

A hearing today in Wisconsin is dealing with proposed Medicaid cuts. Democrats are holding a hearing on package of measures aimed at cutting a 554 million dollar deficit in the government's health programs for the poor and the elderly.

If it's not approved on time, officials said 53 thousand recipients would lose their Badger Care. The Legislative Fiscal Bureau said 65 thousand people could lose their eligibility for Medicaid and 28 thousand of them could still have access to coverage from their employers.

Department of Health Services Secretary Dennis Smith answered some Democrats questions on the subject this morning. Among other things, the plan asks for a federal waiver that would move 215 thousand low income state residents to more economical health plans.