• If Utah expanded Medicaid we would see $375M MORE in FY15 of federal dollars coming into our economy for Medicaid and CHIP coverage than under a non-expansion scenario. That number increases to $516M more in FY16 than if we don’t expand.

• Overall, if Utah expands Medicaid we will have at least $180M more federal dollars coming into the state’s economy in FY15 than under a non-expansion scenario, or $210M more in FY16.

• By turning down billions of dollars that are already set aside to close the coverage gap, lawmakers in Utah are turning away an investment in Utah’s economy that can keep it strong and growing. Imagine you are a CEO of a company and you’re approached with an offer for a $100 million investment to start a new division, and what’s more, you can change your mind at any time with no risk to your company. Instead of taking the investment, you turn it down because you argue that you’re “breaking even” in profits.

• By closing the coverage gap, Utah will receive billions of dollars in additional federal money that can be used to help us further invest in critical priorities like schools and roads.

• What’s more, ask a hospital executive in Utah if he/she is getting enough money back from the federal government to cover uncompensated ER care. I bet they will tell you it’s wiser to invest taxpayer dollars in preventive care rather than having uninsured Utahns use the ER when they are sick.

• Instead of talking about fees from Obamacare, we should be talking about investing in our low-income workforce. It’s the folks who keep things going — the people who serve our food at restaurants, care for our seniors, patch our roofs and repair our cars.
  o We depend on them every day, yet many of these workers have no health insurance because their employers don’t offer it and they earn too much to qualify for Medicaid and too little to afford private plans. As a result, they often struggle to work while dealing with health problems that sap their productivity, add stress to their households and get worse without timely care.