

States Consider Medicaid Expansion

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On June 28, 2012, the U.S. Supreme Court **upheld** the **Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act [PPACA]**, but made the expansion of Medicaid included in the PPACA optional.

In the months since, states have grappled with the question of whether or not to expand Medicaid coverage to include all adults up to 133 percent of the poverty level. The Advisory Board Company, a health care consulting firm, has a **frequently updated interactive map** showing where each state stands.

A number of recent articles have discussed the issues involved:

- ***The Politics and Policies of the Medicaid Expansion***. Kaiser Health News, February 15, 2013.
- Wogan, J.B. "**Advancing the Debate: Political, Fiscal Costs of the Medicaid Expansion**." *Governing*, February 11, 2013.
- "**State Legislatures Debate Medicaid Expansion**." *Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act State Action Newsletter*. National Conference of State Legislatures, February 8, 2013.
- Scott, Dylan. "**States Send Warning to Feds with Medicaid Expansion 'Triggers'**." *Governing*, February 5, 2013.
- Scott, Dylan. "**Medicaid Expansion & States: Will They or Won't They?**" *Governing*, December 2012.

Although much attention has focused on state governors, legislation will be needed to implement changes in states' Medicaid programs.

The National Conference of State Legislatures [NCSL] has a searchable database of pending legislation related to the PPACA which can be used to track legislation related to Medicaid expansion:

<http://www.ncsl.org/issues-research/health/health-reform-database-2011-2012-state-legislation.aspx>

You can use **Texas Legislature Online** to find bills filed during the 83rd Legislature about **Medicaid**.

NCSL's **Health Reform Information** pages include a wide range of other documents related to **state implementation** of the PPACA .