

From: [Scott Bunton](#)
To: [HSD-madrules](#)
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This email is to express my strong support as a New Mexico taxpayer and citizen for your plan to extend postpartum Medicaid coverage from 60 days to 12 months.

There is no time in a person's development that is more critical than the first year of life. The extended coverage your plan would provide will make a major positive contribution to the health and well-being of the infants who will be served, as well as to those of the infants' mothers. That combination has been repeatedly shown through empirical research to pay large dividends in greater learning capacity, optimum physical development, health throughout life, longevity, and mental and emotional wellbeing.

This would be a very significant step forward for the State of New Mexico -- a wise investment in our state's people that will provide a tremendous *return on investment*. I encourage you to proceed to take this step and implement this plan just as soon as possible.

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