

MEDICAID EXPANSION TOPLINES

ECONOMY

- Medicaid Expansion is critical to Kansas' COVID-19 recovery. Expansion creates jobs. Expansion supports a healthy workforce. Expansion improves struggling rural hospitals' bottom lines.
- We've lost over \$4.5 billion dollars to surrounding states whom are taking care of their individuals. **If we don't expand Medicaid, we will forgo over \$10 billion** in economic output in the next five years.
- For years, opponents to Medicaid Expansion have used the price tag as a scapegoat. **This bill solves their problem.** With medical marijuana we can **pay for Medicaid Expansion in Kansas.**
- Expanding access to affordable health care in Kansas would create more than 13,000 new jobs.
- A healthy workforce keeps our economy humming, and health care access is what families look at when relocating to new states.
- Kansas has become an island in the Midwest. Nebraska, Colorado, Oklahoma, and Missouri have expanded Medicaid.
 - Businesses will count this against us when deciding where to locate.
 - Kansas is already experiencing a provider shortage – and not expanding Medicaid puts us at a severe disadvantage when it comes to recruiting health care workers and competing for resources.
- To bring jobs and companies to Kansas we need to be competitive with our neighboring states whom have all expanded Medicaid. We need to show relocating businesses we have a strong, healthy workforce.
- Rural hospitals are critical to small-town communities – but Kansas' rural hospitals are in crisis. Recent [reports](#) estimate that 76 hospitals – or 72% of

the state's total hospitals – are at immediate risk of financial closure, largely due to the state failing to Expand Medicaid.

HEALTHCARE ACCESS

- Expanding Medicaid will give 165,000 hardworking Kansans access to affordable health care.
- That's 15,000 more Kansans that've fallen in the gap in the past year alone – during an unprecedented pandemic.
- 38 states have already expanded Medicaid, including all of our neighbors: Missouri, Nebraska, Colorado, Oklahoma.

MENTAL HEALTH

- [Expansion will reduce unmet need for mental health and substance use treatment.](#) In Kansas, it is estimated that nearly one-third of uninsured individuals who would qualify for Medicaid expansion struggle with mental illness or substance abuse, but currently less than 14% received treatment - largely due to lack of access to affordable care.
- When states expand Medicaid, more people with mental health conditions can get the coverage they need to access vital care.
- Medicaid expansion removes barriers for people with mental illness by allowing people to qualify based on income, rather than a disability determination. This helps people get mental health services when they need them.
- In states that have already expanded Medicaid, people are less likely to skip medications due to cost, more likely to seek regular care for their ongoing health conditions, and report improvements in their overall health.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA TOPLINES

- Medical marijuana would help Kansas recovery by bringing in **sufficient revenue** to Kansas and will cover the cost of Expansion -- while creating Kansas jobs.
- New revenue and additional jobs from medical marijuana will be significant catalysts for **Kansas' economic development and economic recovery** from COVID-19.
- The United States legal marijuana market is expected to reach [\\$73.6 billion](#) by 2027. Medical marijuana is projected to generate between [\\$9 - \\$11 billion in 2023](#).
- [Kansas is one of three states left](#) that does not permit some form of medical marijuana use. Leaving us less competitive and at a disadvantage.
- Medical marijuana helps Kansans with a **chronic illness, children with seizures**, and **veterans** suffering from PTSD.
- Medical marijuana use has been shown to **reduce opioid use** and **drug-induced mortalities**.
- With medical marijuana we can **pay for Medicaid Expansion in Kansas with money left over**.
- For years, opponents to Medicaid Expansion have used the price tag as a scapegoat. **This bill solves their problem**.
- By leveraging medical marijuana, Kansas can expand affordable healthcare to 165,000 people.