

PA House of Representatives Republican Policy Committee

414, Main Capitol Building Harrisburg, PA 17120 (717) 260-6144

> **Rep. Joshua D. Kail** Chairman

PA House Republican Policy Committee Hearing

"Excellence in Government: Preserving Benefit Integrity"

May 30, 2024, at 10 a.m.

Indiana University of Pennsylvania - Punxsutawney Campus Room 223 1012 Winslow St. Punxsutawney, PA 15767

10:00 a.m.	Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance
10:10 a.m.	Opening Remarks from Indiana University of Pennsylvania
10:15 a.m.	Sam Adolphsen Policy Director, The Foundation for Government Accountability
10:20 a.m.	Roy Lenardson Director of State Government Affairs, The Foundation for Government Accountability
10:25 a.m.	Questions for the Panel
10:55 a.m.	Closing Comments

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Testifier Biographies

PA House of Representatives Policy Committee Hearing "Excellence in Government: Preserving Benefit Integrity"



Sam Adolphsen Policy Director, The Foundation for Government Accountability

Sam Adolphsen is the Policy Director at the Foundation for Government Accountability, where he leads FGA's policy team and focuses on sponsor education to advance FGA's research and policy efforts.

Prior to joining FGA, Sam served as vice president of Rockwood Solutions and as chief operating officer at the Main Department of

Health and Human Services.

He holds both a Bachelor of Business Administration and Master of Business from Husson University.

Sam first experienced the value of work while harvesting blueberries and helping his dad fish for baby eels as a means of supplemental income. He quickly learned that work is not a chore, but is an opportunity to learn a new skill, add value to a family, and experience purpose.

Sam has testified before Congress and several state legislative committees. His work has been featured in the Federalist, National Review Online, Fox News, Fox Business News, the Daily Caller, and the Washington Times.

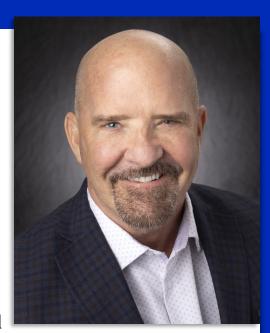
Sam enjoys coaching t-ball and is a fan of the New England Patriots and Boston Red Sox.

He lives with his wife and three children in Hope, Maine.

Roy Lenardson Director of State Government Affairs, The Foundation for Government Accountability

Roy Lenardson is a Director of State Government Affairs at the Foundation for Government Accountability.

In addition to his role at FGA, Roy is president of Strategic Advocacy, a grassroots public affairs consulting company. He previously worked as a senior legislative analyst for Maine's non-partisan Office of Policy and Legal



Analysis and drafted hundreds of pieces of legislation across all policy areas.

He subsequently served as Chief of Staff in the Maine Senate and orchestrated the implementation of the Republican caucus's policy agenda.

Roy holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of New Hampshire, as well as a Master's in Public Administration from the Muskie School of Public Affairs.

Roy first experienced the value of work shoveling seaweed onto a conveyor belt to make fertilizer. To him, work at age 12 meant being able to go to Rockland and buy your own school clothes, pencils, and notebooks.

Roy is a fan of his wife of 33 years, Joanne, and his two awesome kids— Christine, who is a mechanical engineer and works for a construction firm building hospitals, and his son, Anders, who is a First LT in the U.S. Army.

Roy lives with his wife in Ave Maria, Florida.



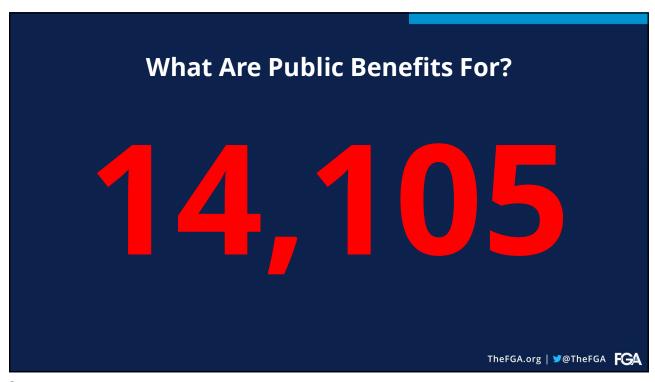


Stopping Fraud by Design: **Improving Program Integrity in PA**

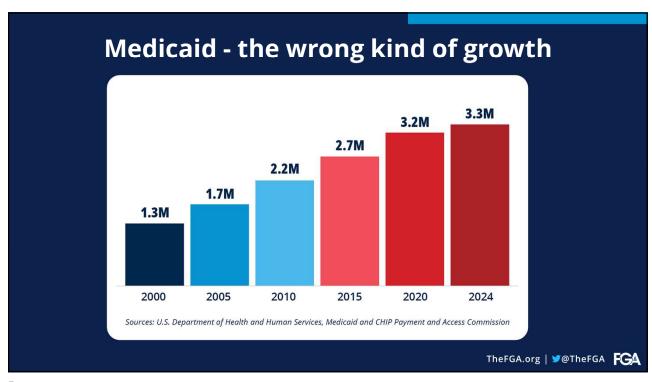
Sam Adolphsen, Policy Director & Roy Lenardson, State Affairs Director Foundation for Government Accountability

