### House-Passed Tax Bill Harms Seniors, Children, Veterans, and Working Families

Trump's reckless tax bill amounts to a full-scale assault on Americans' health and safety. House Republicans rushed through <u>nearly \$1 trillion</u> in health care cuts to pay for tax handouts for the ultra-wealthy and big corporations. These rash health care cuts do nothing to take on so-called "waste, fraud, and abuse" but will raise costs for everyone.

Republican cuts to Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act (ACA) will terminate health care for almost 14 million

Americans. CBO also finds Trump's multi-trillion dollar tax bill will trigger more than \$500 billion in automatic cuts to Medicare and eliminate basic needs programs that keep vulnerable kids and seniors safe. Republicans are going too far, too fast, and children, seniors, veterans, people with disabilities, and working families will pay the price.

The House-passed bill does nothing to lower the cost of food and health care for families trying to make ends meet in Trump's broken economy. A <u>CBO analysis</u> of Trump's bill confirms the lowest-income families stand to lose wealth, while the highest-income households stand to gain. As Trump and Republicans give huge tax breaks to their wealthy donors and big corporations, **Americans will live sicker with less and die younger**.

## Republicans are Cutting Medicaid. Here's What Will Happen Next:

- Trump's tax bill includes at least \$700 billion in Medicaid cuts, terminating health insurance and slashing benefits, like home care and mental health services for low-income seniors, kids, veterans, people with disabilities, and working families. These Medicaid cuts will shutter rural hospitals and other essential health care providers and take nurses out of nursing homes, exposing seniors to abuse and neglect.
- <u>Trump</u> and <u>Republicans</u> are lying when they say the bill, "preserves and strengthens Medicaid for children, mothers, people with disabilities and the elderly..." As illustrated by these examples, these are the very people who will be harmed by cuts:
  - Medicaid cuts that result from undoing enrollment policies will increase Medicare premiums for <u>over 1</u> <u>million seniors</u>. Because these enrollees can no longer afford essential medications for diseases like chronic lung disease and HIV, death rates among these seniors go up by <u>nearly 3,000 more deaths</u>.
  - New red tape requirements in Medicaid will terminate health coverage for up to <u>1.5 million children</u>.
     Another <u>400,000 children</u> will lose coverage because of Republican cuts that undo improvements to enrollment processes. This same red tape would <u>kill more than 21,000 Americans</u> each year. Republican cuts will also <u>worsen the country's maternal health crisis</u>, risking the lives of new moms and babies.
- Medicaid <u>saved at least one life for every 239 316 Americans</u> who gained coverage when the program was
  expanded. Republican health care cuts reverse life-saving progress, endangering the lives of vulnerable children,
  seniors, people with disabilities, new mothers, and families nationwide.







### Republicans are Sabotaging Health Care. Here's What Will Happen Next:

- Through hundreds of billions in cuts to the ACA, the House-passed bill terminates coverage for small businesses
  owners, family caregivers, and millions of other Americans who buy their own health insurance in the
  Marketplaces. These cuts will make coverage worse, harder to access, and harder to keep. It will hasten rural and
  other hospital closures, and paralyze states, likely causing some state-based Marketplaces to fold. ACA cuts to
  premium and cost-sharing assistance could more than double the cost of premiums for middle-income Americans
  and their families.
- The Republican bill effectively dismantles the ACA Marketplaces as an affordability crisis nears. Trump's tax bill prioritizes tax extensions that benefit the wealthy and big corporations; yet, the bill fails to extend tax credits that would keep premiums affordable for working and middle-class Americans. Republicans' refusal to extend tax credits that ensure Americans can afford their coverage is another \$350 billion cut to the ACA.

## The Biggest Cuts in History Will Slam States. Here's What Will Happen Next:

- This rushed, partisan bill makes the <u>largest cuts to Medicaid and SNAP</u> in history. These cuts will blow a hole in state budgets creating new, unfunded mandates. According to CBO, states will take on <u>\$78 billion</u> in new spending because of these draconian cuts.
- Catastrophic cuts to health care and nutrition will shift unaffordable cost burdens to states, forcing states to
  terminate health care, take away access to healthy food, or cut K-12 education and public safety. State and <u>local</u>
  <u>lawmakers</u>—from <u>red</u> and <u>blue</u> states— make clear they cannot fill these gaps, and <u>CBO confirms states</u> will slash
  enrollment, benefits, and provider payments because of Medicaid cuts.
- Republicans regularly tout support for state autonomy and flexibility. Yet the House-passed bill severely cuts states' funding, while limiting their ability to choose who is covered and what benefits are paid for. By imposing punitive restrictions and forcing states to add administrative roadblocks to their programs, Republicans reveal that states' rights only matter when used to advance Republicans' own policy objectives.

