FGA

DISCUSSING
Welfare Program Integrity

Medicaid and the food stamp program were designed to serve the most vulnerable. But waste, fraud, and abuse within the welfare system cost taxpayers billions of dollars each year and rob the truly needy of limited resources. In 2018 alone, improper Medicaid spending reached $62 billion. Even though they have the data to crack down on this fraud and abuse, states often don't require enrollees to report changes and don't crosscheck data, allowing even lottery winners to collect benefits. By enacting measures to protect welfare integrity and lock fraudsters out of the system, states can help protect the truly needy, ensuring resources are available for those who need them the most.

Voters support implementing welfare program integrity to protect the system for the truly needy.

What messages really move them? These messages work best.

▶ States **already have the data** needed to conduct welfare eligibility audits. Agencies simply need to communicate with each other to share this data.

▶ Welfare program integrity reform could **help preserve resources for the truly needy**.

▶ Other welfare programs **already require enrollees to report changes** that could impact their eligibility.

▶ Temporary lockouts for fraudsters would **only affect able-bodied adults who were found to be abusing the system**, not the truly needy.

▶ States **already check lottery winners for child support**, but not for welfare eligibility.

▶ Other types of lockouts in the Medicaid program have shown that **people do not usually return to the program**, even after the lockout period is over.

Visit thefga.org/welfareprogramintegrity

Welfare Program Integrity

FGA MESSAGE TESTING

	ALL VOTERS	GOP	DEM	IND
Would you be more or less likely to support welfare eligibility audits if you knew that states already have this data, and agencies just need to communicate and share this information with one another?				
More likely	69%	77%	60%	69%
Less likely	20%	12%	28%	20%
Unsure	11%	11%	12%	11%
Would you be more or less likely to support welfare integrity reform if you knew that it could preserve resources for the truly needy?				
More likely	66%	73%	60%	64%
Less likely	19%	13%	27%	17%
Unsure	15%	14%	13%	19%
Would you be more or less likely to support requiring people on welfare to report changes if you knew that other welfare programs require enrollees to report changes that could impact eligibility?				
More likely	66%	70%	62%	66%
Less likely	21%	16%	27%	20%
Unsure	13%	13%	11%	14%
Would you be more or less likely to support temporary lockouts if you knew that only able-bodied adults would be locked out of the program?				
More likely	65%	70%	61%	64%
Less likely	22%	18%	24%	22%
Unsure	14%	12%	15%	14%
Would you be more or less likely to support welfare eligibility audits if you knew that one state found that 3,500 lottery winners were receiving welfare benefits or living with welfare recipients?				
More likely	64%	71%	58%	65%
Less likely	23%	19%	28%	23%
Unsure	12%	11%	14%	12%
Would you be more or less likely to support welfare eligibility audits if you knew that states check lottery winners for child support but not for welfare eligibility?				
More likely	64%	70%	59%	61%
Less likely	23%	18%	29%	23%
Unsure	13%	11%	12%	16%
Would you be more or less likely to support temporary lockouts if you knew that other types of lockouts in the Medicaid program have shown that people usually do not return to Medicaid after the lockout period is over?				
More likely	60%	65%	51%	64%
Less likely	22%	14%	31%	22%
Unsure	18%	21%	18%	15%

DEMOGRAPHICS

Party Affiliation

34% R	37% D	29% I

Age

39% 18-44	40% 45-64	21% 65+

Gender

48% MALE	52% FEMALE

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