

HEALTH CARE FOR AMERICA NOW!

Millions to Gain Health Security From New Surcharge on the Richest

The House health reform bill, America's Affordable Health Choices Act (H.R. 3962), would tax the richest to help fund affordable health insurance for all. This surcharge—on couples and families with incomes exceeding \$1 million and on individuals earning more than \$500,000—affects only the wealthiest 0.3 percent of U.S. taxpayers.¹ Their income is more than 6,863 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) for couples. The surcharge will raise \$460.5 billion over 10 years—considerably less than the \$700 billion in tax cuts these households received over a 10-year period (2001 to 2010) from President George W. Bush.² The surcharge will be used to help working families (those with income less than four times the FPL, or \$88,200 for a family of four) to pay for health coverage. That is why the Congressional Budget Office estimates that 96 percent of Americans will have insurance coverage when the bill takes effect (the bill specifically excludes undocumented immigrants). The surcharge is a key reason why H.R. 3962 will reduce the deficit by \$109 billion over 10 years.³

This state-by-state table shows how many households will be affected by the surcharge and how many uninsured people will gain coverage as a result by 2013. By 2019, the number of uninsured will decline by a total of 36 million, resulting in coverage of 96 percent of the population.

State	Number of Uninsured Who Gain Coverage by 2013 ⁴	Number of Households To Pay Surcharge ⁵	Total Number of Households in State ⁶	Percent of Households in State to Pay Surcharge (%)
Alabama	404,000	3,930	1,737,080	0.2%
Alaska	98,000	630	221,600	0.3%
Arizona	841,000	7,690	1,901,327	0.4%
Arkansas	360,000	1,560	1,042,696	0.1%
California	4,471,000	68,300	11,502,870	0.6%
Colorado	567,000	7,530	1,658,238	0.5%
Connecticut	129,000	11,670	1,301,670	0.9%
Delaware	43,000	1,110	298,736	0.4%
Florida	2,850,000	37,770	6,337,929	0.6%
Georgia	1,265,000	10,590	3,006,369	0.4%
Hawaii	19,000	1,270	403,240	0.3%
Idaho	185,000	1,480	469,645	0.3%
Illinois	928,000	20,740	4,591,779	0.5%
Indiana	541,000	4,500	2,336,306	0.2%
Iowa	115,000	1,830	1,149,276	0.2%
Kansas	189,000	2,670	1,037,891	0.3%
Kentucky	373,000	2,590	1,590,647	0.2%
Louisiana	526,000	4,290	1,656,053	0.3%
Maine	75,000	910	518,200	0.2%
Maryland	312,000	8,870	1,980,859	0.4%

State	Number of Uninsured Who Gain Coverage by 2013	Number of Households To Pay Surtax	Total Number of Households in State	Percent of Households in State to Pay Surtax (%)
Massachusetts*	4,000	13,470	2,443,580	0.6%
Michigan	625,600	7,280	3,785,661	0.2%
Minnesota	171,000	6,410	1,895,127	0.3%
Mississippi	364,000	1,700	1,046,434	0.2%
Missouri	453,000	5,140	2,194,594	0.2%
Montana	126,000	890	358,667	0.2%
Nebraska	103,000	1,460	666,184	0.2%
Nevada	406,000	5,600	751,165	0.7%
New Hampshire	72,000	1,700	474,606	0.4%
New Jersey	602,000	18,770	3,064,645	0.6%
New Mexico	311,000	1,500	677,971	0.2%
New York*	1,218,000	45,850	7,056,860	0.6%
North Carolina	958,000	8,640	3,132,013	0.3%
North Dakota	33,000	410	257,152	0.2%
Ohio	735,000	9,240	4,445,773	0.2%
Oklahoma	512,000	3,400	1,342,293	0.3%
Oregon	414,000	3,550	1,333,723	0.3%
Pennsylvania	521,000	13,510	4,777,003	0.3%
Rhode Island	55,000	1,170	408,424	0.3%
South Carolina	532,000	3,860	1,533,854	0.3%
South Dakota	51,000	760	290,245	0.3%
Tennessee	511,000	5,920	2,232,905	0.3%
Texas	4,401,000	31,950	7,393,354	0.4%
Utah	262,000	2,600	701,281	0.4%
Vermont	24,000	640	240,634	0.3%
Virginia	507,000	10,430	2,699,173	0.4%
Washington	498,000	9,630	2,271,398	0.4%
West Virginia	193,000	710	736,481	0.1%
Wisconsin*	212,000	5,310	2,084,544	0.3%
Wyoming	45,000	1,080	193,608	0.6%
TOTAL U.S.	29,210,600	422,510	105,231,763	0.4%

*Massachusetts, New York, and Wisconsin do not have complete data sets and are based on the best available figures.

¹ U.S. House Committee on Education and Labor, "Paying For Health Insurance Reform," November, 2009. Accessed at <http://edlabor.house.gov/documents/111/pdf/publications/AHCAA-PAYINGFORREFORM-102909.pdf>.

² The Joint Committee on Taxation, "Estimated Revenue Effects of Possible Modifications to the Revenue Provisions of H.R. 3962, the 'Affordable Health Care for America Act,'" November 6, 2009. Accessed at <http://www.jct.gov/publications.html?func=startdown&id=3633>. Citizens for Tax Justice, "The Bush Tax Cuts Cost Two and a Half Times as Much as the House Democrats' Health Care Proposal," September 8, 2009. Accessed at <http://www.ctj.org/pdf/bushtaxcutsvshealthcare.pdf>.

³ Congressional Budget Office, "Letter to Chairman Dingell on H.R. 3962," November 6, 2009. Accessed at http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/107xx/doc10710/hr3962Dingell_mgr_amendment_update.pdf.

⁴ U.S. House Committee on Energy and Labor, "H.R. 3962, The Affordable Health Care for America Act, District by District Impact," November 2, 2009. Accessed at http://energycommerce.house.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1802:hr-3962-the-affordable-health-care-for-america-act-district-by-district-impact&catid=169:legislation&Itemid=55.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ U.S. Census Bureau, "State and County Quick Facts." Accessed at <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/index.html>.