleston, West Virginia earning \$55,000 a year (431 percent of the poverty line) costs about \$731 per month, more than 1.5 times the national average. Under the bill, this person would get a monthly premium discount of \$341, bringing their premium

⁶ Congressional Budget Office, "Who Went Without Health Insurance in 2019, and Why?" September 2020, https://www.cbo.gov/system/files/2020-09/56504-Health-Insurance.pdf.

⁷ Aviva Aron-Dine, "Making Health Insurance More Affordable for Middle-Income Individual Market Consumers," CBPP, March 21, 2019, https://www.cbpp.org/research/health/making-health-insurance-more-affordable-for-middle-income-individual-market.

down to \$390 per month. In lower-cost states, a person of the same age with the same income wouldn't receive a premium tax credit because their premium is already below 8.5 percent of their income. And premium tax credits under the bill would automatically phase out at higher income levels because premiums are generally less than 8.5 percent of income for high-income people.

Providing premium tax credits to limit premium liability to no more than 8.5 percent of income would help other people who might otherwise have trouble affording coverage. For example:

- A typical 60-year-old making \$60,000 would see their premiums cut by more than half, or \$535 per month. Instead of paying \$960 per month in premiums for benchmark coverage, or 19 percent of income, the consumer would pay \$425, or 8.5 percent of income.
- A typical family of four with income of \$110,000 would see their premiums cut almost in half, by \$666 per month. Instead of paying \$1,445 per month in premiums for benchmark coverage, or nearly 16 percent of their income, the family would pay \$779, or 8.5 percent of their income, with the premium tax credit making up the difference.

Related Marketplace Proposals Would Help Families Recover From COVID's Coverage Impacts

Several other policies in the relief legislation would provide meaningful help to people struggling to afford health coverage as they face economic hardship and uncertainty.

Under the ACA, people receive premium tax credits in advance to pay for coverage based on their projected annual income. But if they have a change in circumstance during the year, their year-end income might be higher than they predicted, and under current law they must repay some or all of the excess premium tax credit they received. In 2020, many low- and moderate-income people had fluctuating incomes that made projecting income especially difficult and, in some cases, meant that someone had higher income than they had projected. For example, some people lost their jobs early in the year but later got new ones with higher earnings than they had expected, while others worked additional hours or received bonus pay as essential workers. The bill would exempt low- and moderate-income families from having to repay the premium tax credit they received in 2020. This would protect people from having very high repayments this spring, during a time of continued economic uncertainty.

In addition, the bill would offer subsidies to people who have recently lost their jobs. The bill would enhance premium tax credits for people who receive unemployment benefits in 2021 by setting their marketplace eligibility at a projected income that guarantees they get the most generous premium tax credits if they enroll in an ACA marketplace plan, irrespective of their actual year-end income. This would help many people who are financially vulnerable and work in non-telework occupations that are more susceptible to loss of earnings during the pandemic, particularly single earners, people of color, and people with minimal savings to cushion the income loss.⁹

⁹ Brooke Helppie-McFall and Joanne W. Hsu, "Financial Profiles of Workers Most Vulnerable to Coronavirus-Related Earnings Loss in the Spring of 2020," Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Finance and Economics Discussion Series 2020-093, October 27, 2020, https://doi.org/10.17016/FEDS.2020.093.

⁸ Kaiser Family Foundation, Health Insurance Marketplace Calculator, October 30, 2020, https://www.kff.org/interactive/subsidy-calculator/.

The bill would also provide federal funding to cover 85 percent of the cost of people's premiums for "COBRA" coverage from the month following enactment until September 30, 2021. COBRA coverage¹⁰ lets people who have job-based health coverage retain it for up to 18 months after they lose their jobs. Usually, people have to pay the full cost of the premium on their own, making this option unaffordable for many. Under current law, people eligible for COBRA coverage who decide the cost is unaffordable can get coverage in the marketplace. The House provision would help people who want to stay enrolled in their employer-sponsored health plan and have enough money to cover the remaining 15 percent of the premium.

Medicaid Expansion Is Essential in the Pandemic

The Energy and Commerce relief bill includes a two-year increase in federal Medicaid funding, beginning when a state implements the expansion, as an added incentive for states to newly expand Medicaid. The financial incentive to expand Medicaid is already substantial; the federal government covers 90 percent of the cost of coverage for the expansion group. This provision is meant to provide an added incentive to expand coverage at a time when expanding access to health care is particularly important. If the 14 remaining states expand, at least 4 million additional uninsured adults would become eligible for Medicaid coverage, likely more due to the recession. Of these, nearly 60 percent are people of color.¹¹

In states considering the Medicaid expansion, officials sometimes cite state costs as a concern.¹² While research shows that Medicaid expansion generates enough savings and increased revenue to offset the state's share of the cost,¹³ the robust fiscal incentive in the House bill goes far to address any remaining cost-related concerns because it would increase overall Medicaid funding by more than the cost of covering the expansion group over the first two years.

