



RESPONSIBLE REFORM FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS DEMOCRATS . SENATE . GOV / REFORM

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act Rhode Island: The Cost of Inaction

Rhode Island Families Suffer

Rhode Island insurance premiums skyrocket

- ✓ In 1997, family health insurance purchased through an employer cost \$5,403. [Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, accessed 6/15/2009]
- ✓ In 2006, the same family health insurance cost \$11,934. [Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, accessed 6/15/2009]
- ✓ By 2016, the same insurance is projected to cost \$26,359, a 121 percent increase over 2006, which will consume 41.4 percent of projected Rhode Island median family income. [New America Foundation, 11/2008; New America Foundation, accessed 6/15/2009]

More uninsured Rhode Islanders

- ✓ Every day, 50 Rhode Islanders lose their health insurance. [Center for American Progress, 3/23/2009]
- ✓ During the last two years, 254,000 Rhode Islanders under age 65 went without health insurance for some time, which is 27.8 percent of the under 65 population. [Families USA, 4/2009]
- ✓ In 2007, 101,869 Rhode Islanders under age 65 were uninsured for the entire year, which is 11 percent of the under 65 population. [Kaiser Family Foundation, accessed 8/5/2009]

Rhode Islanders pay higher premiums due to the uninsured

- ✓ Rhode Island families pay a “hidden tax” of \$100 on their health insurance premiums due to the unpaid costs of care for the uninsured. [Center for American Progress, 3/23/2009]

Fewer choices due to consolidated market

- ✓ The two largest health insurance companies in Rhode Island have a combined market share of 95 percent. [Health Care for America Now, 7/15/2009]

Rhode Island Businesses Suffer

Fewer Rhode Islanders have health coverage at work

- ✓ In 2002, 69.1 percent of Rhode Islanders under age 65 had employer-sponsored health insurance. [Kaiser Family Foundation, accessed 6/15/2009]
- ✓ In 2007, 64.7 percent of Rhode Islanders had coverage through their employer. [Kaiser Family Foundation, accessed 6/15/2009]

Rhode Island Economy Suffers

Health care spending climbs

- ✓ In 2004, Rhode Island spent \$6.7 billion on health care. [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), 9/2007; CMS 2/2007]
- ✓ This spending level represents \$6,193 per capita, and is 16.2 percent of the Gross State Product. [CMS, 9/2007; CMS 2/2007]

Lost economic output of the uninsured due to shorter lives and poorer health

- ✓ This year, the Rhode Island economy will lose \$310 million - \$620 million due to the shorter lives and poorer health of the uninsured. [Center for American Progress, 5/29/2009]