



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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**ILLINOIS PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION
RESOLUTION NO. 5
2023**

Support for Increasing Accessibility in Illinois Medicaid Redetermination

WHEREAS, in December 2022, the United States Congress passed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, which ended Medicaid's COVID-19 continuous enrollment provision and began the unwinding of continuous coverage¹; and,

WHEREAS, 47,625 Illinois residents lost Medicaid coverage in August, and an estimated total of 384,000 to 700,000 Illinois residents will lose Medicaid by the end of the redetermination process²; and,

WHEREAS, only 28.1% of those Illinois residents that lost Medicaid coverage in August were found to be ineligible, whereas 71.9% lost coverage due to issues with completing the redetermination process²; and,

WHEREAS, only about 50% of Medicaid redetermination cases in Illinois can renew through the *ex parte* process—an automatic renewal system that minimizes gaps in coverage and the state's administrative burden³; and,

WHEREAS, 65% of Medicaid enrollees report being unsure whether states can remove them from Medicaid if they are no longer eligible, 47% of individuals have not been through the redetermination process before, and 33% of enrollees have not provided Medicaid with updated contact information within the past year⁴; and,

WHEREAS, a large majority of enrollees say that having a Medicaid expert would be helpful, four out of ten would not look for replacement coverage if ineligible for Medicaid, and over four of ten state they would not know where to look for replacement insurance coverage⁴; and,

WHEREAS, the reduction patients receiving Medicaid benefits may result in a loss of revenue from Medicaid which will likely have an impact on revenue generated in local health departments.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Illinois Public Health Association (IPHA), as a public health leader in Illinois, will:

1. Serve as a liaison between local health departments, Illinois Department of Public Health, and Illinois Department of Human Services.
2. Support and advocate for increasing the portion of renewals that are completed through the *ex parte* process by:
 - a. Supporting the expansion of robust data sources used.
 - b. Advocating for express lane eligibility (ELE), allowing a Medicaid agency to use another government program's income findings to determine eligibility.
3. Support, encourage, and advocate for a centralized source for determination of Medicaid where information can be easily located.
4. Build capacity for community health workers and similar professionals to help Illinois residents navigate the Medicaid redetermination process.
5. Explore partnerships with organizations dependent upon Medicaid reimbursement for their services.

References

1. Burns, A., Williams, E., Corallo, B., & Rudowitz, R. (2023, March 2). *Medicaid enrollment growth: Estimates by state and eligibility group show who may be at risk as continuous enrollment ends*. KFF. <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/medicaid-enrollment-growth-estimates-by-state-and-eligibility-group-show-who-may-be-at-risk-as-continuous-enrollment-ends/>
2. Schencker, L. (2023, August 2). *More than 47,000 Illinois residents lose Medicaid*. Chicago Tribune. <https://www.chicagotribune.com/business/ct-biz-illinois-medicaid-lost-coverage-redeterminations-20230802-kh74zazx5zcenpiyfzaqrnikba-story.html>
3. State of Illinois. (2023, August 8). *Illinois Medicaid and the End of Continuous Coverage FAQ*. Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services. <https://hfs.illinois.gov/medicalclients/faqsendofcontinuouscoverage.html>
4. Kirzinger, A., Tolbert, J., Lopes, L., Montero, A., Rudowitz, R., Pestaina, K., & Pollitz, K. (2023, June 22). *The unwinding of Medicaid continuous enrollment: Knowledge and experiences of enrollees*. KFF. https://www.kff.org/medicaid/poll-finding/the-unwinding-of-medicaid-continuous-enrollment-knowledge-and-experiences-of-enrollees/?utm_campaign=KFF-2023-Medicaid&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=259642563&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9kpPYVP-BydtYq34NP9o3Dc0jMGw_wQy7NFzTk1EcKHKuzQvnkRw5QXtRzDa55KrQF0iunvq6BTyqnRAMqe_UWeEJ_RJvll0f5S8rIqMxt-FSIZM&utm_content=259642563&utm_source=hs_email