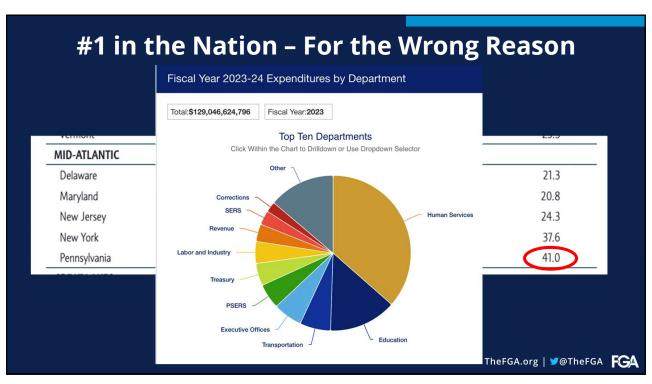
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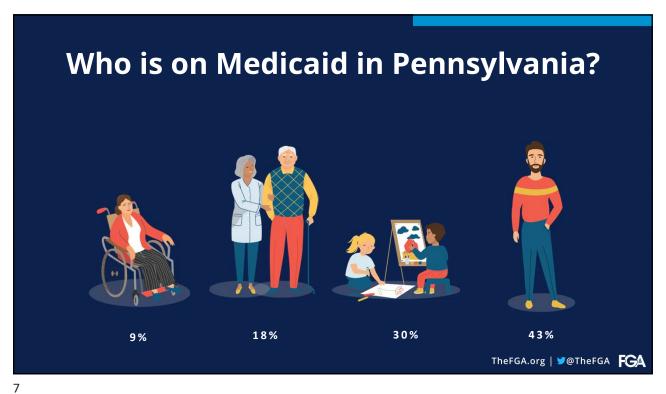
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Pennsylvania Welfare Programs	2000	Now
PA Food Stamp enrollment	760,000	1,997,000 (+1,237,000)
PA Food Stamp spending	\$655,726,000	\$4,242,921,000 (+\$3,587,195,000)
PA Medicaid enrollment	1,300,000	3,288,000 (+1,988,000)
PA Medicaid Spending	\$10,724,000,000	\$46,968,000,000 (+\$36,244,000,000)
PA Population	12,280,000	12,970,000 (+690,000)
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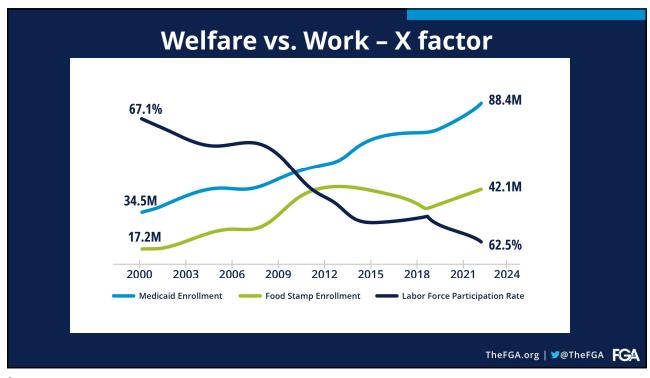