## Thickets of New Red Tape Will Cause Harm. Here's What Will Happen Next:

- Excessive red tape and paperwork requirements—the very same kind used by for-profit insurance companies to
  deny access to care—are central to Republicans' health care cuts. In both Medicaid and the ACA, Republicans create
  new barriers to block eligible Americans from signing up for the health care they need, while also making it harder
  to stay covered. ACA rules proposed by Trump and included the Republican bill will force working people to spend
  an estimated 15 million hours navigating new, arbitrary verification requirements.
- Unreasonable, redundant, and unworkable paperwork requirements will prevent millions of eligible middle-class
  and working Americans from securing health insurance and financial assistance they are eligible for. While Trump
  goes to great lengths to reduce paperwork for price-gouging corporations, the Republican bill saddles working
  families with bureaucratic hurdles in place of affordable health care.







### TERMINATING HEALTH CARE FOR MILLIONS AND RAISING COSTS

### Republicans are Cutting Medicaid

These dangerous and deadly cuts to Medicaid are not about cutting so-called "waste, fraud, and abuse," as <a href="Republicans claim">Republicans claim</a>. This bill is not a "moderate" or "middle-ground" proposal to "reform" Medicaid; it amounts to "death by 1,000 cuts." When combined, the bill's array of seemingly technical, but ultimately harmful, policies and new red tape requirements will force states to terminate health insurance; cut benefits, like home care, school nurses, and mental health benefits; and slash payments to essential health care providers, leading to hospital, nursing home and other closures, especially in rural and underserved communities.

#### Terminating Your Health Care and Cutting Benefits

- The Republican bill will undo protections that make sure eligible kids are enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP. The
  bill allows states to once again impose annual and lifetime benefit limits, waiting periods, and lockout
  periods for kids enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Because of this and other
  common-sense reforms rolled back in the bill, 400,000 children will lose their coverage.
- Republicans' blatant hypocrisy for states' rights is on full display through policies that penalize states that
  choose to use their own taxpayer dollars to offer Medicaid coverage to low-income, lawfully-present
  immigrants. Trump's bill puts states on the hook for granting protections to immigrant families while states
  verify eligibility. This cruel policy denies people care simply because paperwork still needs processing.
- More than 2 million Americans receive essential, life-saving care at Planned Parenthood, including preventive services, like birth control and cancer screenings, as well as wellness checks, testing, and other reproductive health treatments. The Republican bill takes away a patient's right to choose their provider by "defunding" Planned Parenthood through a prohibition on Medicaid funds for this non-profit.
- Health care **lock-outs** are a prominent feature of the Republican bill:
  - Low-income kids could be locked out of coverage altogether because the Republican bill permits states to
    once again lock children out of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).
  - Low-income people who do not meet so-called "community engagement" requirements to secure
     Medicaid would be locked out of alternative coverage in the Marketplaces, meaning they would be unable to buy any health insurance.
  - Low-income people who do not meet stringent Medicaid enrollment requirements based on immigration status would be locked out of premium tax credits that make purchasing alternative coverage in the Marketplace affordable.
  - Low-income people who can currently enroll in Marketplace coverage during a special monthly enrollment period would be locked out of the financial assistance they are eligible for until the next calendar year, making coverage unaffordable and leaving them uninsured.







• Trump and Republicans want to legislate medical care by prohibiting gender-affirming care for all Americans covered by Medicaid, CHIP, and the ACA. Health care decisions should be made between patients and their doctors – not by Republican lawmakers.

#### Raising Health Care Costs

- The Republican bill will undo policies that make sure eligible low-income seniors and people with disabilities
  can more easily enroll in Medicaid. Eligible people with Medicare can sign up for Medicaid to help cover the
  cost of their Medicare premiums and cost-sharing. Because of this bill, more than 1 million seniors will pay
  higher Medicare premiums because they will not have Medicaid. For these seniors and people with
  disabilities, a cut to Medicaid is a cut to Medicare.
- The Republican bill requires states to make people enrolled in Medicaid who live on roughly \$15,600 annually pay new cost-sharing for medical care. The bill also explicitly permits health care providers to refuse to give care to people who cannot afford these costs. As working and middle-class Americans struggle to afford housing, groceries, energy bills, and health care, this bill would impose new, higher copayments on the lowest-income Americans. Americans living paycheck-to-paycheck will forgo care due to higher costs.

