## Republicans Rob Texans of Health Care to Fund Tax Breaks for Billionaires and Big Corporations

Donald Trump and Congressional Republicans have triggered a health care emergency by making the largest cut to health care in history in order to fund tax breaks for billionaires and big corporations. By slashing over \$1 trillion from Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act, Republicans have put health care at <u>risk</u> for 1,671,965 Texans and thrown our entire health care system into chaos. The damage will be felt in every corner of the country, including in Texas, all because Republicans wanted to give tax breaks to the uber wealthy.

The dire consequences of the GOP tax bill will be felt for years to come, but some of the worst provisions take effect in just a few months. Starting in 2026, premiums and out-of-pocket costs will skyrocket for Texans, and many will lose coverage altogether due to miles of <a href="red tape">red tape</a>. Then, devastating cuts to Medicaid will begin to take effect, causing rural hospitals to shut down, seniors to be forced out of their nursing homes, and people fighting cancer or addiction to lose life-saving care. Taken together, these cuts will cause years of progress to be lost as the uninsured rate explodes to levels not seen in 15 years. This is the GOP's war on American health care playing out in real time, and every single consequence is on the lawmakers who voted for these devastating cuts.

- An estimated <u>1,671,965</u> Texans will lose Medicaid or ACA coverage and become uninsured under Trump and Republicans' bill, including:
  - 539,000 older Texans
  - o 3,474,000 children
  - The <u>62.0% of adult Texans</u> on Medicaid who are working
  - o 677,000 Texans with disabilities
- 91% of Texas voters do not support cuts to Medicaid.
- Republicans created at least a \$5.7 billion hole in the Texas state budget to pay for tax breaks for the wealthy and corporations.
- Republican cuts to Medicaid will result in <u>54,600</u> state jobs lost alongside a <u>\$5.4</u>
   <u>billion</u> loss in state economic output as well as a <u>\$9.27 billion</u> state GDP loss.
- Republicans cut \$52.6 billion in critical funding for Texas hospitals, leaving 16
  hospitals statewide at risk of closure according to analysis from the <u>University of North</u>
  <u>Carolina</u>, and <u>Families USA</u> including:
  - Anson General Hospital
  - o Ascension Seton Smithville
  - Val Verde Regional Medical Center
  - Falls Community Hospital and Clinic

- Covenant Hospital Plainview
- Scenic Mountain Medical Center
- El Campo Memorial Hospital
- Covenant Hospital Levelland
- North Runnels Hospital District
- Palacios Community Medical Center
- Haskell Memorial Hospital
- Mitchell County Hospital
- Tmc Bonham Hospital
- Mid Coast Medical Center-Central
- Baylor Scott & White Marble Falls
- University Place Skilled Nursing Facility

When hospitals close, communities can lose a staggering number of jobs, both within and outside of the health care sector. The closure of one rural hospital can eliminate 220 jobs immediately.

- Republicans are also risking the closure of <u>over a quarter</u> of nursing homes, including 66 in Texas, according to <u>Brown University</u>:
  - Palestine Healthcare Center
  - Huntington Health Care & Rehabilitation Center
  - Retama Manor Nursing Center/Jourdanton
  - Colonial Belle Nursing Home
  - Regency Manor Healthcare Center
  - Tlc West Nursing and Rehabilitation
  - San Jose Nursing Center
  - Retama Manor Nursing Center/San Antonio West
  - Southeast Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
  - Wurzbach Nursing and Rehabilitation
  - Reunion Plaza Senior Care and Rehabilitation Center
  - o The Medical Resort at Pearland
  - Lake Jackson Healthcare Center
  - Pittsburg Nursing Center
  - Rose Haven Retreat
  - Ralls Nursing Home
  - The Meadows Health and Rehabilitation Center
  - Garland Nursing and Rehabilitation
  - o Cedar Hill Healthcare Center
  - Westridge Nursing and Rehabilitation
  - Brentwood Place Two
  - Brentwood Place One
  - Paradigm at Stevens
  - Sienna Nursing and Rehabilitation
  - Mulberry Manor
  - o Rosenberg Health & Rehabilitation Center

