

# HEALTHCARE

## Wisconsin Healthcare Rankings

- #1 in Overall Healthcare Quality<sup>1</sup>
- #1 in Child Wellness Visits<sup>2</sup>
- #9 in Health Insurance Enrollment<sup>2</sup>
- #12 in Health Care Affordability<sup>2</sup>
- #18 in Overall Healthcare Access<sup>2</sup>
- Top 4 states for health care quality improvement at rural Critical Access Hospitals<sup>3</sup>

## Lowering the Cost of HealthCare and Expanding Access

- WI Healthcare Stability Plan
  - Reinsurance plan which would cover high cost claims to help stabilize the private health insurance market and reduce premiums in the individual market
  - Molina Healthcare has decided to rejoin the marketplace because of our reforms
- *Association Health Plans\**
  - Allows small businesses to pool together to offer more affordable health insurance
- *Direct Primary Care\**

## Health Care Investments:

- Increased pay for personal care services workers and Family Care workers
- Fully funded SeniorCare and Medicaid
- Funded grants to expand our healthcare workforce
- Expanded the UW Carbone Cancer Center
- Eliminated Waiting List for Children's Long-Term Support Services

## Fighting Drug Abuse and Addiction

- Continued HOPE Agenda. Passed 13 HOPE bills last session, bringing our total to 30 bills since 2013
- Funding for Treatment and Diversion programs
- Increased support for PDMP; opioid prescriptions dispensed over the last year are down 10%
- Easier prosecution of drug dealers and manufacturers of fentanyl analogs (which can be 50 times more potent than heroin)

## Support for Life-Saving Treatment Options

- *Coverage of pre-existing conditions\**
- Right to Try
- Breast Density Notification
- Support for possession of CBD oil for certain medical conditions

## Mental Health

- 2 new aid programs for student mental health in schools
- Expansion of the Child Psychiatry Consultation Program

## Alzheimer's and Dementia

- Grants for Alzheimer's and dementia awareness
- Increased number of Dementia Care Specialists
- Funding for research

## **MYTH: We need to take the Medicaid expansion, which will create jobs and provide health insurance to thousands**

- WI has struck the right balance in Medicaid with a partial expansion of Medicaid; we cover those in poverty (under 100% FPL) and the federal government covers those above poverty
- We were the only non-expansion state to **not** have a gap in healthcare coverage and we removed the enrollment cap so that more childless adults under 100% FPL have been able to receive care
- Expansion states are now grappling with the increased state cost of expansion. Some states are requesting to roll back coverage to 100% FPL or others "are tapping into tax revenues, making hospitals help, or adding work requirements and premiums to account for their increasing share of the expansion bill."<sup>4</sup>
- There is no guarantee that the federal government will continue to fund this expansion in the future
- We passed the WI Healthcare Stability Plan to help stabilize and lower premiums in the individual market

## **MYTH: Republicans are trying to get rid of requirements to cover those with pre-existing conditions**

- Assembly Republicans passed [AB 365](#) which prohibits health insurance policies and plans from considering preexisting conditions for those with continuous coverage when setting premiums, deductibles, and copayments under a plan
- Assembly Democrats voted against this measure

## **MYTH: Republicans are taking away healthcare options and not investing in affordable healthcare**

- We fully funded Medicaid and SeniorCare, in addition to asking for a 10 year SeniorCare waiver
- WI Healthcare Stability Plan will help lower premiums in the individual marketplace
- Assembly GOP voted for Direct Primary Care and Association Health Plans (which allows small businesses to pool together) to help increase affordable access to health care
  - WMC to create statewide association health plan for employers

## Sources:

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.wpr.org/federal-report-ranks-wisconsin-no-1-health-care-quality>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/rankings/health-care/healthcare-access>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.aspirus.org/main/news-room/wisconsin-among-top-four-states-in-us-for-quality-3517>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.governing.com/topics/health-human-services/gov-medicare-expansion-funding-states.html> ; <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/07/30/us/politics/trump-medicare-partial-expansion.html>