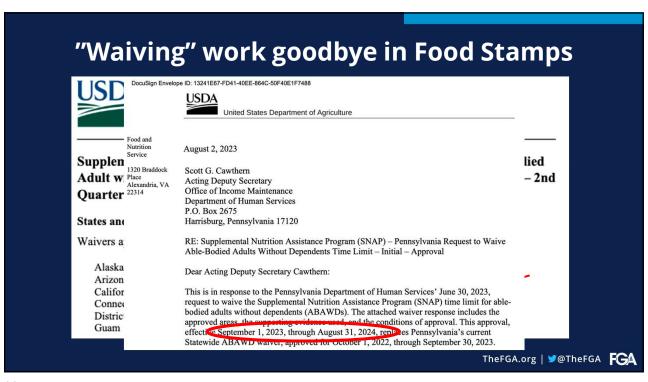












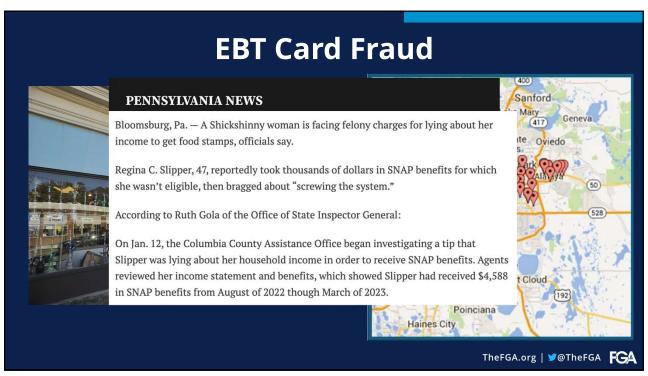
Medicaid and Food Stamp Error Rate

- National error rate: 20% \$80 billion in fraud and waste
- 87% due to lack of documents and "eligibility errors"
- Beware the Claims of "Improvement" in Error rates in PA – closer to 20% in Medicaid and CHIP, and 14% in Food Stamps



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Fraud by Design						
State	Self-Attestation Rejected for Residency	Self-Attestation Rejected for Age	Self-Attestation Rejected for Household Composition	Frequent Death Record Cross-checks	Frequent Residency Cross-checks	
Ohio	No	No	No	No	No	
Michigan	No	No	No	Unknown	Unknown	
Pennsylvania	No	Yes	No	No	No	
West Virginia	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Kentucky	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	
Indiana	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services						
					TheFGA.org	



What can we do right now in Medicaid?

- Mandate increased oversight and approval of "unwinding" waivers and state plan amendments
- Stop allowing self-attestation (income/household composition)
- More robust data cross-checks
- 3-strikes hospital presumptive eligibility rules



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Big opportunities in 2025?

- Medicaid Work requirement waiver
- Hospital presumptive eligibility waiver
- Fraud lockout waiver
- Biannual redeterminations waiver
- Enrollment cap waiver



Food Stamp reforms

- **Broad Based Categorical Eligibility (BBCE)**
- ABAWD work requirement waivers (188,000 able-bodied with no kids in house)
- Mandatory E&T for all work registrants (Another 320,000+)
- "Simplified" reporting

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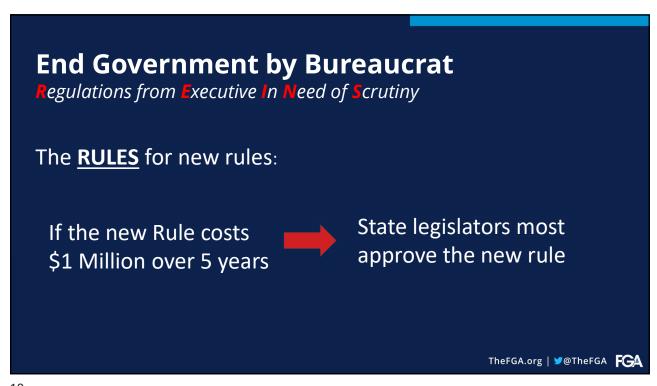
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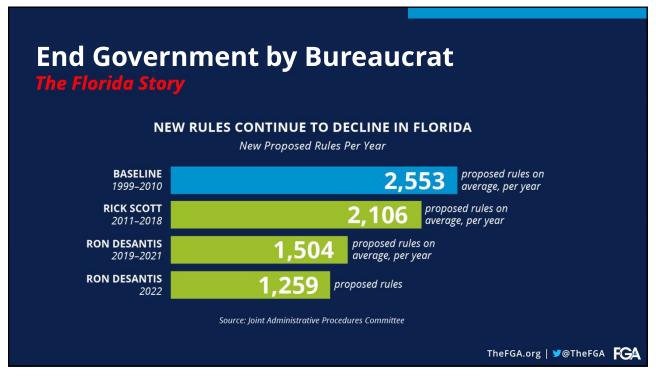
Unemployment Insurance

- Lots of Fraud in Pennsylvania
 - Over \$1 BILLION in state fraud in 2020 and 2021
 - \$6 BILLION in federal pandemic UI fraud in Pennsylvania
- Plenty of ways to fix the Fraud and the UI Program
 - 1. Verify who's getting the checks
 - 2. Fewer weeks to find a job
 - 3. Look for work more often
 - 4. Show up for interviews
 - Lock out fraudsters

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Stopping Fraud by Design: **Improving Program Integrity in PA**

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