The House bill would increase how much the federal government pays toward a state's Medicaid expenditures (known as the "federal medical assistance percentage" or FMAP) for all groups other than those eligible through expansion by 5 percentage points for two years after a state expands. States would receive the 90 percent enhanced FMAP for the expansion group. The increased federal funds stemming from the overall increase in the FMAP for the *rest* of the Medicaid program would exceed the full cost of the Medicaid expansion, providing them with additional funds they could use to stave off cuts in Medicaid and in other state services during the economic crisis accompanying the pandemic. Georgia, for example, would receive close to \$2 billion over the two-year period following expansion, more than the cost of providing coverage to the expansion group. (See Appendix Table 3.)

¹⁰ Named for the 1985 federal law that created it, the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act.

¹¹ Jesse Cross-Call, "Medicaid Expansion Has Helped Narrow Racial Disparities in Health Coverage and Access to Care," CBPP, October 21, 2020, https://www.cbpp.org/research/health/medicaid-expansion-has-helped-narrow-racial-disparities-in-health-coverage-and.

¹² Jesse Cross-Call, "Medicaid Expansion's Coverage Gains Won't Hurt State Budgets, Even in Recession," CBPP, June 18, 2020, https://www.cbpp.org/blog/medicaid-expansions-coverage-gains-wont-hurt-state-budgets-even-in-recession.

¹³ Bryce Ward, "The Impact of Medicaid Expansion on States' Budgets," Commonwealth Fund, May 5, 2020, https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/issue-briefs/2020/may/impact-medicaid-expansion-states-budgets#:~:text=For%20the%20first%20three%20years,than%20%247%20billion%20in%202020.

Many people who could gain coverage through the expansion are at elevated risk from COVID-19, whether because they face a high risk of becoming infected due to their occupation or living conditions or a high risk of serious illness if they become infected because of underlying health conditions. Expanding Medicaid in the remaining states would provide coverage to millions of older adults, people with disabilities, and others with underlying health conditions that increase their risk of complications from the disease.

Expanding Medicaid in the remaining states would result in an estimated 640,000 currently uninsured essential or front-line workers gaining coverage. This includes people who have jobs that likely require them to work in person, such as hospital workers, home health aides, and grocery store workers. ¹⁴ Prior to the COVID-19 crisis, the uninsured rate for low-income workers in these jobs was 30 percent in non-expansion states, nearly double the rate in expansion states.

Strong evidence suggests that, in addition to providing uninsured people with access to needed care, health insurance coverage reduces *economic* hardship, which has been widespread in the pandemic. Expanding access to Medicaid coverage leads to lower out-of-pocket medical expenditures and medical debt while reducing the likelihood of experiencing catastrophic medical expenditures, not paying other household bills, or borrowing money to pay for medical care, research shows. Other research found an association between Medicaid expansion and declines in food insecurity.

Conclusion

The COVID relief bill should prioritize help for people who need it most. As Congress continues to work on this legislation, improving premium tax credits and incentivizing more states to expand Medicaid, as the House proposal would do, should be the centerpiece of efforts to improve access to health coverage amid the COVID crisis.

¹⁴ Jesse Cross-Call and Matt Broaddus, "States That Have Expanded Medicaid Are Better Positioned to Address COVID-19 and Recession," CBPP, July 14, 2020, https://www.cbpp.org/research/health/states-that-have-expanded-medicaid-are-better-positioned-to-address-covid-19-and.

¹⁵ CBPP, "Tracking the COVID-19 Recession's Effects on Food, Housing, and Employment Hardships," updated January 28, 2021, https://www.cbpp.org/research/poverty-and-inequality/tracking-the-covid-19-recessions-effects-on-food-housing-and.

¹⁶ A. Finkelstein *et al.*, "The Oregon Health Insurance Experiment: Evidence from the first year," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Vol. 127, No. 3, 2012, pp. 1057-1106; T. Gross, and M.J. Notowidigdo, "Health insurance and the consumer bankruptcy decision: Evidence from expansions of Medicaid," *Journal of Public Economics*, Vol. 95, Nos. 7-8, pp. 767-778; H. Allen *et al.*, "Early Medicaid expansion associated with reduced payday borrowing in California," *Health Affairs*, Vol. 36, No. 10, 2017, pp. 1679-1776.

¹⁷ G. Himmelstein, "Effect of the Affordable Care Act's Medicaid Expansions on Food Security, 2010–2016." *American Journal of Public Health*, Vol. 109, 2019, pp. 1243-1248.

