



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 154		DATE: 1/13/2026
COMMITTEE: Legislative Review		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: AMY DECLUE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 10:59 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 11:42 PM
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I am in Support of this Joint-Resolution. This Issue will be decided by Our State Voters on any Requirement(s) to receive State Medicaid.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: BYRON KEELIN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-402-0655
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: FREEDOM PRINCIPLE MO		TITLE: PRESIDENT
ADDRESS: PO BOX 2		
CITY: BALLWIN	STATE: MO	ZIP: 63022
EMAIL: freedomprinciplemo@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 6:06 AM

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I strongly support HJR 154 because it brings Missouri's MO HealthNet (Medicaid) eligibility rules in line with recent federal changes made through the "Big Beautiful" bill, ensuring our state continues to qualify for critical federal funding. By requiring able-bodied adults to work, volunteer, or participate in job training, this amendment helps extend the life of Medicaid and keeps the program's focus on the most vulnerable Missourians—like children, seniors, people with disabilities, and pregnant women—who truly need coverage. The bill also protects taxpayers by preventing waste, fraud, and abuse, since applicants must provide documentation, and exemptions are limited to those written in law. Supporting HJR 154 means supporting responsible Medicaid reform that safeguards this vital program for those who depend on it most.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHARLOTTE VOLNER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/12/2026 10:41 PM	
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I am a **WORKING MO** healthnet member. The time frame to turn in paperwork is never long enough on programs that require it. Also the distance to work is never even taken into consideration when it plays a huge role in determining whether or not the government deems someone should be able to afford the health care you're looking to take away. I believe **EVERYONE** deserves access to affordable healthcare and making work requirements on Medicaid expansion will leave **THOUSANDS** of people without needed healthcare.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CYNDIA HAGGARD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 6:47 PM
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMES HARRIS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-761-7875	
REPRESENTING: FGA ACTION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 122 E. HIGH., SUITE 200			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MELISSA THOMAS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 6:15 PM
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I 1000% SUPPORT Rep Chappell's bill to hold Medicaid recipients accountable. They need to re-enroll every year, they need to meet criteria as listed out in this bill AND they need to Work!! My hospital employee's MANY disabled individuals. It's Inexcusable to create a population of entitled invalids who have the ability to work, but are just lazy!!

**Thank you for considering my opinion above.
Melissa Thomas**



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANNA R MEYER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/12/2026 8:53 PM
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I am on MOHealthNet.

I already work -- in some seasons up to 80 per week -- as I am self-employed. I attempted every year to enroll in ACA prior to Missourians like myself voting for Medicaid expansion. We needed the expansion to fill that hole where we fell out of ACA minimum income, and that expansion has led to me being more able-bodied than the 8 prior years without health insurance. Which means I actually work *more* thanks to Medicaid. Any added work requirements will only add administration and clerical stress to an already overwhelmed system. We're already working, a lot, just to keep our dreams alive



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BARBARA GILBERT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 8:04 PM
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The voters spoke on this 6 years ago. No work requirements needed, this has been shown NOT to be effective. Why won't the voice of the people's vote be enough? Please let Medicaid expansion happen without work requirements.



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: BRIAN COLBY		PHONE NUMBER: 206-769-3497
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI BUDGET PROJECT		TITLE: VP PUBLIC POLICY
ADDRESS: 6441 VALLEY ROAD		
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 64113
EMAIL: bcolby@mobudget.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 10:36 AM

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We do not feel the bill is necessary to implement the OBBBA and work requirements. Siting the Supremacy Clause that state federal law overrides state law we believe this effort is unnecessary. We oppose the bill specifically worried about the proscriptive and prescriptive language that would require or forbid the department effort to make sure Missouri is in compliance with Federal regulations. Final rules, regulations and guidance from CMS are not yet in final. We think that tying the hands of DSS could frustrate their efforts to fully follow the rules of the OBBBA and risks errors in SNAP and Medicaid audits that could put Missouri in jeopardy of serious fines and penalties in the future.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BRIAN IVAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/12/2026 6:05 PM
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This doesn't work. Other states have tried and it didn't save money: most people including myself on Medicaid already work



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CAROLE BARNER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 12:39 PM	
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We voted to expand Medicaid 6 years ago and do not want to go backwards!



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CINDY FRY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 1:11 AM
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Work requirements only create paperwork that is impossible to keep up with. It interferes with the process of administering health care.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DEVON T MCTYE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 7:52 AM
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I oppose any changes to the work requirement to MOHealthNet. They are not helpful and do not save money. It is just another way to make the poor to struggle. Healthcare is a right not an option.



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: EMILY KALMER		PHONE NUMBER:
REPRESENTING: AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY CANCER ACTION NETWORK		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 1001 CRAIG RD		
CITY: CREVE COEUR		STATE: MO
		ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GINNY MCTIGHE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/12/2026 5:50 PM
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Too many will loose medical coverage. We will all suffer.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JAY HARDENBROOK		PHONE NUMBER: 816-810-2036	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: AARP		TITLE: ADVOCACY DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 3307 MISSOURI AVE			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63118
EMAIL: jhardenbrook@aarp.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 12:48 PM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JENNIFER WILLIAMS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 10:56 AM
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I am in opposition to this bill. The people of Missouri are sick and tired of our representatives not listening to us, and I personally am tired of the Missouri government harming the most vulnerable populations over and over again. As a Christian voter, I am sickened at this blatant hatred and harm towards oppressed and vulnerable communities. We are supposed to love and help our neighbors.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JOANN DONZE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/12/2026 7:56 PM	
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We voted against the working for Medicaid so don't mess with what Missourians voted for