#### Burying Americans in Even More Red Tape and Paperwork

- The bill entraps Americans trying to sign-up for Medicaid in needless red tape. Just like for-profit, corporate insurance companies imposing "prior authorizations" and other barriers to care, this bill burdens Americans with onerous paperwork, including new requirements that certain people apply every six months (instead of once per year).
- Republicans' so-called "community engagement" requirements will block eligible Americans from accessing
  Medicaid, forcing people to prove 80 hours of community service, school, or working hours before applying for
  basic health care. Republicans falsely claim their bill will protect pregnant women, young adults and seniors,
  parents, veterans, and people with mental health conditions from being ensnared by this red tape. But redstate experiments show this is not something Republicans can guarantee.
- Experiences in Arkansas and Georgia show these red tape requirements only keep people uninsured. One in four enrollees subject to work-related red tape in Arkansas lost coverage in the program's first seven months, and Georgia has enrolled only 7,000 people, 1.5 percent of expected enrollment had the state expanded Medicaid like 40 other states and Washington, D.C. without ensnaring their residents in punitive red tape.
- These red tape requirements have a singular aim: to kick people off Medicaid—not to encourage employment. People who are eligible for Medicaid under the law, like family caregivers to aging and disabled loved ones, Americans with chronic conditions, workers who lost a job, and other working Americans who will inevitably be trapped by red tape, will go without health insurance because of these requirements







#### Taking Nurses Out of Nursing Homes

- The Republican bill will undo federal standards that make sure nursing homes are adequately staffed by qualified nursing professionals and ensure residents' basic, minimum safety. Among other requirements, these policies require that nursing homes have a registered nurse on site 24 hours a day, 7 days per week.
- Chronic understaffing threatens the safety of nursing home residents; residents need a registered nurse on site to
  monitor medicines and other medical needs, and facilities need enough nurse aides to make sure people are fed,
  bathed, dressed, and have help with toileting and other basic needs. This \$23 billion Medicaid cut diminishes
  seniors' dignity and quality of life and rolls back policies expected to save the lives of 13,000 nursing home
  residents per year.
- Notably, the Republican bill spends nearly \$41 billion on expanding the use of Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) that
  primarily benefit higher income Americans who already have health care. While they spend money for people who
  are already receiving health care, Republicans are exposing seniors to neglect by taking nurses out of nursing
  homes. It is clear what and who Republicans are willing to spend money on not seniors in need, but providing
  more tax shelters for those who can afford to contribute to them.

#### Closing Rural Hospitals and Slashing Payments to Health Care Providers

- The Republican bill ends states' abilities to enact state-level provider taxes **used in 49 states**, posing a serious threat to states and providers' ability to care for seniors, children, mothers, working families, and people with disabilities through Medicaid. In combination with \$290 billion in cuts to SNAP, these cuts will force states to take food, health care, and other vital services away from millions.
- Provider taxes allow states to fund their share of the Medicaid program. Provider taxes make it possible for states to direct funds to providers caring for the most at-risk Americans who need care in settings such as urban safetynet hospitals, rural emergency departments, and nursing homes. Research shows that Medicaid payment rates do not always cover costs and ensure patient access; ending states' ability to tax health care providers would severely limit states' ability to provide health care to millions of Americans who depend upon Medicaid for their care.
- The bill limits state-directed payments that make it possible for rural and urban hospitals and clinics to remain open and care for patients by providing maternity, emergency, and behavioral health care. Funds collected by states through provider taxes are often directed to health care providers whose costs far exceed base Medicaid payment rates. These providers are often in rural America where health care is hard to find or are located in dense urban areas where the cost to deliver health care is high.
- A legal financing mechanism used by nearly all states is not a "loophole." Targeting provider taxes and state-directed payments are just health care cuts to fund tax handouts to billionaires and wealthy corporations—not genuine reforms to address waste, fraud, and abuse. Provider taxes and state-directed payments are long-standing, legal ways for states to fund their Medicaid programs.







## Republicans are Sabotaging Health Care

Trump's bill **terminates** coverage, increases premiums and cost-sharing, diminishes benefits, and buries Americans in red tape. Those most affected include small business owners, self-employed workers, gig workers, seasonal workers, family caregivers, workers who recently lost a job or who are struggling to find one, and near retirees not yet old enough for Medicare.

