

PROTECT MEDICAID

Tell Congress to Protect Medicaid

Medicaid is America's largest health insurance program, covering 75 million people children, working adults, seniors, and disabled Americans. Medicaid covers critical health services including primary care, hospitalizations, nursing home care, and other long-term health care. The *Affordable Care Act* (ACA) opened Medicaid to additional low-income persons. It is estimated that over ten million Americans have gained health coverage due to the ACA's Medicaid expansion.

In 2017, both the House and Senate attempted to restructure Medicaid by capping its funding, along with repealing the *Affordable Care Act* and the ACA's Medicaid expansion. This would have ended the Medicaid program as we know it. All the proposed bills would have had a devastating impact by taking health care from 16-32 million Americans (depending on which plan passed), most of them from Medicaid. While the House did pass their bill in May (H.R. 1628), thankfully the Senate failed to pass any of their repeal bills.

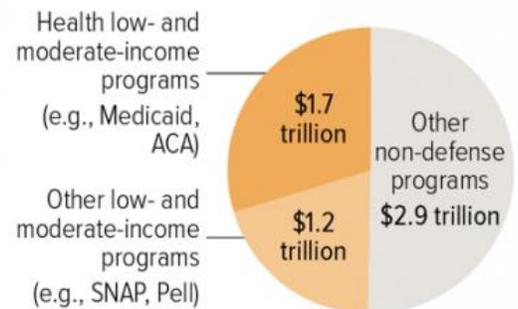
However, Congress still may try to cut Medicaid through the 2018 budget process. Both the House and Senate budget resolutions pave the way for Medicaid cuts to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy.

Write a letter to your senators and representatives telling them to protect health care for low-income Americans by opposing cuts and structural changes to Medicaid:

1. Introduce yourself as a constituent who cares about poverty and a RESULTS volunteer.
2. Remind them that for over 40 years, Medicaid has been providing critical access to health care services for tens of millions of Americans who would not have access to care without it.
3. Share why you care about health coverage for yourself and/or vulnerable members of your community, perhaps mentioning that two-thirds of Medicaid patients are children, seniors, or persons with disabilities.
4. Explain that you are upset that Congress is proposing to cut Medicaid in their 2018 budget to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy.
5. Urge your members of Congress to oppose ANY legislation that cuts or restructures Medicaid, ends the **ACA's** Medicaid expansion, or takes away health coverage for millions of Americans.

House GOP Budget Cuts Low- and Moderate-Income Programs By \$2.9 Trillion Over Decade

Total cuts, 2018-2027



ACA = Affordable Care Act

Note: Cuts in health low- and moderate-income programs reflect both the entitlement cuts in Function 550 (\$1.5 trillion) and other cuts in the budget (\$200 billion).

Source: CBPP analysis based on Congressional Budget Office and House Budget Committee data

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