



MIKE DEWINE

GOVERNOR OF OHIO



February 28, 2025

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Kennedy,

On behalf of Ohio, we are writing to urge you to swiftly approve the Ohio Department of Medicaid's submission of its 1115 Group VIII Demonstration Waiver.

Ohio previously submitted and received federal approval by the Trump Administration for a similar work requirement waiver in 2019. The Biden Administration then rescinded this waiver in 2021. This decision was disappointing, shortsighted, and contrary to our statewide efforts to empower Ohioans to reach their full potential. In response to the Biden Administration's actions, the Ohio General Assembly passed, and I signed, legislation to direct the Ohio Department of Medicaid to reapply for the 1115 Group VIII Demonstration Waiver.

We have a new opportunity with this waiver to promote economic stability and financial independence for a vulnerable population of Ohioans. This waiver will restore the dignity of work while at the same time improving health outcomes for Ohioans.

With the support of the Ohio General Assembly, Ohio's economy has thrived, with over 150,000 jobs in Ohio waiting to be filled. A work requirement will help connect more people with great jobs and encourage Ohioans to become more productive and healthy members of their communities.

Thank you for your consideration of Ohio's 1115 Group VIII Demonstration Waiver submission. We look forward to working with you to improve health outcomes for Ohioans.

Very respectfully yours,

Mike DeWine
Governor

Matt Huffman
Speaker of the House

Rob McColley
Senate President