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North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper Calls For Medicaid Expansion To Close Critical Health Care Coverage Gap

“Closing the health care coverage gap and providing health insurance for working people who can’t afford it would strengthen our rural communities and hospitals by improving access to care and boosting local economies,” Gov. Roy Cooper

In case you missed it, Democratic North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper yesterday continued his push for a Medicaid expansion deal for the state. Reports have shown that more than half a million North Carolinians could be eligible for Medicaid coverage under an expansion and that the state would receive $1.1 billion in additional federal funding. The governor’s previous efforts to expand Medicaid and close the coverage gap in the state were blocked by Republican state lawmakers. Closing the health insurance coverage gap remains a top priority for Gov. Cooper.

Multiple studies have shown the strong benefits of Medicaid expansion, including lower death rates and lower risk of closure among rural hospitals. A study released today by the Kaiser Family Foundation shows that across the country, more than two million adults would be eligible for coverage if the remaining 14 states expanded Medicaid.

Read more why expanding access to health care remains one of Gov. Cooper’s top priorities:

Daily Reflector: Governor, Vidant leaders urge legislators to add Medicaid expansion to state budget
State lawmakers and local leaders came together Monday to talk about Governor Roy Cooper’s push to expand Medicaid coverage. For months, the Medicaid expansion has been a major factor in the budget fight with the General Assembly. Local health officials said getting more North Carolinians covered would do tremendous things for the state.

With a state budget still up in the air, some Vidant Health leaders say getting a Medicaid expansion approved is even more crucial. That’s why they hosted Governor Roy Cooper at a roundtable discussion to talk about that need. Many seniors say they need that Medicaid and Medicaid expansion is a must, but Cooper responded that it’s not as easy as it seems.

A Medicaid round-table discussion Monday with Governor Roy Cooper and leaders from Vidant Medical Center and the Brody School of Medicine focused on how Medicaid expansion could help Eastern North Carolina.

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