Appendix

APPENDIX TABLE 1

House Proposal Would Lower Marketplace Premium Payments for Individuals, Couples, and Families at Various Income Levels

	Monthly marketplace premium payment					
	Current law	House proposal	Difference			
45-year-old individual						
\$18,000 (141% FPL*)	\$54	\$0	-\$54			
\$30,000 (235% FPL)	\$195	\$85	-\$110			
\$45,000 (352% FPL)	\$369	\$274	-\$95			
\$60,000 (470% FPL)**	\$511	\$425	-\$86			
60-year-old couple						
\$30,000 (174% FPL)	\$132	\$24	-\$108			
\$45,000 (261% FPL)	\$325	\$167	-\$158			
\$60,000 (348% FPL)	\$492	\$360	-\$132			
\$75,000 (435% FPL)**	\$1,920	\$531	-\$1,389			
Family of four***						
\$45,000 (171% FPL)	\$193	\$32	-\$161			
\$60,000 (229% FPL)	\$379	\$158	-\$221			
\$90,000 (343% FPL)	\$737	\$531	-\$206			
\$120,000 (458% FPL)**	\$1,445	\$850	-\$595			

^{*} FPL = federal poverty level.

^{**} Current-law examples for an individual, couple, and family with income over 400 percent of FPL are based on the national average benchmark premium adjusted for age where appropriate. These estimates are different for every state. See Appendix Table 2 for state-specific estimates.

^{***} The sample family includes two 40-year-old adults, a 10-year-old child, and a 5-year-old child. Source: CBPP calculations. These monthly marketplace premium amounts for these scenarios are applicable in all states save for those with different poverty level standards than the national standard (Alaska and Hawai'i) and those states that subsidize marketplace premiums beyond the federal subsidy (California, Massachusetts, New York, and Vermont).

APPENDIX TABLE 2

House Proposal Would Lower Marketplace Premium Payments for Those Above 400 Percent of Poverty in All States

-		-		-				-	
				Monthly mai	rketplace pre	mium paymen	t		
State	45-year-old individual; \$60,000 (470% FPL*)			60-year-old couple; \$75,000 (435% FPL*)			Family of four**; \$120,000 (458% FPL*)		
	Current law	House proposal ***	Difference	Current law	House proposal	Difference	Current law	House proposal	Difference
U.S. average	\$511	\$425	-\$86	\$1,920	\$531	-\$1,389	\$1,445	\$850	-\$595
Alabama	667	425	-242	2,506	531	-1,975	1,766	850	-916
Alaska****	763	531	-232	2,867	664	-2,203	2,158	1,062	-1,096
Arizona	493	425	-68	1,852	531	-1,321	1,394	850	-544
Arkansas	445	425	-20	1,673	531	-1,142	1,260	850	-410
California	481	425	-56	1,809	531	-1,278	1,362	850	-512
Colorado	397	397	0	1,491	531	-960	1,122	850	-272
Connecticut	655	425	-230	2,463	531	-1,932	1,854	850	-1,004
Delaware	610	425	-185	2,294	531	-1,763	1,727	850	-877
DC	503	425	-78	1,787	531	-1,256	1,387	850	-537
Florida	516	425	-91	1,941	531	-1,410	1,461	850	-611
Georgia	515	425	-90	1,937	531	-1,406	1,458	850	-608
Hawai'i****	540	489	-51	2,030	611	-1,419	1,528	977	-551
Idaho	559	425	-134	2,102	531	-1,571	1,583	850	-733
Illinois	478	425	-53	1,797	531	-1,266	1,352	850	-502
Indiana	476	425	-51	1,788	531	-1,257	1,346	850	-496
lowa	591	425	-166	2,221	531	-1,690	1,672	850	-822
Kansas	555	425	-130	2,085	531	-1,554	1,570	850	-720
Kentucky	538	425	-113	2,022	531	-1,491	1,522	850	-672
Louisiana	616	425	-191	2,315	531	-1,784	1,743	850	-893
Maine	497	425	-72	1,869	531	-1,338	1,407	850	-557

