



Officers

President
Donald O. Mack, MD, Columbus

Immediate Past President
Ryan D. Kauffman, MD, Bellefontaine

President-Elect
Stanley R. Anderson, MD, North Canton

Vice President
Anna M. McMaster, MD, Napoleon

Treasurer
Teresa W. Zryd, MD, Beavercreek

Speaker
Michael Sevilla, MD, Salem

Vice Speaker
Doug W. Harley, DO, Akron

Executive Vice President
Ann M. Spicer, Columbus

May 16, 2018

Medicaid.gov
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244

Delegates

AAFP Delegate
Jeffrey D. Bachtel, MD, Tallmadge

AAFP Delegate
Renee L. Markovich, MD, Akron

AAFP Alternate Delegate
Sarah L. Sams, MD, Grove City

AAFP Alternate Delegate
Elisabeth L. Righter, MD, Dayton

OSMA Delegate
Melissa Jefferis, MD, Lewis Center

OSMA Alternate Delegate
Jeffrey A. Harwood, MD, New London

On behalf of the 5,000 family physician, family medicine resident and medical student members of the Ohio Academy of Family Physicians, I write to express extreme concern with the 1115 waiver application filed by the Ohio Department of Medicaid with CMS to seek federal approval to implement a work requirement for Medicaid expansion enrollees on July 1, 2018.

As primary care physicians serving on the front lines of patient care in Ohio, we know firsthand that approval of Ohio's waiver application would be a devastating blow to progress made in providing health care coverage to Ohio's Medicaid and other low-income populations. This waiver application, as written, threatens coverage of an estimated 36,000 adult Ohioans who now have coverage - a huge step backwards in achieving the American Academy of Family Physicians' long-standing goal of achieving health care coverage for all. This waiver, if approved, reverses gains made when Medicaid was expanded and care was improved by transitioning services from expensive hospital emergency departments to less expensive outpatient settings.

Ex Officio

AAFP Delegate to AMA
Colette R. Willins, MD, Westlake

We understand that many states are pursuing policies to seek to undermine Medicaid expansion provided under the ACA. This particular step in the process to dismantle the ACA will lead to a broad disenrollment of Ohioans who need health care coverage. This waiver increases administrative burdens for physicians, other healthcare professionals, and county governmental agencies who have to implement the work requirement; thus expending more time, effort and money completing paperwork and less time, effort and money on meeting human needs.

Regional Directors

Central Region
Bryan W. Ghiloni, MD, Gahanna

East Central Region
John A. DiSabato, MD, Stow

Northeast Region
Sheng Liu, MD, Cleveland

Northwest Region
Kathleen Meehan-de la Cruz, MD, Norwalk

Southeast Region
Stephen C. Ulrich, MD, New Lexington

Southwest Region
Hillary Mount, MD, Cincinnati

West Central Region
Mary E. Krebs, MD, Xenia

Waivers were created to foster innovation not to undermine the original objectives of the Medicaid program. Reducing coverage and access is not the direction we should be heading as a state or nation. Please reject Ohio's 1115 waiver application.

At-Large Directors

Sanford R. Kimmel, MD, Eaton

Brian L. Bachelder, MD, Akron

Brandon J. Crouch, MD, Mansfield

Wayne A. Forde, MD, Solon

Mark A. McLoney, MD, Middleburg Heights

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Donald O. Mack, MD
President

Residents

Valerie F. Good, MD, Columbus

Nate R. Overmire, DO, Columbus

Students

Anna Askari, Upper Arlington

Haley Coleman, Hudson