

The House “One Big Beautiful Bill” Devastates More Than Medicaid: The Time to Protest Is NOW

By Wendy Diller

Cutting Medicaid won't Make America Healthy Again.

If enacted, the “One Big Beautiful Bill” would [cut health insurance for tens of millions](#) of people while increasing the costs of healthcare premiums for others.

The bill passed the House by one vote and is now in the Senate, where it will be revised. The Senate may vote in early July, and there could be a final vote in August. The next two months are critical, and the time to protest is NOW.

Debunking Republican Myths

- The federal government DOES NOT fund Medicaid for undocumented people.
- Ninety-four percent of Medicaid recipients already work, take care of a loved one or are in school. Instituting work requirements will not lead to more people getting jobs.
- Cutting any part of Medicaid squeezes ALL of Medicaid and also raises healthcare costs for everyone, including those with private insurance. If federal cuts lead to a state budget crisis, elderly Medicaid recipients will also face cuts to their long-term care.

- Most Medicaid fraud is committed by providers, NOT recipients.

Devastating for New York

The Fiscal Policy Institute [called the House bill “catastrophic”](#) for NYS.

- NY faces potentially billions of dollars in funding cuts. Nearly two million legal, noncitizen immigrants are especially at risk. IMPACT STARTS: JANUARY 2026.
- While most coverage of the Republican reconciliation proposals has focused on Medicaid, the largest financial impact on New York’s healthcare system comes from another program – the Essential Plan, an Affordable Care Act program that provides high-quality insurance for 1.6 million New Yorkers earning less than 250% of the federal poverty line, funded entirely by \$13.2 billion in federal dollars. The current House Republican budget proposal threatens to cut the program by \$7.6 billion or 57 percent, while increasing state Medicaid costs by \$2.7 billion. IMPACT: JANUARY 2026, with further impact JANUARY 2027.
- NY is one of 14 states that offer Medicaid/ CHIP coverage to some categories of undocumented immigrants. Under the House bill, NYS would see federal funding cut by \$2 billion as punishment for using state funds to cover healthcare costs for undocumented immigrants (mostly children and seniors). IMPACT: FY 2027.

- Mandatory work requirements could cost the state up to \$500M to implement and affect access to coverage for millions of residents. These include mandatory twice-yearly check-ins and co-pays. IMPACT: JANUARY 2026.
- Separately, Republicans are also proposing to allow the ACA subsidies to expire, which will further decrease funding for the Essential Plan and make individual market insurance dramatically more expensive for 260,000 people.

What to Do

- Join Three Parks on Saturday, June 14 for the “No Kings” march in Bryant Park.
- The Fiscal Policy Institute emphasizes that NYS swing district Republicans likely do NOT understand the severe consequences of these cuts. Contact your friends and families in red districts and urge them to pressure their Congress Members to vote against the bill.