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State	45-year-old individual; \$60,000 (470% FPL*)			60-year-old couple; \$75,000 (435% FPL*)			Family of four**; \$120,000 (458% FPL*)		
	Current law	House proposal ***	Difference	Current law	House proposal	Difference	Current law	House proposal	Difference
Maryland	392	392	0	1,474	531	-943	1,109	850	-259
Massachusetts	410	410	0	1,542	531	-1,011	1,161	850	-311
Michigan	392	392	0	1,474	531	-943	1,109	850	-259
Minnesota	347	347	0	1,304	531	-773	1,042	850	-192
Mississippi	519	425	-94	1,950	531	-1,419	1,374	850	-524
Missouri	541	425	-116	2,034	531	-1,503	1,531	850	-681
Montana	532	425	-107	2,001	531	-1,470	1,506	850	-656
Nebraska	790	425	-365	2,969	531	-2,438	2,235	850	-1,385
Nevada	444	425	-19	1,669	531	-1,138	1,257	850	-407
New Hampshire	403	403	0	1,516	531	-985	1,141	850	-291
New Jersey	458	425	-33	1,720	531	-1,189	1,295	850	-445
New Mexico	383	383	0	1,440	531	-909	1,084	850	-234
New York	597	425	-172	1,194	531	-663	1,701	850	-851
North Carolina	583	425	-158	2,192	531	-1,661	1,650	850	-800
North Dakota	557	425	-132	2,094	531	-1,563	1,576	850	-726
Ohio	424	424	0	1,593	531	-1,062	1,199	850	-349
Oklahoma	626	425	-201	2,353	531	-1,822	1,771	850	-921
Oregon	494	425	-69	1,856	531	-1,325	1,308	850	-458
Pennsylvania	514	425	-89	1,933	531	-1,402	1,455	850	-605
Rhode Island	394	394	0	1,482	531	-951	1,116	850	-266
South Carolina	538	425	-113	2,022	531	-1,491	1,522	850	-672

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House Proposal Would Lower Marketplace Premium Payments for Those Above 400 Percent of Poverty in All States

	Monthly marketplace premium payment									
State	45-year-old individual; \$60,000 (470% FPL*)			60-year-old couple; \$75,000 (435% FPL*)			Family of four**; \$120,000 (458% FPL*)			
	Current law	House proposal ***	Difference	Current law	House proposal	Difference	Current law	House proposal	Difference	
South Dakota	698	425	-273	2,625	531	-2,094	1,976	850	-1,126	
Tennessee	527	425	-102	1,979	531	-1,448	1,490	850	-640	
Texas	493	425	-68	1,852	531	-1,321	1,394	850	-544	
Utah	558	425	-133	1,915	531	-1,384	1,450	850	-600	
Vermont	669	425	-244	1,338	531	-807	1,880	850	-1,030	
Virginia	541	425	-116	2,034	531	-1,503	1,531	850	-681	
Washington	438	425	-13	1,648	531	-1,117	1,241	850	-391	
West Virginia	739	425	-314	2,778	531	-2,247	2,091	850	-1,241	
Wisconsin	516	425	-91	1,941	531	-1,410	1,461	850	-611	
Wyoming	894	425	-469	3,360	531	-2,829	2,529	850	-1,679	

^{*} FPL = federal poverty level.

Source: CBPP calculations.

^{**} The sample family includes two 40-year-old adults, a 10-year-old child, and a 5-year-old child.

^{***} For a small number of states in this scenario, the monthly premium payments under current law do not exceed the income cap of 8.5 percent under the House proposal. In those cases, the House proposal and current-law premium payments are equal.

^{****} Poverty standards for Alaska and Hawai'i are higher than the national standard. For example, 470 percent of poverty for an individual is \$74,965 in Alaska and \$68,996 in Hawai'i, as opposed to \$60,000 in all other states. As a result, premium payments under the House proposal for those above 400 percent of the poverty line will be higher in Alaska and Hawai'i than in other states, but still lower than under current law.

State Estimates of Increase in Federal Funding From Higher FMAP Under House Proposal

940
3,540
1,880
330
890
1,730
2,430
860
960
180
1,660
5,970
1,000
120

^{*}The Wisconsin estimate assumes that childless adults currently enrolled in BadgerCare are moved to the Medicaid expansion population, which means they are not included in the House proposal's FMAP increase. Wisconsin would receive the higher, expansion population FMAP for covering this population rather than the base FMAP, but the additional funds Wisconsin would receive from that shift are not shown here.

Note: FMAP = federal medical assistance percentage. Our estimates are based on baseline Medicaid spending figures that account for increased Medicaid expenditures during the COVID-19 pandemic. All estimates are rounded to the nearest \$10 million. The listed states have not implemented Medicaid expansion.

Source: CBPP analysis using Urban Institute estimates of Medicaid spending (2020) and Congressional Budget Office (CBO) baseline data.

For fiscal year 2021 through fiscal year 2023 expenditures, we inflate 2020 total traditional (non-expansion group and non-disproportionate-share-hospital) Medicaid spending from the Urban Institute using CBO's baseline estimates. We assume the federal share of all traditional Medicaid spending is increased by 5 percentage points from July 1, 2021 through July 1, 2023 for those states that have yet to implement the Medicaid expansion to low-income adults permitted under the Affordable Care Act.