

Driving Down Health Care Costs for Granite Staters

Last year, President Biden and Democrats in Congress passed the Inflation Reduction Act, which drives down health care costs for families across New Hampshire. Between lowering premium costs by [\\$1,487](#) on average, capping insulin costs, and stopping drug companies' egregious price hikes, the new legislation is already working for the New Hampshire residents. Soon, seniors' drug costs will be capped at \$2,000 annually, and Medicare will finally be able to [negotiate lower drug prices](#) — no thanks to Republican lawmakers who unanimously voted to maintain the status quo and keep health care costs high.

Democrats are working tirelessly to rein in drug companies' greed and stop seniors from getting ripped off. This summer, the Biden administration is implementing the Inflation Reduction Act and also taking action to eliminate [surprise medical bills](#) and [limit junk insurance](#) plans that do not need to cover people with pre-existing conditions like asthma, cancer, and diabetes.

New Hampshire residents depend on quality and affordable health care to live healthy fulfilled lives, and the Inflation Reduction Act takes a huge step in lowering these costs. Over [49 million](#) Americans each year alone could now potentially see their prescription costs reduced through Medicare's new negotiating power. Even when faced with united opposition from drug companies and Congressional Republicans, Joe Biden and Democratic lawmakers delivered for America and delivered for New Hampshire.

Under the Inflation Reduction Act, New Hampshire residents will finally begin to see relief when it comes to their health care costs.

By The Numbers:

72,960 New Hampshire residents [will save](#) an average of \$490 every year thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act's \$2,000 annual out-of-pocket cost cap, effective in 2025.

6,586 New Hampshire residents on Medicare who use insulin are now charged no more than [\\$35 per month](#) for an insulin prescription.

35,528 New Hampshire residents are [saving](#) an average of \$337 on monthly health insurance premiums.

227,621 of New Hampshire's seniors are able to receive the shingles vaccination and other recommended vaccinations [free of cost](#).

127,082 of New Hampshire's Medicaid beneficiaries will have access to expanded [vaccine coverage](#).

Senator Maggie Hassan is a Fierce Advocate for Granite Staters' Health Care

Maggie Has Reached Across the Aisle to Stop Predatory Billing Practices in Health Care.

In 2020, Senator Hassan worked alongside a Republican to make sure that surprise medical bills. According to the Kaiser Family Foundation nearly [one in six](#) emergency room visits end up involving an out-of-network surprise billing. This legislation was the first to [protect](#) those on individual and group plans from potentially catastrophic surprise billings and establish an independent dispute resolution body.

Senator Hassan Has Taken on Big Pharma to Reduce Prescription Costs. This year, after working to develop a [bipartisan bill](#) that would reform pharmacy benefit manager requirements for those on Medicare Part D, Senator Hassan and the Senate Finance Committee voted 26-1 to advance the bill. The Modernizing and Ensuring PBM Accountability Act will save taxpayers over [\\$1.7 billion](#) annually on prescription costs.

Senator Jeanne Shaheen Continues to Innovate on How to Lower Health Care Costs.

Jeanne Introduced Legislation to Lower Health Care Costs and Expand Insurance Access. In January of 2023, Senator Shaheen [reintroduced](#) the Improving Health Insurance Affordability Act, which would make the premium tax credits created under the American Rescue Plan and extended by the Inflation Reduction Act permanent. This legislation would ensure that nearly [36,000](#) Granite Staters would continue saving hundreds every month on health insurance.

Representative Chris Pappas Is Standing Up For New Hampshire's Care

Chris Was the Pivotal Vote in Implementing New Hampshire's Medicaid Expansion Program. Before entering Congress, Chris Pappas was still fighting for New Hampshire's, and in 2014 voted to begin implementation of the state's Medicaid expansion program which has helped provide services to over [226,000](#) New Hampshire's and reduced uninsured rates by [42.3 percent](#).

In 2016, Pappas Led the Charge on Expanding Access to Treatment for Those With Substance Use Disorders (SUDs). Chris Pappas helped push through a Medicaid waiver which would expand treatment access to over [140,000](#) New Hampshire's. This five year program has helped the state fight the raging opioid epidemic and get the people who need it quality assistance at affordable costs.

Since Entering Congress, Representative Pappas Has Been a Fierce Advocate for Lowering Health Care Costs. Representative Pappas has been fighting for better health care for all Granite Staters since he entered Congress. From protecting [telehealth access](#) for rural New Hampshire's to working towards expanding health care to [3.5 million](#) veterans as well as being an [ardent supporter](#) of the [Inflation Reduction Act](#), it is clear that Representative Pappas has been and will continue to lower health care costs.

Representative Annie Kuster Is Helping Reduce Health Care Costs

Representative Kuster Has a Long Track Record of Health Care Advocacy. Having built her career around [health care policy](#) and public policy advocacy, Kuster has been fighting for Granite Staters' rights to quality and affordable health care longer than most.

Since Entering Congress, Kuster Has Been Working Tirelessly to Protect and Expand the Affordable Care Act. Representative Kuster has not only been a fierce advocate for the Affordable Care Act but has also shown she can [reach across the aisle](#) and convince Republicans to work with Democrats in protecting health care access.

Governor Chris Sununu Has Presided Over Worsening Health Care and Higher Costs for New Hampshire

Chris Sununu Has Helped Restrict Women's Access to Reproductive Health Care. In 2021, ignoring the opinion of Granite Staters as [over 200](#) of the state's leading medical experts, Governor Sununu signed New Hampshire's [first ever](#) modern abortion ban. He later bragged on a [podcast](#) that he "has done more on the pro-life issue, if you will, than anyone." In 2016 he cast the deciding vote on defunding Planned Parenthood programs that provided free birth control, cancer screenings, and STI testing for over [14,000](#) New Hampshire residents. Throughout his campaign for Governor and [into today](#), Sununu continues to work to further restrict access to vital health care.

Governor Sununu Supported and Implemented a Work Requirement for Medicaid Expansion. Under Chris Sununu's leadership, New Hampshire passed a burdensome work requirement for the state's Medicaid expansion program. Taking advantage of Donald Trump's [systemic damage](#) to the Medicaid program as well as [captured judges](#) bent on restricting Medicaid access, the implementation of this work requirement program was estimated initially to kick over [15,000](#) New Hampshire residents off of Medicaid and SNAP. As this program was close to beginning, it became clear the damage would be even larger than anticipated, with over [17,000](#) expected to be disenrolled within the first two months alone. Luckily a federal judge [blocked](#) the work requirement, though it is likely if given the opportunity Sununu would try again.