#### Terminating Health Care

- Much like the Medicaid cuts, the Republican bill riddles the ACA with new red tape requirements, ensnaring
  Americans in bureaucratic hurdles. The Republican bill will impose duplicative pre-enrollment verification
  requirements on everyone who tries to buy coverage and access premium assistance, and then reimpose those
  same requirements each year during re-enrollment. These arbitrary and redundant requirements aim to make it
  harder for millions of people to get the tax credits that make coverage affordable.
- Republicans are even imposing these costly administrative mandates on states, which have historically been
  afforded flexibility to make decisions about how best to administer their unique Marketplaces and keep costs
  affordable in their states. These extreme measures will force state-based Marketplaces to decide between raising
  costs for their enrollees and shutting down altogether.
- States will spend tens of millions of dollars, and working people will spend an <u>estimated 15 million hours</u> navigating new, arbitrary verification requirements. Healthy people are the least likely to be willing to navigate hours of unnecessary paperwork for insurance they are eligible for but do not immediately need, and when they choose to go without health insurance, it raises costs for everyone.
- The Republican bill buries Americans in onerous paperwork, while also shortening the amount of time people have to sign up for Marketplace coverage. The bill eliminates a Special Enrollment Period that helps the lowest-income families shop for coverage throughout the year and manage transitions in their health insurance when their income and employment changes.
- The Republican bill eliminates access to premium tax credits and **cruelly terminates ACA coverage** for lawfully present, tax-paying people who buy their insurance on the Marketplaces, including Dreamers and those who pay full price for their own coverage. Not only does this policy deny health insurance to people who arrived in the U.S. as children who are working, going to school, and contributing to their communities, it will raise premiums for everyone in the Marketplaces.

Similarly, Republicans' bill **cruelly terminates Medicare coverage** for refugees, asylum seekers, and people with temporary protected status from Ukraine, Sudan, and other war-torn countries. This undermines the Medicare guarantee and takes away coverage from people who pay into the program.







More than 24 million Americans purchase health insurance on their own in the Marketplaces through the ACA.
 More than 90% of those enrolled rely on enhanced tax credits to be able to afford coverage. Starting next year, these tax credits will be taken away, causing premiums to skyrocket, and leading to coverage losses for millions of people each year. This bill, and <a href="Trump's leaked budget documents">Trump's leaked budget documents</a>, make clear that Republicans will prioritize tax cuts for the wealthiest, while working and middle-class Americans' tax credits expire as they get sicker and suffer.

#### Letting Insurance Companies Raise Costs and Cut Benefits

- The Republican bill benefits for-profit, private insurance companies at the expense of working and middle-class Americans who buy their own health insurance. The Republican bill intentionally lets insurance companies raise out-of-pocket costs and cover fewer services; annual out-of-pocket costs will increase by over \$1,000 for some middle-class families because of these policies. These changes will not only raise costs in the Marketplaces, they will make coverage more expensive for Americans covered through their employers.
- The Republican bill increases annual out-of-pocket costs by cutting over \$44 billion in financial assistance that
  offsets insurance costs for low- and middle-income working people who purchase their own coverage on the ACA
  Marketplaces.
- Republicans want to charge people \$5 premiums who were previously paying \$0. Today, people in \$0 premium plans can be re-enrolled. In the Republican bill, Americans must meet new paperwork requirements each year to keep their \$0 plan, or they will be billed a monthly premium they do not owe. For families stretched paycheck-to-paycheck in Trump's broken economy, every single dollar matters. Sending these confusing, unexpected bills to consumers is designed to terminate Americans' health care.

## Trump Supports Big Pharma's Top Ask to Raise Seniors' Drug Costs

- Trump continues to make empty promise after empty promise to lower prescription drug prices for Americans
  with budgets already stretched too thin. Without a single Republican vote, Democrats delivered lower prescription
  drug prices by allowing Medicare to negotiate lower prices, capping the cost of insulin at \$35 for seniors on
  Medicare, making free, recommended vaccines free, and much more.
- Big Pharma's top priority is to tear down Medicare drug price negotiations. The Republican bill gives Big Pharma a nearly \$5 billion handout by creating a new exemption for certain cancer and rare disease drugs from Medicare drug price negotiations beginning in 2028. If this exemption had been in place for 2026 and 2027, Medicare would have been barred from negotiating the blockbuster cancer drugs Imbruvica, Calquence, and Pomalyst.





