

MAINECARE COSTS

Controlling runaway costs while *ensuring care for the most needy*

\$1.4 BILLION

is spent on Mainecare every year, meaning **\$1 out of every \$4** in state spending!

\$800 MILLION

Federal and state tax dollars spent every year to cover workforce-ready, childless Maine adults

Mainecare (Medicaid) was set up as a way to provide healthcare to seniors, children, and those with disabilities... in other words, Americans who could not purchase health coverage for themselves. But starting in 2019, Maine expanded Mainecare under Obamacare to cover **able-bodied adults without dependents**, as well as single mothers.

Before expansion, fewer than 270,000 Mainers were signed up. As of December 2024, the program covered nearly 400,000 people; **more than 83,000 are able-bodied adults!**

Washington sends states **more money** for the expansion population than for the needy, and Medicaid reimbursement overall is not capped. This pushes states to prioritize care for those who could provide for themselves, in order to get more federal money.

And remember, this is the level of spending **before** we start talking about alleged fraud!

The Bottom Line:

PROMOTE SELF-SUFFICIENCY...

Maine adults who can work should not be relying on taxpayers for their healthcare.

The Solution:

- 1.** Roll back Mainecare eligibility to seniors, children, and those with disabilities.
- 2.** Remove able-bodied adults from the program to ensure taxpayer dollars are funding care for the most needy.
- 3.** Limit benefits under Mainecare to only those mandated by the federal government.