

Fact Sheet: How Republican Spending Cuts Will Decimate Workers' Health Care and Slash Jobs

At the direction of President Trump, Republican leaders in the House and Senate are planning to make massive cuts to health care programs in order to pay for another Trump tax giveaway for billionaires and corporations, and increase spending on border security and defense for the next federal budget. House Republican leaders are seeking **\$2 trillion** in cuts to programs such as Medicaid, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Senate Republicans have proposed a bill that could cut \$342 billion from programs working people rely on to fund border and defense policies, with tax cuts for the wealthy to come in a later bill. If the bill becomes law, these budgets would rip away health insurance from millions of working families, cut many communities off from essential services, fire thousands of workers from their jobs, and leave states, cities and towns to try to pick up the slack—without any additional funding.

Republican leaders are looking to fund their tax giveaways to the wealthy and corporations with cuts to our health care.

Who Uses Medicaid:

- Medicaid is the primary source of funding for many essential health care services, and [in many cases the only source of coverage for people.](#)
- Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) covers more than 83 million people, including:
 - Nearly half of all children (over 37 million) in the United States.
 - Nearly 24 million women of reproductive age.
 - Nearly 55 million people of color.
 - Nearly 14 million people in rural areas.
 - More than 17 million seniors and people with disabilities.
- Medicaid is the primary form of coverage people use to pay for long-term, at-home and elder care, including in nursing homes and for people with disabilities. More than half of the money in the United States spent on this care goes through Medicaid.
- Medicaid is the single largest source of funding for mental health and substance use disorder treatment.
- Medicaid covers 41% of birth in the United States, including care for mothers and babies.

Republicans' Budget Would:

- **Repeal nursing home staffing policies—\$22 billion**, taking us backward so nursing homes again will be understaffed with staff dangerously overworked, creating potentially deadly consequences for patients and pushing the skilled people we trust to take care of our family members out of the care workforce. Nursing homes will close.

- **Recapture ACA subsidies and tax middle class families—\$46 billion**, taking away critical support that makes health insurance more affordable and potentially raising middle-class families' taxes by thousands of dollars.
- **Cut Medicaid block grants and end “per capita caps”—\$900 billion**, lifting requirements that Medicaid costs keep in line with inflation, so coverage could become wildly unaffordable overnight, with new treatments not being covered at all. This policy could rip away insurance from [millions of people](#).
- **Reduce the federal Medicaid match below 50%—\$387 billion**, reducing federal funding for rural and poorer states and forcing them to cover the costs. Rural hospitals could close, opioid addiction treatment could be drained of funding, and [nearly half](#) of children in rural areas and small towns could lose health insurance.
- **Pile on bureaucratic red tape—\$100 billion**, to make it harder to enroll in Medicaid and shrink the pool of people who are eligible for coverage, including preventing [thousands of families from enrolling due to paperwork barriers](#). Republicans call these “work requirements” to create the myth that freeloaders are the reason we can't afford health care—even though [92%](#) of people on Medicaid were working full or part-time (64%), or not working due to caregiving responsibilities, illness or disability, or school attendance.” This policy alone would rip health insurance away from [1.7 million people](#).
- **Limit provider payments to state Medicaid programs—\$175 billion**, taking away longstanding agreements between states and the federal government and forcing health care workers to leave states that can no longer afford to pay them without federal funding.

In the meantime, Senate Republican leaders are looking at ways to add more red tape and make it harder for people to access nursing home care for older parents, coverage for preterm babies in the NICU, and the millions more who depend on Medicaid.

Who Will Lose Jobs Under Republican Cuts:

- Medicaid [finances hundreds of thousands of jobs](#) across health care, medicine, and community-based and nursing home care.
 - Thousands of workers will be fired if this budget becomes law. Medicaid covers [19% of total hospital payments](#)—nearly \$263 billion in just one year—and many health care services outside of hospitals.
 - If this budget becomes law, medical and hospital workers will lose their jobs and hospitals will close.
- Medicaid [is the primary source of federal funding to the states \(56%\)](#).
 - If the Republicans' cuts become law, state governments will need to cover health care costs by cutting other areas of their budgets, like education and

transportation, and fire the workers who deliver those services. The red tape “work requirements” alone would charge states [\\$65 billion](#) over a 10 year period.