

# VOTE YES ON SB2021

## Medicaid Eligibility Determination and Renewal Reform Act

Senators Heather Steans - Omar Aquino - Iris Y. Martinez - Emil Jones, Laura Fine, Laura Murphy, Ann Gillespie

### Context: The Problem

Medicaid is critical to over three million Illinoisans who depend on it for their health care. This program is a staple of our health care system and it should be easy and efficient for eligible people to get covered and stay covered. Unfortunately, this is not the case:

- ✗ **Almost half of everyone covered by Medicaid gets dropped each year** when their case comes up for renewal. Most of these people remained eligible but lost coverage due to procedural issues like lost mail and system glitches.
- ✗ People applying for Medicaid routinely must wait months to find out if they have been approved. **This delay violates federal law** which requires the state to make an eligibility determination within 45 days.
- ✗ The constant churn on and off Medicaid causes harmful gaps in coverage that prevent eligible Illinoisans from getting the care they need to stay healthy.
- ✗ The state faces significant administrative costs that could be saved if the eligibility determination and renewal process were more efficient and leaves federal matching dollars unclaimed due to coverage gaps.

### We Can Do Better

SB2021 takes the best practices from other states who do not experience these problems and puts forward a comprehensive approach to reforming Illinois' Medicaid application and renewal processing system. Specifically, the bill will:

- ✓ Require better coordination between the Medicaid eligibility system and related programs such as SNAP;
- ✓ Make Medicaid renewals simpler and less burdensome by reducing required paperwork and increasing the types of data verified electronically;
- ✓ Restore Medicaid coverage in a timely manner for those who have had a lapse due to cancellation at renewal; and
- ✓ Expand access to the electronic eligibility portal (Manage My Case) for both applicants and authorized providers to better utilize electronic notifications and communications.

**Help us make sure Illinoisans can get and keep the health care they depend on! Support SB2021!**

**For more information or to sign on to this bill, please contact:**

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## **Organizational Support**

\*updated as of 3/13/2019

Protect Our Care Illinois Coalition  
ACA Consumer Advocacy  
Access Living  
Age Options  
AIDS Foundation of Chicago  
Champaign County Health Consumers  
Chicago Hispanic Health Coalition  
Chicago House and Social Service Agency  
Cook County Health  
Community Behavioral Healthcare  
Citizen Action  
Cure IL  
Depression & Bipolar Support Alliance  
Disability Resource Center  
Don Moss & Associates  
Enlace Chicago  
Erie Family Health Centers  
Esperanza Health Centers  
EverThrive Illinois  
GIPPCC/Greater Illinois Pediatric Palliative Care Coalition  
Heartland Alliance  
Health & Medicine Policy Research Group  
Healthcare Rights Coalition  
Healthy Illinois  
Housing Action Illinois  
Howard Brown Health  
Illinois Academy of Family Physicians  
Illinois Association of Rehabilitation Facilities  
Illinois Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics  
Illinois Coalition for Health Access  
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights  
Illinois Collaboration on Youth  
Illinois Health & Hospital Association  
Illinois-Iowa Center for Independent Living  
Illinois Public Health Association  
IMPACT CIL  
Indivisible Chicago Alliance  
Indivisible Illinois  
Indivisible Peoria Area  
Indivisible Metro East  
IVCIL  
Lake County Health Department and Community Health Center  
Lake County Center for Independent Living  
League of Women Voters of Illinois  
Legal Council for Health Justice  
LIFE Center for Independent Living (LIFE CIL)  
Mental Health America of Illinois  
NAMI Chicago  
NAMI Illinois  
National Kidney Foundation of Illinois  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
Northwestern Illinois CIL  
Options Center for Independent Living  
PACE, Inc. Center for Independent Living  
Planned Parenthood of Illinois  
Progress Center for Independent Living  
Project Vida Inc.  
Rosecrance Health Network  
Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law  
SEIU Healthcare IL  
Sinai Health System  
Small Business Majority  
Smart Policy Works  
Springfield Center for Independent Living  
Supportive Housing Providers Association  
TASC (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities)  
The Arc of Illinois  
The Josselyn Center  
The Kennedy Forum  
Thresholds  
Trilogy Behavioral Health  
Young Invincibles