

Senate Health Care Proposals

Understanding Impact of Reform on Idaho



July 24, 2017

Senate Republicans are working on several versions of health care reform proposals, similar to the House-passed bill. These proposals, including the Better Care Reconciliation Act (BCRA), would cause millions of Americans to lose coverage and slash federal Medicaid funding by billions. Components within the proposals would devastate Idaho's health system, including cuts to health insurance exchange subsidies, a radical restructure of Medicaid and gutting consumer essential health benefit protections.

Senate Republican proposals slash Medicaid funding and shift costs to low- and moderate-income consumers while giving tax cuts to the wealthy. Components of the BCRA and similar proposals 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.

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! Visit closethegapidaho.org/emailaction.

www.ClosetheGapIdaho.org/EmailAction/

