



March 31, 2020

The Honorable Mike Parson  
Missouri Governor  
P.O. Box 720  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

The Honorable Brian Williams  
Senate Assistant Minority Floor Leader  
201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 434  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

The Honorable Dave Schatz  
Senate President Pro Tem  
201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 326  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

The Honorable Rob Vescovo  
Speaker of the House  
201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 308  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

The Honorable Caleb Rowden  
Senate Majority Floor Leader  
201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 320  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

The Honorable Dean Plocher  
House Majority Floor Leader  
201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 302-A  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

The Honorable John Rizzo  
Senate Minority Floor Leader  
201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 333  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

The Honorable Crystal Quade  
House Minority Floor Leader  
201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 204  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Governor Parson, Senate Leadership, and House Leadership:

As the representatives of the St. Louis and Kansas City regional business communities, we are writing to urge you to fully implement Medicaid expansion this year. Greater St. Louis, Inc., the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce, and The Civic Council of Greater Kansas City advocate for pro-growth public policies that increase the economic vitality of the states and regions we represent. Our regions collectively make up over sixty-five percent of Missouri's GDP, and we are both home to world-class healthcare systems that care for significant portions of the state's population. We are confident when we say there is no single greater economic investment you can make in Missouri this year than fully funding Medicaid expansion.

In 2020, Missouri voters chose to expand healthcare coverage to over 230,000 Missourians with incomes up to 138% of the federal poverty level. Business groups throughout Missouri actively supported the passage of Amendment 2 not only because of the benefits of a healthy workforce, but the benefits Medicaid expansion will contribute to job-creation and economic growth.

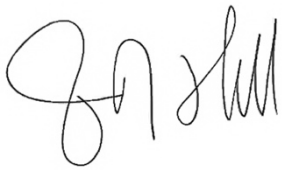
Medicaid expansion is a proven job creator. According to a report from Regional Economics Models, Inc. (REMI), Missouri is expected to see an increase of more than 16,000 new jobs each year as a result of Medicaid expansion. That same report projects Missouri will receive a \$2.5 billion increase in economic output, a \$1.6 billion increase in GDP, and a \$1.1 billion increase in personal income. The economic benefits associated with Medicaid expansion will transform our communities as the transfusion of dollars to the local level will lift up every Missourian.

Expanding Medicaid also comes at a time when people in every corner of Missouri are reeling from the coronavirus pandemic. Specifically, the largest metropolitan regions in Missouri, St. Louis and Kansas City, saw first-hand the racial inequities our minority populations are faced with when it comes to healthcare and economic access. Racial equity groups like the Ferguson Commission and the Urban League in both of our regions believe Medicaid expansion is a significant step to begin to address those racial inequities.

Medicaid expansion will provide healthcare coverage to hundreds of thousands of Missourians and create billions in economic output and thousands of jobs. The St. Louis and Kansas City business communities respectfully urge you and your colleagues to fully implement Medicaid expansion in Missouri in Fiscal Year 2022.

We appreciate your support and offer our partnership to you and your colleagues as we work to expand economic opportunity for all.

Sincerely,



Jason R. Hall  
CEO  
Greater St. Louis, Inc.



Joe Reardon  
President & CEO  
Greater Kansas City  
Chamber of Commerce



Marc Everett Hill  
President  
The Civic Council  
of Greater Kansas City