

ANDY BESHEAR GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Secretary of State Frankfort, Kentucky 2019-005 December 16, 2019

<u>RELATING TO THE KENTUCKY</u> <u>MEDICAID EXPANSION PROGRAM</u>

WHEREAS, more than 1,000,000 Kentuckians are currently enrolled in the Kentucky Medicaid program; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the Kentucky Medicaid expansion program resulted in a 99-percent increase in Kentucky Medicaid/CHIP enrollment from 2013 to mid-2019; and

WHEREAS, according to U.S. Census data, the uninsured rate in Kentucky dropped by 9.2 percentage points from 2013 to 2016; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the Kentucky Medicaid expansion program insures more than 479,000 adults; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Bureau of Economic Research and the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Medicaid expansion saved the lives of at least 19,200 adults between the ages of 55 to 64 from 2014 to 2017 nationwide, including an estimated 704 lives of adults in Kentucky aged 55 to 64 from 2014 to 2017; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Bureau of Economic Research and the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 15,600 older adults died prematurely in states that did not expand Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, according to a University of Kentucky study, the Kentucky Medicaid expansion program resulted in a 230-percent increase in the number of Medicaid patients in Kentucky who received colon cancer screening which resulted in a 27-percent decrease in risk of death after Medicaid expansion, and 43-percent more Medicaid patients in the Appalachian region of Kentucky received colon cancer screenings than prior to Medicaid expansion, resulting in a 9.3-percent decrease in risk of death than prior to Medicaid expansion for patients in Appalachia; and



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WHEREAS, according to a report of The George Washington University, between 86,000 and 136,000 Kentuckians could lose their Medicaid health insurance coverage under the work and volunteer requirements of the Medicaid waiver demonstration project that federal courts have ruled invalid; and

WHEREAS, according to the Government Accountability Office, the work and volunteer requirements of the Medicaid waiver demonstration project that federal courts have ruled invalid would cost Kentucky an estimated \$271.6 million in 2019 and 2020 to implement; and

WHEREAS, according to a study published in the New England Journal of Medicine, more than 95-percent of the target population of a Medicaid work requirement in Arkansas appeared to meet the requirements or qualify for exemption under the waiver, and employment rates declined while the uninsured rate increased in Arkansas, with more than 18,000 people losing Medicaid health insurance coverage in 2018 under the Medicaid work requirement; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to the health and welfare of Kentuckians that they have health insurance coverage and maintain health insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS, terminating the Kentucky Medicaid expansion program would be detrimental to the health and welfare of Kentuckians; and

WHEREAS, terminating the Kentucky Medicaid expansion program would be detrimental to the survival of Kentucky's rural hospitals, which improved financially under the Kentucky Medicaid expansion program, and which according to the Kentucky Health Association are already in poor financial health, including 10 critical-access hospitals that receive higher Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements than other hospitals;



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NOW, THEREFORE, I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby Order and Direct that the provisions of Executive Order 2018-040, dated January 12, 2018, be and are hereby rescinded, declared null and void, and are no longer in effect. This Order shall be effective immediately upon the filing with the Secretary of State.

> ANDY BESHEAR, GOVERNOR Commonwealth of Kentucky

ALISON LUNDERGRAN GRIMES Secretary of State