

From: Bryan Kost <kostbr@scdhhs.gov>
To: Bryan Kostkostbr@scdhhs.gov
Date: 2/4/2013 1:24:42 AM
Subject: Health Reform Stories

Y'all are invited ...

1-SCDHHS to present budget request to Ways and Means Tuesday

<http://www.scstatehouse.gov/agendas/agnh138.htm>

2-SC hospital tax offered as funding source for expanded Medicaid

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/01/30/2610520/hospitals-could-pay-to-expand.html>

3-Why do SC hospitals offer tax as funding source for expanded Medicaid?

"the hospitals stand to profit hugely by an expansion, and their lobbyists are working House members ... around the clock"

<http://www.scpolicycouncil.org/research/healthcare/medicaid-expansion-who-pays>

4-SC provider lobbying day focuses on Medicaid expansion

<http://www.charlestonbusiness.com/news/46590-s-c-doctors-urge-lawmakers-to-expand-medicaid-eligibility>

5-Why the ACA Medicaid expansion isn't a good deal for the poor

"saying that someone is covered is very different from actually providing them health care"

<http://www.aei-ideas.org/2013/01/why-the-acas-medicaid-expansion-isnt-a-good-deal-for-the-poor/>

... and a deeper dive thereinto ...

6-Why the poor don't get such a good deal from the ACA Medicaid expansion

"Putting millions of additional people into a program that has been struggling with access to care for the past forty-five years is likely to result in worsening access for those who are currently enrolled in Medicaid"

<http://jhppl.dukejournals.org/content/early/2012/10/09/03616878-1898848.full.pdf>

(Editor's Note: I may have just made up a word in that headline – "thereinto" – but I like it, and besides Shakespeare made up words. But could Shakespeare put out weekly health reform stories? Word-making wimp.)

7-Gov. Jindal: States have Medicaid reform ideas they'd love to try

Solutions would involve changes in "eligibility, benefit design, cost-sharing, use of the private insurance market, financing and accountability"

<http://www.news-herald.com/articles/2013/01/30/opinion/doc510925b5c4e30104426651.txt>

8-Money fears vs. benefits of Medicaid expansion: The big issue facing states

"A major worry for states is that deficit-burdened Washington sooner or later will renege on the 90-percent deal"

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/money-fears-real-benefits-medicaid-choice-18336038>

... 'care vs. 'caid ...

9-Does expanding Medicaid ensure Medicare cuts?

"The real truth is that an expansion of Medicaid under the ACA will be paid for in large part by 'savings' from the current Medicare program"

<http://www.argusleader.com/article/20130130/VOICES05/301300025/Protect-seniors-by-not-expanding-Medicaid?gcheck=1>

10-Is Medicaid off the table in federal budget cut talks?

"A major reason for the White House position is the key role that Medicaid plays in Obama's health reform effort"

<http://www.latimes.com/health/la-na-medicaid-20130203,0,6556734.story>

11-Is Medicare a main course on the federal cuts table?

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2013/02/03/democrats-still-saying-republicans-aim-to-shortchange-greatest->

[generation-in/](#)

12-Regardless of Medicare or Medicaid's reduction menu status, fiscal chaos does not a healthy market make (Thankfully, as the economy gasps, leaders continues to "focus on new policy pushes on immigration reform and gun control")

<http://www.politico.com/story/2013/01/us-economy-shrinks-01-pct-1st-time-in-3-a-years-86925.html>

Calling all NPs and PAs ...

13-Clinic workers in high demand as ACA influx advances

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-theclinic-providers-20130204,0,6512279.story>

Calling collective bargaining and picket lines ...

14-ACA to transform the doctor's office into union shop

"The change in the nature of physician employment will have effects never before experienced in America"

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887323375204578270401138739978.html?KEYWORDS=doctor%27s+office+as+union>

16-Administration is missing ACA deadlines

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/01/31/2613134/obama-administration-misses-some.html>

17-HHS ditched the word 'exchanges' because it doesn't translate in Spanish

<http://thehill.com/blogs/healthwatch/health-reform-implementation/280331-hhs-official-healthcare-exchange-doesnt-translate-in-spanish>

18-HHS clarifies exemptions for people in states seeking ACA alternatives

<http://thehill.com/blogs/healthwatch/health-reform-implementation/280135-hhs-clarifies-exemptions-from-individual-mandate-in-states-that-buck-medicaid-expansion>

