

## Massachusetts state healthcare program may have erroneously terminated coverage for thousands.

The [Boston Globe](#) (8/23, Lazar) reported that "tens of thousands of people insured under the state's universal healthcare system have had their coverage terminated since the start of the year" according to figures released by the state. Some of those cut from the system are still eligible, but they "were terminated because of mistakes they made themselves and in other cases because of errors by the state." An estimated 173,000 people are enrolled in Commonwealth Care, a program that requires enrollees to "renew their insurance annually and [to] report to the state every time they change jobs." But, "the state's eligibility documents are complex," and many have lost insurance "because they made mistakes filling out the forms. Mail sent by the state to the wrong address is also cited as another reason coverage is dropped." The state has also misinterpreted "information on the forms and mistakenly" excluded "people [from] the program." The Globe noted, however, that the figures "do not show how many of the people later re-enrolled, nor do they track how many were wrongfully terminated."