

ALASKA AND THE BCRA

WHAT THE HEALTHCARE DEBATE MEANS FOR YOU

THE BETTER CARE RECONCILIATION ACT (BCRA) IS DANGEROUS FOR ALASKA — ACT NOW!

The Affordable Care Act (ACA), or “Obamacare,” made many changes to our health care system that improved access to healthcare for millions of Americans. The Senate is currently debating the Better Care Reconciliation Act (BCRA), which repeals parts of the ACA and makes draconian cuts to Medicaid and to the tax credits and subsidies that help many individuals and families afford health insurance. The changes in the BCRA place vulnerable populations in Alaska at risk.

Whose healthcare coverage is threatened by the BCRA?

People on Medicaid could lose coverage under massive Medicaid cuts:

- One in four Alaskans, or **185,139** people, rely on Medicaid.
 - Eight out of 10 are members of working households.
- As of May 2017, **91,370** children in Alaska relied on Medicaid for services and supports.
 - In 2010, 40.8% of the 19,916 children with disabilities in Alaska relied on public insurance to some degree to help pay for medical expenses.
- More than **31,000** people with disabilities in Alaska have health insurance through Medicaid.
- **33,945** Alaskans have gained Medicaid coverage through Medicaid expansion as of May 2017.

People who rely on subsidies and tax credits to help pay for insurance will see that assistance decimated:

- **13,128** individuals in Alaska receive subsidies and tax credits to help them pay for insurance.

The percentage of Alaskans who are uninsured dropped from 18.9% in 2013 to 11.7% in 2016 as a result of the ACA. This progress is at risk under the BCRA.

What will the BCRA cost Alaska?

- The BCRA would cost Alaska **\$3.1 billion** in federal Medicaid funds between 2020 and 2026, 28% of Alaska’s total federal Medicaid funding.
- Even after 2026, the cuts would continue—with Medicaid funding being reduced by 35% in 2036. These compounded cuts would leave Alaska in a perpetual Medicaid budget crisis.
- To replace federal funds lost under the BCRA, Alaska would need to spend **\$1.2 billion** in state money, which would require a 13% increase in state spending.
- Alaska businesses face potential losses of **\$436 million** by 2026, and nearly **2,000** jobs may be lost. Federal Medicaid funding not only pays healthcare providers, it supports health infrastructure like hospitals.
- In 2015, Alaska schools received **\$2.2 million** in federal Medicaid funding, which is now at risk.

CONTACT SENATOR MURKOWSKI TODAY AND TELL HER: **Vote NO on the BCRA!**

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