



Children are losing health care access — thanks, bureaucracy

The economy of Missouri is doing well, as it is generally throughout the country. Missouri's Medicaid roll is shrinking, and the Parson administration would want us to think that the two observations are cause and effect. State officials are generally troubled by the high cost of Medicaid. So when the Medicaid rolls decline, that's something to cheer about. But is it that simple?

Over 107,000 Missourians have been dropped from the rolls since last spring, even though they still qualified for the program. Medicaid eligibility must be renewed every year, but Missouri has an outdated, clumsy renewal system that is responsible for dropping many Missourians. The information needed for establishing Medicaid eligibility is available elsewhere in state records.

Governor Parson's administration has not complied with federal law when it comes to sharing data, and, as a result, our neighbors (including 85,000 children) are paying the price. Kids across the state go to the doctor to seek care, only to find that they no longer can be treated.

It is time for Governor Parson to step up and lead Missourians out of the situation his administration has created. Call on him to address this issue and reenroll every person who lost their health care. It is past time for him to cut back on the photo ops and do his job.

Henry Troyer; Rebecca Johnson, Springfield organizer, Missouri Health Care for All, Springfield

Uncertainty after Mueller report makes US vulnerable to enemies