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Contact: Aaron Collins, 608-266-2254

## **RESEARCH SHOWS MEDICAID EXPANSION LOWERS PRIVATE INSURANCE PREMIUMS, HELPS THE ECONOMY**

*Republican opposition based in ideology, not what is best for Wisconsin*

MADISON – Two recent studies confirm the positive economic impacts of Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The first, [a study](#) by the Department of Health and Human Services, concluded that, on average, premiums in the Marketplace were 7% lower in states that expanded Medicaid relative to states that did not. [The second study](#) was done in 2018 by the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. It concluded that “access to affordable health insurance and care, which may help people maintain or manage their health, promotes individuals’ ability to obtain and maintain employment.” Assembly Democratic Leader Gordon Hintz (D-Oshkosh) highlighted these studies and discussed the benefits of Medicaid expansion.

**“Medicaid expansion actually lowers private insurance premiums and improves Wisconsin’s economy. So it turns out the stated reasons for not accepting the Medicaid expansion by Republican leadership are not true,”** Rep. Hintz stated. **“This is cynical politics at its worst. Working against the will of your constituents in an attempt to score partisan points is exactly what people hate about politics. How out of touch do you have to be to blatantly ignore the wishes of 70% of the people in Wisconsin?”**

Earlier today, Representative Robin Vos stated, *“We are never going to do it (Medicaid expansion) in a way that undermines people who have private sector health insurance, drives up their costs, all while putting the taxpayers of Wisconsin at greater risk.”* Based on the extensive research referenced above, these statements are not true.

**“Republicans are entitled to their feelings about Medicaid, but they are not entitled to their own facts. We now have five years of data on Medicaid expansion. We can compare and contrast what has happened in expansion versus non-expansion states. The evidence is conclusive that Medicaid expansion lowers private insurance premiums and bolsters our economy by creating a healthier workforce.”**

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