



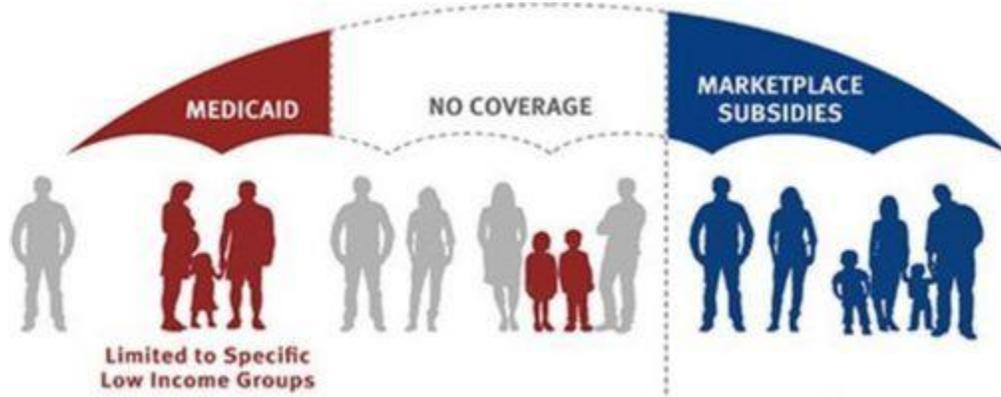
LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Medicaid Expansion | Implementation Bill

In order to implement and fund the expansion of Medicaid in Idaho, important sideboards are being discussed by members of the Idaho Legislature and the Executive Branch to determine which provisions would be most universally acceptable. Some of the most favorable items include a provision that would allow Medicaid recipients a quick pathway to workforce training opportunities on an “opt-in” basis. This program has been successful in Montana and has seen a wide variety of support from Idaho legislators discussing the topic.

In ongoing discussions with decision-makers, IACI staff has made it clear that provisions that leave any segment of this 'gap' population without coverage would still leave unreimbursed care. Unreimbursed care was the very reason IACI involved itself in support of the initiative that passed by 60% in November. Unreimbursed care for this population that occurs now would instead be covered by the expansion of Medicaid, rather than pushed off onto private payers and taxpayers through a variety of current mechanisms that could be eliminated. Simply put, IACI would oppose legislation that would disqualify members of this gap population from participation. However, provisions that help Idaho citizens with a safety net and a path out of poverty would be welcomed.

As a practical matter, if the Legislature is unsuccessful in reaching a compromise on sideboard provisions, the law as passed by the citizens will automatically go into effect, and coverage for this gap population would start on January 1, 2020.



Idaho Repatriation of Foreign Income

Congress passed the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act (TCJA) in November 2017 that substantially changed the way multi-national corporations are taxed in the United States. During the 2018 Legislative Session, the Legislature and the business community struggled to understand all the changes that were made, how they affected Idaho conformity, and what the consequences were for the state and our businesses. As a result, Idaho did not conform to some of the changes in the federal law, preferring to wait for additional information. Over the last summer, many guidance documents were released regarding how these new provisions will be applied, which has led to a much greater understanding of the TCJA's provisions and how they will impact Idaho multi-national corporations.

IACI has drafted a bill to conform to the TCJA changes and level the playing field for Idaho corporations. Conformity will result in increased tax revenue to the state from corporate filers that are now required to repatriate all foreign-derived income. It will also allow Idaho companies to use some of the same credits and deductions on Idaho taxes that are available for federal taxes.



IACI is hopeful that this important legislation will receive a hearing in the near future and begin to work its way through the legislative process.

[Click Here for the Current IACI Legislative Tracking List](#)

Transportation/Infrastructure Funding Bills

As expected, several transportation funding bills have now surfaced for consideration. Senate Transportation Committee Chair Brackett has introduced two bills, which IACI supports. [S1063](#) would extend the sunset date for the strategic initiatives program and extends the current version of the budget stabilization fund for five years. [S1065](#) adds to and amends existing law to provide for the issuance of certain bonds and to establish the Transportation Expansion and Congestion Mitigation (TECM) Program Capital Project Fund and the TECM Debt Service Fund. This allows the Idaho Transportation Department to fund programs necessary to help mitigate specific congestion points around the state. Both bills should receive hearings in the coming weeks.



House Bill 1 Signed Into Law This Week

This year's first piece of legislation, [House Bill 1](#), sponsored by Speaker Scott Bedke, was passed unanimously by both the House and Senate, and was signed into law by Governor Little on Tuesday this week. This important bill resolves an issue in the law which arose regarding water storage and the effect on water right holders, and was supported by IACI.



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