- Enchanted Rock Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation
- Longview Hill Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Hamilton Healthcare Center
- Park Manor of Humble
- Ashford Gardens
- Northwest Health and Rehabilitation Center
- Bridgecrest Rehabilitation Suites
- Arden Wood
- Oakmont Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center of Humble
- Focused Care at Westwood
- Brighton Senior Living of Katy
- Park Manor of Westchase
- Hays Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Mcallen Nursing Center
- o Windsor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center of Mcall
- Birchwood of Beaumont
- Colonial Manor Nursing Center
- Homeplace Manor
- Riverview Nursing & Rehabilitation
- Whisperwood Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
- Bender Terrace of Lubbock
- Hansford County Hospital District
- Southern Specialty Rehab & Nursing
- Coral Nursing And Rehabilitation McGregor
- Country Meadows Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
- Landmark of Amarillo Rehabilitation and Nursing Center
- Bremond Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Mansfield Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
- River Oaks Health and Rehabilitation Center
- Birchwood of Grapevine
- Remarkable Healthcare of Dallas, LP
- Dfw Nursing & Rehab
- Caraday of Ft. Worth
- Coronado Nursing Center
- Arbor Terrace Healthcare Center
- Barton Valley Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center
- Focused Care of Gilmer
- Twin Pines Nursing and Rehabilitation
- Courtyard Gardens
- Wood Memorial Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- A 45 year old individual making \$62,000 in Texas will see coverage costs increase by \$1,360 without extending premium tax credits.

 At the end of 2025, 69,310 jobs will be lost in Texas due to the expiration of ACA tax credits.

## **Key Points: The GOP War On Health Care**

Republicans Gutted Federal Funding for Medicaid, Slashing Benefits and Kicking People Off Coverage to Fund Tax Cuts for the Rich. Currently, the federal government pays between 50 percent and 77 percent of enrollees' Medicaid costs, and more for certain high-value services. The Republican tax bill slashed nearly a <u>trillion</u> dollars in federal funding from Medicaid, straining state budgets and leaving millions of people uninsured to pay for tax breaks for the ultra-wealthy.

Republicans Cut The Lifeline That Keeps Rural Hospitals Open. Medicaid helps fund rural hospitals by ensuring more patients can pay for their care. Rural hospitals in Medicaid expansion states are 62 percent less likely to close. In 2023, over 600 rural hospitals were at risk of closing in the near future, almost all of which were within non-expansion states. Republicans' cuts to Medicaid leave rural hospitals in peril with over 300 hospitals at "immediate risk" of closure.

Republicans' Big Ugly Bill Decimates Access To Essential Services Like Maternity Care And Long-Term Care. Medicaid is the single largest payer for long-term care, maternity care, and mental health services. Nearly a third of adults have received maternity care, home health care, or nursing home care through Medicaid. Nearly one in five adults struggling with mental illness have access to care through Medicaid. Republicans' Medicaid cuts will leave Americans with disabilities in need of long-term care, new mothers and infants, and those suffering from mental health issues at risk for loss of coverage, limited access to care, and creating economic instability in families.

Requirements To Medicaid. Republicans' bill requires those enrolled in Medicaid, without a work exemption, to prove that they are working, doing community service, receiving work training, or enrolled in school part time. Research shows that work reporting requirements cost states money and do not improve people's ability to find work. In Georgia, a GOP alternative to Medicaid expansion emphasizing work requirements cost taxpayers \$26 million, only provided coverage to 3,500 people, and resulted in consulting firms pocketing 90 percent of the funding. Work requirements will cost an estimated 5 million Americans their Medicaid coverage and are only being adopted to pay for tax breaks for billionaires and corporations.

Republicans Will Eliminate Tax Credits, Hiking Premiums For Over 24 Million Americans. Without these tax credits, families will pay up to 90 percent more for their health care and an estimated 5 million Americans will lose their coverage altogether, including middle-class families, small business owners, and rural residents.

Republicans Are Making It Harder to Enroll and Obtain Health Coverage. Republicans are not only making it harder for families to enroll in coverage by shortening the enrollment period and taking away low-income families' ability to sign up for coverage outside of the six-week enrollment period, but they are also making it difficult to stay enrolled by establishing more paperwork burdens for enrolling and proving eligibility for tax credits. These policies will only end in millions of Americans being unable to access the coverage that they need to stay healthy.

**Republicans Will Penalize Families With Unexpected Changes In Income.** Under the GOP proposal, if low-income families experience a change in their circumstances, such as a promotion or a new job, they could be penalized with thousands of dollars in additional payments around tax time. These repayments could be devastating for freelancers, gig workers, and small business owners, who make up <u>a large share</u> of marketplace enrollees.