

# Take Action

## Support the Idaho Health Care Plan



March 2018

The Idaho Health Care Plan would narrow Idaho's health coverage gap and reduce premium costs for Idahoans on the state exchange. After passing out of a House committee, the bill was sent back to committee from the House floor without a vote. On Monday, March 19, it was brought back out from committee and sent to the House floor where it awaits a vote.

### Take action and urge your representatives to vote for the Idaho Health Care Plan.

#### The Idaho Health Care Plan Could Cut the Coverage Gap in Half

- The Department of Health and Welfare estimates that as many as 35,000 Idahoans currently living in the coverage gap will be newly eligible for tax credits that will make their health coverage affordable
- There are currently as many as 78,000 Idahoans living in the coverage gap with no access to health care or insurance. While not a complete solution, the Idaho Health Care Plan will significantly narrow that gap and would be the first step to completely closing the coverage gap

#### The Idaho Health Care Plan Would Reduce Insurance Premiums by 20 Percent

- Premiums and out of pocket costs for health insurance have continued to rise every year. By moving some of the most expensive cases out of the market and into managed care, the Idaho Health Care Plan would significantly reduce the cost of insurance premiums on the state exchange
- The savings for Idaho families would be huge. A four-person family not receiving tax credits could save nearly \$439 /month. Over the course of a year this would put over \$5,000 back in the pockets of working Idahoans.

#### The Plan Would Protect Vulnerable Idahoans

- Idahoans living in the coverage gap delay seeking medical attention because they cannot afford to see a doctor. Often by the time they get to the emergency room it can be too late to help them.
- Even if patients are able to seek care on time they are often left with enormous bills they simply cannot pay. The Idaho Health Care Plan would help protect nearly 35,000 Idahoans from the risk of medical bankruptcy.

#### Increasing Health Coverage Saves State Dollars

- The Idaho Health Care Plan would save state funds by relieving pressure from the county indigent funds. When uninsured Idahoans cannot pay their medical bills the costs eventually fall to the state, and our tax dollars.
- By decreasing the number of unpaid visits to hospitals and emergency rooms in Idaho, we can invest in infrastructure, education, and community development.

### Take Action Now! Urge Your Representatives to Vote for the Idaho Health Care Plan

- Use our **email action tool** to contact legislators and **post on social media** with #SaveThePlan
- **Contact Speaker Scott Bedke** and tell him to support the plan at: (208) 332-1111

[www.CloseTheGapIdaho.org/EmailAction/](http://www.CloseTheGapIdaho.org/EmailAction/)