



**For Immediate Release  
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## **Governor Signs Bill Creating Idaho Way Forward on Medicaid Expansion**

**BOISE, Idaho** – After months of work and debate, Governor Brad Little signed Senate Bill 1204aa,aaH into law on April 9, 2019, creating the Idaho way forward on Medicaid expansion. The legislation promotes a healthy life for all Idahoans, while being fiscally-responsible with taxpayer dollars.

“It was a session-long challenge to figure out a fiscally-responsible way to implement Medicaid expansion,” said Republican Caucus Chair Rep. Megan Blanksma. “It took a lot of listening to our constituents, a lot of collaborating with our friends in the Senate, and a lot of amendments to the final bill, but we found a plan that puts Idahoans and their priorities first.

SB 1204aa,aaH allows freedom in enrollment, if someone wants to keep their coverage through Your Health Idaho, rather than getting on Medicaid. It addresses substance abuse treatment and mental health coverage, and allows the state to opt out of Medicaid, if the Federal Government doesn’t pay their fair share of 90 percent. The plan also features work/training/volunteering requirements for Medicaid Expansion participants.

“These are some of the most compassionate work incentives in the nation,” said Rep. John Vander Woude. “They promote self-sufficiency for everyone on Medicaid, which translates to smart use of tax dollars and financial stability for every Idahoan.”

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