

# States face the choice of supreme court decision

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## Our State's Prior Expansions

The state of Vermont has always prioritized the health of its members. It extended Medicaid to parents who had a higher income than the standard eligible income limit, given that the standard limit was in many cases below half the poverty level. In addition, Vermont covered parents who did not have children, unlike other states. Additionally, the state enacted a single-payer health care legislation in 2011. It consequently established an insurance exchange to meet the requirements of the ACA act until it applies for a waiver on the implementation of the single-payer system.

## What We Can Expect Under ACA Expansion

### Changes in Uninsured

Vermont records approximately 47, 000 uninsured people. This comprises a large number of the population, which needs to be covered, to improve their ability to access medical attention. Fortunately, for the state, following the adoption of the 2010 ACA act, this number shall reduce significantly, as the regulation encourages more people to enrol for Medicaid (Holahan, Buettgens, Carroll, & Dorn, 2012).

### Changes in Medicaid Costs/Uncompensated Care Costs

Following the generous Medicaid program that the state of Vermont has always held, implementation of the ACA will benefit the state, as it shall spend less on Medicaid, compared to other states. The state shall adjust its current federal medical assistance percentage to match the enhanced FMAP (Manatt Health Solutions, Center for Health Care Strategies, & State Health Data Assistance Center, 2012). Such adjustments shall also offset the probable increase in administrative costs, thus making the Medicaid

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beneficial for Vermont. Consequently, the state shall benefit greatly from the ACA act, thus boosting the economic position of the state. More to this, adopting the expansion serves the state better, given that even states that do not expand their Medicaid still contribute Medicaid funds to the federal government.

#### Other Considerations

##### Health of State Residents

Following the expansion of Medicaid in the state, the residents shall be in a better position to access health care. Medicaid serves to improve the financial security of the residents by 40% as they do not need to solicit funds when faced with health emergencies (Baicker & Finkelstein, 2011).

Consequently, an improvement in the health conditions by an additional 25% can be anticipated.

The number of depressed individuals shall also decline, given the ability of the individuals to the reduced financial burden of health care. In addition, Sommers, Baicker, and Epstein (2012) report that the mortality rates in the state shall decrease significantly. This follows the fact that new enrollees could be among those facing a high risk of death. Ability to access the new medical program ought to address the health risks facing such people, thus reducing the number of deaths in the state of Vermont.

##### Political Considerations

Providing residents with access to a vital requirement in their life promote their stability. They get to enjoy the services provided by the state and federal government, thus boosting political stability. This follows the public perception of responsiveness by political leaders to the needs of the residents, which endears the political leaders to the people, leading to their <https://assignbuster.com/states-face-the-choice-of-supreme-court-decision/>

popularity (California Healthline, 2014).

#### Final Recommendation

The decision by Vermont State to support the ACA is commendable. The program yields multiple benefits for the residents of the state as it promotes the welfare of the American people. The number of insured people shall decline, and the expansion shall strengthen previous efforts taken by the state to improve health care (Sommers & Epstein, 2013). Additionally, the state of Vermont shall save the taxpayer's money, and the residents shall enjoy improvements in their health. Consequent to this, the people of Vermont shall appreciate the work of the government, and, leading to greater political stability.

#### References

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