19-States have many questions on Medicaid expansion

<http://washingtonexaminer.com/states-have-many-questions-on-medicaid-expansion/article/feed/2067257>

20-States hustle to modernize Medicaid whether they expand or not

"Whether states accept or reject the Medicaid expansion under the health law, they've got plenty of work to do to get ready for big changes in coverage next year"

<http://www.politico.com/story/2013/01/states-upgrading-medicaid-regardless-of-expansion-86637.html>

21-States using health IT to boost Medicaid sign ups

<http://www.ama-assn.org/amednews/2013/01/28/gvse0201.htm>

22-As America ages, senior care options flourish

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/01/30/2611344/as-america-ages-senior-care-options.html>

23-How can governance and financing of GME be reformed?

"There have been calls for broad reform of the Graduate Medical Education (GME) system to achieve a greater alignment of financing with the public's health care workforce needs"

<http://www.iom.edu/Activities/Workforce/GMEGovFinance.aspx>

24-Can bundled payments fix the Medicare crisis?

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/brucejapsen/2013/02/01/though-obamacare-pays-less-medical-providers-flock-to-bundled-medicare-payments/>

25-Can thinking locally fix the Medicare crisis?

<http://capsules.kaiserhealthnews.org/index.php/2013/01/for-medicare-innovations-think-locally/>

26-Can cutting \$9.4 trillion from Medicare in 150 easy steps fix the Medicare crisis?

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2013/01/30/how-to-cut-9-4-trillion-from-medicare-in-150-easy-steps/>

27-Can repealing IPAB and ensuring no Medicare cuts ever really happen fix the Medicare crisis?

<http://mobile.thehill.com/blogs/healthwatch/health-reform-implementation/278785-doctors-praise-bill-to-repeal-medicare-cost-cutting-board>

28-Can religion fix the Medicare crisis?

http://bismarcktribune.com/news/columnists/religion-can-fix-the-medicare-crisis/article_b1c4ac14-6c73-11e2-98a6-0019bb2963f4.html

29-Is consolidation the answer to healthcare's fragmentation problem?

"if not, we at least must commit to something ending in 'ion' to get us out of this mess"

<http://www.kevinmd.com/blog/2013/01/consolidation-answer-healthcares-fragmentation-problem.html>

30-Georgia to extend hospital bed tax to cover \$700 million Medicaid deficit

<http://www.ajc.com/news/news/state-regional-govt-politics/house-to-debate-hospital-tax-bill-friday/nWBxs/>

31-Audit: NC overspent Medicaid budget by \$1.4 billion

<http://www.newsobserver.com/2013/01/31/2646542/audit-state-overspent-medicaid.html>

32-Arkansas Medicaid shortfall: \$61 million

http://www.couriernews.com/view/full_story/21583297/article-State-lowers-Medicaid-shortfall-projection-to--61M-

33-Texas Medicaid expects to cut \$1.8 billion

<http://www.dallasnews.com/news/state/headlines/20130130-texas-medicaid-expects-to-cut-1.8-billion-in-costs-official-says.ece>

34-Alabama Medicaid needs 'fundamental change' to move toward quality, sustainability

http://blog.al.com/wire/2013/01/commission_recommends_fundamen.html

35-California: Aggressively expanding Medicaid; aggressively reducing provider rates

<http://www.latimes.com/health/la-me-legislature-healthcare-20130129,0,3102178.story>

... but can you ever really be sure that's the *same* one? *Really?*

Family's lost tortoise found after 30 years

<http://video.foxnews.com/v/2127180358001/familys-lost-tortoise-found-after-30-years/?intcmp=obnetwork>

... that thar's a lotta wings, y'all ...

Men accused of stealing \$65K worth of chicken wings

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/viewart/20130128/NEWS06/301280062/Men-accused-stealing-65-000-chicken-wings-Ga->

The CDC, Gunnar Kaasen's Diphtheria antitoxin Iditarod run to Nome, AK, and the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, or something

http://www.cdc.gov/Features/Diphtheria/?s_cid=tw_cdc1846

... sorry ...

Six gross health treatments

<http://www.foxnews.com/health/2013/02/01/6-gross-health-treatments/?intcmp=HPBucket>

Bryan Kost

Deputy Chief of Staff

SCDHHS
803.429.3201 - cell
803.898.2865 - desk

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