Gov. Herbert Says He'll Wait Until Health Care Summit To Make Medicaid Decision

(KUTV) Governor Gary Herbert says he probably won't decide about Medicaid expansion until a health care summit in September. He believes a national study showing women with insurance are less likely to get late-stage breast cancer, so extending Medicaid to all Utahns who can't afford health insurance would save lives.

Emily Young is suffering from breast cancer which has spread to her lungs – and doctors say she'll likely die from it soon. Young has been given between three to six months to live.

When Emily was first diagnosed in 2009, she had health insurance which covered an operation that doctors believed cured her cancer.

Then, Emily lost her job and her insurance, and neglected follow up care and checkups. The cancer came back, and this time, will probably be fatal.

A study done partly at the University of Utah Huntsman Cancer Clinic says women with health insurance are much less likely to get late-stage breast cancer.

Governor Herbert believes the study and believes that insurance and having regular checkups saves lives.

Under President Obama's Affordable Care Act, Utah could expand Medicaid to cover about 130,000 people, like Emily Young, who can't afford insurance. The Federal Government would pay almost all the cost. But, the Governor says taxpayers would still pay the bill.

Governor Herbert says he plans to put off his decision until a health care summit in September and says he will not be rushed in to making a decision.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accretion</th>
<th>Size (km)</th>
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<td>Saturn's moon Rhea</td>
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