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March 2014 | [Medicaid Crunch Time](#) | [Dr. Patton Interview](#) | [Sally Jewell in SLC](#) | [What's More Risky 2](#) | [UtahPolicy Video](#) | [Uninsured Veterans](#)

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Make It or Break It


Closing Utah's Medicaid coverage gap [remains an elusive goal](#) as the 2014 legislative session winds down. But it's not for lack of trying. Currently vying for attention, votes, and traction are [three separate proposals](#) originating from the three epicenters of state government: the House, the Senate, and the Governor's suite.

Ironically, all this excitement over Medicaid expansion might be [derailing the prospect](#) for a grand bargain by the end of session. Both [internal politics](#) and the embedded complexities of health-care reform have transformed Medicaid expansion into the "third-rail" issue of Utah politics.


But despite key differences among the three major plans, they also share common elements like maximum state flexibility, private insurance subsidies, and sunset rules. These similarities could serve as the foundation for a compromise plan, or at least a framework to continue the discussion into the summer.

So [where do we stand](#) with 7 busy days to go?

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Access full calendar [here](#)

Health Care Roundtable

>>A weekly gathering of advocates, stakeholders, and others interested in health policy and legislation in Utah Meetings: Every Wednesday at 1:10pm

Location: Utah State Capitol - Senate Office Bldg. - Olmsted Room ([map](#))

Time: 1:10pm-2:15pm

Next Meeting - Wednesday,

March 5, 2014: Invited

Speaker: [Dr. David Patton](#), director of the Utah Dept. of Health, to speak about the governor's [Healthy Utah Plan](#).

Contact: RyLee Curtis, rylee-at-healthpolicyproject.org



Newsmaker Interview: Dr. David Patton

Does Gov. Herbert's Healthy Utah plan [close the coverage gap](#)—and what are its prospects for passage?

Learn more [here](#)



Read All About It

Four newspapers [agree on one thing](#): Lawmakers should close Utah's coverage gap with [all the tools](#) available

Read more [here](#)



How to Talk Smart

3 Plans. 2 Chambers. 54,000 people in the coverage gap. Which Utah Medicaid Expansion plan gets the job done?

Find out here [\(pdf\)](#)



Interior Monologue

Sally Jewell (the Secretary of the Interior) talks up ACA enrollment this Friday at 10am at the Salt Lake City Main Library.

More details here [\(pdf\)](#)



Town Hall Meeting on Medicaid Expansion

>>Real Utahns telling their real stories about how health coverage through Medicaid made their lives better and more productive

Date: Thursday, March 6, 2014

Location: Utah State Capitol – Room 445 (4th floor, east side) [\(map\)](#)

Time: 6pm-7pm

Want to share your story?

Contact: RyLee Curtis, rylee-at-healthpolicyproject.org

Local First Mentors Series: Health Care & Your Small Business

>>Local businesses owners and insurance experts about the pursuit of affordable health insurance for owners and employees

Date: Thursday, March 6, 2014

Time: 6pm-7:30pm

Location: Local First Utah Headquarters; 865 South 200 West, Salt Lake City, UT [\(map\)](#)

Panelists: Patty Conner of [Avenue H](#); Steve Burrows of Select Health; Tricia McGarry of Arches Health Plan; [Phil Sherburne & Leia Bell](#) of [Signed & Numbered](#)

More details [here](#)

ACA Talk by Sally Jewell (Secretary of the Interior)

>>If you hike bike, or ski in Utah's backcountry, now it's easy to find affordable health insurance. Learn how at this free event.

Date: Friday, March 7, 2014

Time: 10am

Location: Salt Lake City Main Library, Level 4 (210 E 400 S Salt Lake City, UT) [\(map\)](#)

Event Flyer [\(pdf\)](#)

Bill Watcher

[SB 251](#) – Amendments to Medicaid and Health Care
Sen. Shiozawa
Status: Senate 2nd reading calendar; passed Senate Health and Human Services Comm. (3-1-1)

Enrollment Events

See the full calendar at [Take Care Utah](#)

The Final Countdown

The clock is ticking to March 31.

Trained experts at [Take Care Utah](#) and [United Way 2-1-1](#) can help you find affordable insurance



Why We Fight

Over [3,800 uninsured veterans](#) fall into Utah's [Medicaid coverage gap](#).

Why this matters [now](#)

What's More Risky II

We're getting ready this week to launch [a new series](#) of hard-hitting [ACA enrollment](#) ads

Preview them here ([pdf](#))



Talking Heads

UHPP [spoke to](#) [UtahPolicy.com](#)'s Bryan Schott about prospects for a [Medicaid expansion solution](#) this session.

Watch the video [here](#)

Upcoming Health Reform 101 Presentations

Friday, March 14, 2014

Organization: Univ. of Utah College of Nursing - Graduate Nursing Program

Time: 12pm-2pm

Location: Univ. of Utah College of Nursing

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