



Save funding for Medicaid Interpreter Services Patients: Do not forfeit \$12 million in federal funds!

- **Save the state money!**
 - Don't forfeit \$12 million in Federal Medicaid matching funds.
 - 75% of this program is funded by federal dollars. The State will lose \$12 million in federal matching funds, while saving less than \$3 million in the state budget.
- **Protect the Medicaid provider network!**
 - Providers will STOP taking Medicaid patients if they are forced to pay for interpreter services.
 - State funding for this program is critical to keep healthcare providers in the Medicaid system.
 - With fewer Medicaid providers, patients will go to the ER at a much greater cost to the state.
- **Protect patients!**
 - 19,000 patients a month (900 a day) currently depend on this program to communicate with their doctor. These patients will face miscommunication, go without care or delayed care resulting in worse health outcomes and higher healthcare costs overall.
- **Don't put the state at risk!**
 - DSHS implemented this program in response to 15 Civil Rights Complaints filed against the State. Eliminating this program is a guaranteed return to court.

Recommendation: Restore state funding for interpreter services - but fix the system. Cut out the middlemen to save the state money!

"The loss of medical interpreter services will be measured in lives lost, not dollars saved. Without medical interpreter services, the chance that patients cannot understand diagnoses, prognoses and appropriate treatment regiments increases exponentially."

- Pramila Jayapal, Executive Director of OneAmerica



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