

***From the Voice of the Poor, a Committee of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul***  
**Missouri House Bill Could Roll Back Medicaid Expansion**

In August 2020, Missouri voters approved a constitutional amendment that extended Medicaid eligibility to adults earning up to 138% of the Federal Poverty Level. For example, a single adult earning up to \$17,774 annually is now eligible, as are adults in a family of four earning up to \$36,576 annually. These adults were previously ineligible for both Medicaid and subsidized healthcare through the Marketplace.

Missouri House bill HJR 117 seeks to repeal the constitutional amendment passed by voters in 2020. HJR 117 would place on the ballot a constitutional amendment that would make Medicaid eligibility for the expansion population subject to a yearly funding vote by the General Assembly, as well as establish work requirements for eligibility. If passed by voters, the constitutional amendment in HJR 117 would cancel the provisions of the one passed in August 2020.

The Missouri Catholic Conference (MCC) and the Voice of the Poor Committee of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Archdiocesan Council of St. Louis, oppose HJR 117 because it would put our Neighbors in Need at risk of losing health care coverage, resulting in the inconsistent delivery of care over time and poor health outcomes for those with chronic conditions. The MCC cites the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, paragraph 166, which guides Catholics to work for access to basic health care for all. For more information about the MCC's position on Medicaid Expansion, visit <https://mocatholic.org/resources/medicaid-resources>.