

My son, who is thirty-four years old now, has his entire life struggled with cognitive impairment due to a developmental disability. Kenny has for a year and a half now been able to hold down a half time job, for the very first time in his entire life, but unfortunately does not receive medical insurance through his employer. He will make more than what is allowed by Medicaid to receive insurance through KanCare and does not earn enough to receive subsidies to purchase insurance through the Market Place. Thankfully, Kenny has an Indian Card through the Cherokee Nation, but has to travel to Claremore Oklahoma for his health care needs. Heaven forbid he should have a life threatening emergency; I fear that we could not get him to the Indian Hospital soon enough to save his life. You claim conservatism yet you would push against a policy that would actually bring the federal taxes paid into the system by Kansans back to Kansas. You would keep job creation and economic growth away from your constituency who is in dire need of it; not to mention health care. By expanding Medicaid you address every single one of these issues. I understand your concern about government run health care, however, the “promise” that national politicians made to repeal and replace with “something better” than the Affordable Care Act was never fulfilled in spite controlling all three branches of our national government. This is not a Republican, Democrat, Conservative or Liberal issue. It’s about doing the right, decent and quite frankly smart thing.

It’s not about preserving a “win” from the last Presidential Administration, but rather about ensuring medical coverage for a large demographic of Kansans that fall into the medically uninsured gap; all the while stimulating economic growth and prosperity through job creation. It would be a win for all of us! Don’t punish Kansans for the dysfunction and broken promises of our national leaders.

Sincerely,

-Greg York
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