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# Financing Medicaid: Federalism and the Growth of America's Health Care Safety Net

*Shanna Rose*

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## Financing Medicaid

Federalism and the  
Growth of America's  
Health Care Safety Net

**SHANNA ROSE**



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**Shanna Rose : Financing Medicaid: Federalism and the Growth of America's Health Care Safety Net** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Financing Medicaid: Federalism and the Growth of America's Health Care Safety Net:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An Important and Timely Book By Richard Auger As someone who has had a 45 year career in healthcare starting with the fledgling California Medicaid program in 1968, I appreciated and enjoyed Shanna Rose's book. It follows both the dollar and the politics of the Medicaid program from its

beginnings in 1965 as an afterthought to the Medicare bill to its becoming the nation's largest healthcare plan. The book is extensively researched, well written, and very insightful. While a scholarly work, the book is anything but dry. It is full of interesting players, power plays, political intrigue, and unintended consequences. It is a story that demonstrates how important health care is to Americans, and it is a history that holds lessons for us today as we seek better ways to finance and provide healthcare for all. This book should be required reading for health policy wonks, and it will be a good read to anyone with an interest in health policy and/or politics. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Medicaid- mashup of "The gift that keeps on giving" and the Ever-ready bunny. By Bert Please don't be put off with the start of the book and it's repetitive nature. The author hits her stride by the end of the first chapter and goes on to very clearly delineate the historical and present issues associated with Medicaid funding. Although one cannot easily check the correctness of the research very easily, references are frequently given. For the more casual reader I believe the eye test will suffice to lend confidence to the facts presented. As one would hope from such a book (a quick read) the effort of the reader is more than paid off by an illumination of a very important part of health care financing. This book would be a good read for inquisitive individuals and does not require one to be a policy wonk. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Emma K Sandoe One of the best books about Medicaid politics I've read. Great for grad students!

Conventional wisdom holds that programs for the poor are vulnerable to instability and retrenchment. Medicaid, however, has grown into the nation's largest intergovernmental grant program, accounting for nearly half of all federal funding to state and local governments. Medicaid's generous open-ended federal matching grants have given governors a powerful incentive to mobilize on behalf of its maintenance and expansion, using methods ranging from lobbying and negotiation to creative financing mechanisms and waivers to maximize federal financial assistance. Perceiving federal retrenchment efforts as a threat to states' finances, governors, through the powerful National Governors' Association, have repeatedly worked together in bipartisan fashion to defend the program against cutbacks. Financing Medicaid engagingly intertwines theory, historical narrative, and case studies, drawing on sources including archival materials from the National Governors' Association and gubernatorial and presidential libraries, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services data, the Congressional Record, and interviews.

"Financing Medicaid provides a greater understanding of governors as an influential interest group. ... The exploration of this issue renders her book essential to comprehending health care reform as it unfolds over the next several years."