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KELLY SUTTON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 11:17 AM
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Oppose work requirements.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: LUCAS CALDWELL-MCMILLAN		PHONE NUMBER: 269-599-6254	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: EMPOWER MISSOURI		TITLE: CHIEF OF POLICY STAFF	
ADDRESS: 505 ELLIS BLVD APT A13			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY,		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: lucas@empowermissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 5:14 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Date: January 13, 2026

To: Chair Pollitt and Members, House Legislative Review Committee
 From: Lucas Caldwell-McMillan, Chief of Policy Staff, Empower Missouri
 RE: Our opposition to HJR 154

On behalf of our staff, board, and coalition members convened by Empower Missouri, I stand in opposition to HJR 154. Empower Missouri believes that access to healthcare is a human right. HJR 154 threatens that right for hundreds of thousands of Missourians. In 2020, voters approved the creation of a constitutional amendment to expand the Medicaid program. The people have already spoken on this issue. Since Medicaid expansion became the law in Missouri, over 360,000 new individuals have been enrolled in the program. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services already requires Medicaid work requirements under the new federal rules in H.R. 1. HJR 154 interrupts this implementation and would impose costly bureaucratic complications for the Department of Social Services and Missouri Medicaid enrollees.

The Department of Social Services has already started the process to implement the new Medicaid requirements by January 1, 2027, as required under H.R.1. HJR 154 will add uncertainty and unnecessary delays to the ongoing work of DSS. For example, HJR 154 bans the use of self-attestation for gig workers to verify the number of hours worked, but the current rules from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services allow for the use of self-attestation when appropriate. If HJR 154 is placed on the ballot, DSS will need to plan to implement work requirements under two different sets of rules. Rather than promoting clarity or efficiency, HJR 154 would create confusion, duplication, and unnecessary administrative burden for both DSS and Medicaid enrollees.

HJR 154 would also impose additional costs to Missouri taxpayers. It removes the requirement that the Department of Social Services take all actions to maximize the federal dollars that Missouri receives for Medicaid. HJR 154 also prohibits utilizing Medicaid managed care organizations to assist with eligibility determinations. Coordinating and utilizing accurate information from managed care organizations to timely determine eligibility for an individual is a proven cost-effective tool for states. Removing this tool will lead to increased DSS staff time devoted to eligibility determinations and absent that, delays and errors in eligibility decisions. These increased costs would coincide with the estimated \$14 billion loss of Federal Medicaid funding in Missouri over the first ten years of H.R. 1 implementation.

Finally, enshrining work requirements in Missouri's constitution relies on false assumptions that Medicaid recipients are abusing the social safety net. The frontline service providers in our coalition will tell you that this couldn't be further from the truth. Most Medicaid recipients who can work are already working. A Washington University analysis of Medicaid recipients shows that 31 percent are already working enough to meet the proposed work requirements, and an additional 19 percent do work— but not enough to satisfy the proposed work requirements. Of those eligible for Medicaid who are underemployed, 18.9 percent have a child under the age of six in the household, and 13.7 percent report a health problem which limits their ability to work. Of those eligible for Medicaid but currently unemployed, 37.5 percent are ill or disabled, 12 percent are in school, and 24.3 percent are taking care of the home.

Empower Missouri joins multiple other organizations in urging a no vote on HJR 154. We appreciate your time and consideration.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MAURA PATEL		PHONE NUMBER: 314-692-5635	
REPRESENTING: AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION		TITLE: SR. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS LEAD	
ADDRESS: 12400 OLIVE BLVD			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63141
EMAIL: maura.gray@heart.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/12/2026 4:30 PM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PORSHA CROME		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/12/2026 6:49 PM
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I am in opposition of this bill because there are already financial statements that are submitted in order to become eligible. So this would just become a redundant thing with something that is already being done in the state currently.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/11/2026 8:44 PM
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I vehemently oppose this resolution. It does not take into account realities faced by individuals and families in need of MO Healthnet services.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CHRISTINA INGOGLIA		PHONE NUMBER: 573-508-5688	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL (MODDC)		TITLE: DIRECTOR OF POLICY ADVOCACY	
ADDRESS: 1706 E. ELM STREET			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: cingoglia@moddcouncil.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 4:45 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

As you know, the Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council is a federally funded, Governor-appointed Council made up largely of Missourians with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) and their family members. Under federal law, we are required to share any impact on people with disabilities that a piece of legislation or policy change may have on people with IDD.

- We are concerned that the language in HJR 154 may be unclear about who receives an exemption from the work requirements and who does not, leaving room for interpretation – particularly as it pertains to people with IDD. We would encourage working with DHSS and DMH to codify and specify how people with IDD who receive any Medicaid services should be denoted as exempt in this HJR.
- Some people with disabilities will have difficulty proving their hours worked and completing paperwork. This is particularly true for individuals who may not have a strong support system, or who only rely on Medicaid for insurance coverage but are otherwise independent. It could harm working people with IDD should they not understand or be unable to comply with self-reporting or other monitoring activities. This could have the unintended effect of forcing people with IDD to seek higher levels of support simply to access Medicaid.
- In terms of mental health, people who rely on Medicaid for services and pharmaceuticals may also struggle to comply with new regulations. There is a strong overlap in populations between people with mental health disabilities and those with IDD. Without the proper supports, these individuals could lose access to the medicines and services they need, which would compound the problem for themselves and the state. Individuals with mental health challenges that go untreated are more likely to end up in jails and nursing homes, which would cost Missouri much more than maintaining insurance for these individuals.
- While not specifically IDD-related, we want to share that the bill does not specify how the work requirements will impact people with temporary disabilities.

Thank you.