

Better Care Reconciliation Act

Impact of Proposed Health Reform on Idaho



June 29, 2017

Similar to estimates of the House-passed bill, the recently released Senate Republican health bill, the Better Care Reconciliation Act (BCRA), would cause 22 million people to lose coverage and slash federal Medicaid funding by \$772 billion over the next ten years. Components within the bill would devastate Idaho's health system, including a radical restructure of Medicaid, cuts to health insurance exchange subsidies, and gutting consumer essential health benefit protections.

The BCRA slashes Medicaid funding and shifts costs to low- and moderate-income consumers while giving tax cuts to the wealthy. Components of the Senate Republican health bill would:

□ Shift \$1 Billion in Medicaid Costs to Idaho

- There would be a shift of **\$1 billion in Medicaid costs to Idaho** over 10 years, resulting cuts in services for the low-income children, the elderly, and Idahoans with disabilities
- Medicaid would be slashed by more the **\$772 billion or 15 percent** by 2026

□ Result in Thousands in Idaho Losing Coverage and Access to Services

- Health coverage would be stripped away from 15 million Americans in 2018, and that number would rise to 22 million Americans by 2026
- Idahoans will pay premiums that are **71% higher** than under the Affordable Care Act

□ Raise Costs for Idahoans Buying Marketplace Coverage

- Premiums and deductibles would increase by thousands of dollars for millions of people
- Older, low-income individuals would be particularly hard hit by increasing premium costs

□ Wealthiest Americans Would Get Windfall Tax Cuts While Medicaid Is Cut

- The BCRA would take away coverage from millions people to help pay for **\$563 billion in tax cuts** for the wealthiest Americans as well as drug and insurance companies

□ Strip Essential Health Benefit Protections for Consumers

- Nationwide standards for what health insurance plans have to cover, including maternity care, mental health treatment, and prescription drug coverage, would be eliminated
- People with pre-existing conditions will experience higher costs with lower-quality benefits

TAKE ACTION — You can Help Influence the Health Care Debate!

Send a postcard to Idaho's senators and governor demanding that our elected officials stand up for Medicaid and oppose provisions that strip coverage away from Idahoans. For postcards, email closethegapid@gmail.com.

Additionally, use our online action tool to contact Idaho Members of Congress and let them know you care about the health of Idaho. Mailing, emailing, calling, or sending a Tweet is quick and easy!

www.CloseTheGapIdaho.org/EmailAction/

