

Work Requirement 1

MEH

3/28 (Wed PM & Thurs AM)

Governor Asa Hutchinson is taking issue with a federal judge's ruling striking down Arkansas's work requirement. U.S. District Judge James Boasberg (bawz-berg) said Wednesday that the requirement poses obstacles that haven't been adequately addressed by state and federal officials. Speaking to reporters today (Thurs), Hutchinson said he's asking federal authorities to challenge the decision.

News01 0:12 "...an expedited appeal."

The ruling comes as state lawmakers are considering funding for Medicaid and the expansion. It was passed Wednesday in the Senate and House Speaker Mathew Shepherd expects it will be voted on tomorrow (Fri) in the House.

News02 0:15 "...is in jeopardy."

Governor Hutchinson urged lawmakers to keep the expansion program which provides coverage for about 235-thousand Arkansans.

Work Requirement 2

MEH

3/28 (Thurs PM & Fri AM)

The Arkansas House is expected to vote tomorrow (Fri) on funding for the state's Medicaid program. It was approved Wednesday in the Senate. Governor Asa Hutchinson is urging lawmakers to keep the state's Medicaid expansion program despite a federal judge's ruling blocking enforcement of a work requirement. Today (Thurs) Hutchinson said he is asking the federal government to appeal the ruling and argued it's essential that funding is there.

News03 0:21 "...out any appeal."

Passage will require a three-fourths vote. House Speaker Mathew Shepherd:

News04 0:16 "...with anything else."

About 18-thousand Arkansans lost healthcare coverage last year because of the work requirement. The chairman of the state's Democratic Party Michael John Gray said with Wednesday's court ruling, coverage to those people should be immediately restored.