

PROTECT OUR CARE

Fact Sheet: One Year Anniversary of GOP's Health Care Repeal

A year ago, the Republican House of Representatives passed the so-called "American Health Care Act," or AHCA, a health repeal bill that would have cut coverage, increased costs, and eliminated protections for millions of Americans. The repeal plan allows insurers to charge people over 50 five times more for coverage - what AARP has called an 'Age Tax'. And, the plan guts protections for people with pre-existing conditions, raising costs for a cancer patient by \$150,000.

While working Americans would have lost out, the wealthy and insurance and drug companies would have gotten [\\$600 billion](#) in new tax breaks. Republicans in Congress have made clear they'll [keep trying](#) to force repeal through as long as they're in charge.

Health Care Repeal Would Have Raised Health Care Costs, Especially For Older Americans

Raise Premiums By Double Digits. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office found that a key part of the American Health Care Act, repealing the requirement that most people have health insurance and was enacted as part of the GOP tax bill, will [premiums 10 percent](#) next year.

Impose An Age Tax - Older Americans Pay Nearly \$12,000 More. The American Health Care Act would have imposed what the AARP calls an "[age tax](#)" on older Americans by cutting the amount of assistance older people receive and by allowing insurers to charge people over 50 five times more. Nationally, out-of-pocket costs for older people could have increased by [as much as](#) \$11,917 by 2026.

Surcharge For People With Pre-Existing Conditions. The American Health Care Act would have allowed states to eliminate community rating, meaning insurers would be able to charge people with pre-existing conditions more. This surcharge could have been in the tens of thousands of dollars and even six figures: up to [\\$4,270 for asthma](#), [\\$17,060 for pregnancy](#), [\\$26,180 for rheumatoid arthritis](#) and [\\$140,510 for metastatic cancer](#).

Health Care Repeal Would Have Caused Millions of Americans To Lose Coverage

23 Million Would Have Lost Coverage. By 2026, 23 million U.S. residents would have [lost coverage](#) under this bill.

14 Million With Medicaid Would Have Lost Coverage. Under the American Health Care Act, 14 million with Medicaid would have [lost their coverage](#) by 2026.

441,300 U.S. Veterans Would Have Lost Coverage. Under the American Health Care Act, 441,400 veterans would have [lost their Medicaid coverage](#) nationally.

Health Care Repeal Would Have Meant Weaker Protections For Americans

52 Million Americans Have A Pre-Existing Condition, And Were At Risk For Paying More. The American Health Care Act would have weakened key protections of the Affordable Care Act by allowing states to let insurers charge [52 million](#) Americans with pre-existing conditions more, among other provisions. The bill would have made it more likely insurers would cherry-pick young and healthier people, causing costs to skyrocket for older, sicker people.

Women's Health Would Be In Jeopardy. The American Health Care Act would have [blocked millions](#) from accessing birth control, cancer screenings, and other basic health care at Planned Parenthood health centers, [eliminated the guarantee](#) of maternity coverage, and newborn care, and allowed insurers to discriminate against women.

Health Care Repeal Would Have Ended Medicaid As We Know It

Medicaid Would Have Been Slashed By \$839 Billion. The American Health Care Act would have ended Medicaid as we know it, a 50 year old program that helps seniors, children, people with disabilities and other vulnerable populations get the care they need. It would have slashed Medicaid by [\\$839 billion](#), ended the funding needed to expand Medicaid, and converted the program into a "per capita cap", thus ending guaranteed coverage for everyone who has it. As a result, the Republican repeal bill put the health of 77 million, or one in five Americans, who count on Medicaid in grave danger. These cuts would have strained state budgets and undermined efforts to combat the opioid crisis.

Health Care Repeal Would Have Cut Health Care To Give Tax Breaks To The Rich

- **CNN Money:** [Republican health care plan has a big tax break for execs' pay](#) [3/7/17]
- **Buzzfeed:** [The Republican Health Care Plan Includes A Tax Break For Insurance CEOs](#) [3/6/17]