

February 14, 2020



This morning, a **US Court of Appeals panel ruled unanimously against work reporting requirements in Kentucky and Arkansas** -- upholding earlier rulings by District Court Judge Boasberg, and again rejecting one of the signature health policy goals of the Trump Administration.

Utah included work requirements, also referred to as "work effort" or "community engagement" requirements in SB96, the 2019 legislation repealing the full Medicaid expansion ballot initiative. **This Utah requirement was approved in December, and has been in effect since January 1st**. New expansion enrollees have three months to complete and document 48 job applications or complete paperwork proving their exemption- after that they lose their health care.

The decisions in the District Court and Appeals Court are clear: work requirements are not legal. They do not uphold the purpose of Medicaid: which is to provide health care to low-income people.

Utah Health Policy Project has consistently spoken out against these burdensome paperwork barriers. Health and employment are linked-- but health must come first in order for people to gain and maintain good jobs. Adding punitive rules and mountains of paperwork does not do anything to improve health. **We already see firsthand the confusion and fear and harm that is coming from Utah's new work reporting requirement, and we are committed to fighting to overturn it.**

For more information, contact:

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*Health Access Assistants at Take Care Utah are available to help new enrollees with work reporting requirement exemptions and completion rules. Do not let concerns about work requirements keep you from applying! Call 2-1-1 or visit [www.TakeCareUtah.org](http://www.TakeCareUtah.org) for assistance.*