Attorney General’s title: “An initiated amendment to the South Dakota Constitution expanding Medicaid eligibility”

Attorney General’s explanation: "Medicaid is a program, funded by the State and the federal government, to provide medical coverage for low-income people who are in certain designated categories. This constitutional amendment expands Medicaid eligibility in South Dakota. It requires the State to provide Medicaid benefits to any person over age 18 and under 65 whose income is at or below 133% of the federal poverty level, plus 5% of the federal poverty level for the applicable family size, as provided in federal law. For people who qualify under this amendment, the State may not impose burdens or restrictions that are greater than those imposed on any other person eligible for Medicaid benefits under South Dakota law.

The South Dakota Department of Social Services must submit to the federal government all documentation required to implement this amendment, and must take all actions necessary to maximize federal funding for this expansion.

Fiscal Note: “The proposed expansion of Medicaid could cover an additional 42,500 eligible individuals, with a total estimated cost over the first five years of $1,515,214,000. For the first five years under current federal law, the state's share of expenses could be $166,244,000 with the state recognizing additional general fund savings of $162,473,000.

Sponsor: Laurie Jensen Wunder, 605.280.5302, info@southdakotansdecide.org

Circulator: Volunteer

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Filed this 2nd day of July, 2021

Secretary of State