



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Democrat Governor Kate Brown Administration's Mismanagement
Could Cost Oregon Millions After Medicaid Problems**

Wilsonville, OR – While failing Democrat governor Kate Brown continues to try and rewrite history on Obamacare, calling it “cost-effective” for both the state and federal government, news has just come out that the state of Oregon may have dispensed millions of dollars to ineligible Medicaid recipients thanks to moves made by the state to skip the normal once-a-year Medicaid eligibility check in the wake of Obamacare’s passage.

The Oregonian [reports](#):

“The state of Oregon said Tuesday it had dispensed millions of dollars in Medicaid assistance to thousands of Oregonians with no idea whether they were eligible.

The Oregon Health Authority says it is working to clarify whether as many as 115,000 Medicaid recipients have incomes low enough to qualify for the benefits they have been receiving.

As the Affordable Care Act vastly expanded the Medicaid population in Oregon, the state got approval to skip the normal once-a-year eligibility check on its Medicaid clients. Recipients did qualify initially, agency officials said, but the state failed to check to ensure they still qualified. The lack of regular checks, coupled with lingering technological issues with the agency's computer systems, has led to the current situation, they said.

Officials declined to offer a ballpark estimate of how much Medicaid assistance may have been wrongfully dispensed. But they confirmed they are in the process of terminating 14,000 Medicaid recipients who were receiving benefits but failed to respond to their queries. The agency continues to analyze 17,000 more who did respond to determine if they still qualify. That leaves 84,000 who still must be checked out.

The stakes are huge. The average Medicaid recipient costs the state and federal government about \$430 a month. At that rate, even if it is determined that just the 14,000 recipients actually shouldn't have qualified, the annual outlay could top \$72 million a year.”

“Even after the now-shuttered Cover Oregon Obamacare co-op cost taxpayers millions of dollars and eventually collapsed due to systemic issues, Kate Brown continues to double down on the failed law even as news breaks that it may still cost Oregonians even more due to her administration’s mismanagement,” stated Oregon GOP Chairman Bill Currier. “Brown’s insistence on burying her head in the sand out of partisan political loyalty on Obamacare proves how unfit she is to continue to lead Oregon in 2018.”

The Oregon Republican Party is the state’s arm of the Republican National Committee. Its Chairman and officers are dedicated to promoting Republican principles within the state of Oregon and to improving the lives and livelihoods of Oregon’s working families through economic freedom and equal protection under the law.



Link to Online Posting:

<https://oregon.gop/oregon-dem-gov-kate-brown-medicaid-mismanaged-2017-05-18>

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