

# HEALTH CARE FOR AMERICA NOW!

## Trump and the GOP will take health coverage from 23 million Americans

### Talking Points on the CBO Scorecard for the Republican Plan to Gut the ACA and Slash Medicaid

**One Sentence:** According to the official, non-partisan scorekeeper, the Republican American Health Care Act (AHCA) will take health coverage away from 23 million Americans, slash Medicaid by \$834 billion and ruin protections for people with pre-existing conditions to give \$600 billion in tax breaks, mostly to the wealthy and drug and insurance corporations.

**Key Points:** According [to the CBO](#), the official, non-partisan scorekeeper:

- *The Republican bill takes coverage away from 23 million Americans by drastically cutting tax credits to buy coverage and by making enormous cuts in state funding for Medicaid.*
- *The Republican health care bill slashes Medicaid by \$834 billion in two ways – taking away Medicaid expansion coverage from millions of people, and radically restructuring the federal funding for the entire Medicaid program to starve it over the years, forcing eligibility and benefit cuts. Their gutting of Medicaid threatens the health care of 74 million Americans – from children to seniors – who rely on Medicaid every day and blows huge holes in state budgets.*
- *The Republican bill is a disaster for people with pre-existing conditions. **In states that decide to eliminate protections for people with pre-existing conditions, “less healthy people would face extremely high premiums”** and “it would become more difficult for less healthy people (including people with preexisting medical conditions) in those states to purchase insurance because their premiums would continue to increase rapidly.” Even worse, the CBO says people may not be able to buy any health plans that cover essential health benefits.*
- *The Republican bill cuts benefits and hikes out-of-pocket costs. In states that choose to eliminate essential health benefits (as allowed under the AHCA), people “**would experience substantial increases in out-of-pocket spending on health care or would choose to forgo the services** ... In particular, **out-of-pocket spending** on maternity care and mental health and substance abuse services **could increase by thousands of dollars in a given year.**”*
- *The Republican bill hikes premiums as you get older. In states that keep the Affordable Care Act’s current consumer protections, the bill’s huge cuts in tax credits to pay for coverage will result in big hikes in premiums for people over 50 and for working families with moderate incomes. A 64 year old will pay \$16,100 a year, nine times the \$1,750 it costs now!! **In every state, premiums will be higher the older you get.***
- *The Republican bill gives \$664 billion in tax breaks, mostly to the wealthy and drug and insurance corporations. It even has a special tax break for insurance company CEOs.*
- *The Republican bill pushes people into high-deductible insurance plans and ends the ACA program that limits out-of-pocket costs to many working families.*
- *The Republican plan defunds Planned Parenthood in 2018.*