

# Healthcare Heist July 30 Medicare/Medicaid Day of Action

The cost of living is way too high. Instead of giving us any relief, Republicans are raising healthcare costs and cutting millions of people off altogether. They already made the largest healthcare cuts in history last summer. Now they're making new rules that will make it harder for people with serious health problems, like cancer and HIV, to get healthcare - all to give [\\$1 trillion in tax cuts](#) to big corporations and the ultra-rich.

Join us on the 61st anniversary of Medicare and Medicaid as we fight to make sure everyone can get the healthcare they need and hold Republicans accountable for putting profits over people.

President Lyndon B. Johnson signed Medicare and Medicaid into law on July 30, 1965. He invited former President Harry Truman to join him, who had proposed a universal healthcare system after World War II. Sixty-one years later, these programs cover a combined 130 million people. In fact, 1 in 5 people in America are covered by Medicaid. [Nearly half of all kids](#) rely on Medicaid for healthcare. [6 in 10 seniors](#) in nursing homes can only afford it through Medicaid and [41 percent of moms](#) depend on Medicaid to give birth.

**No one is immune from the devastation of Republican healthcare cuts.** Nearly [6.5 million people](#) have lost their healthcare since Republicans passed H.R.1, but [more than 15 million people](#) in total are projected to lose coverage over the next several years. Over [1,000 hospitals, clinics, and nursing homes](#) are at risk of closing directly because of Medicaid cuts. When that many care centers are forced to close or cut services, emergency room wait times will increase for everybody and [over a million jobs will be lost](#) nationwide. [12 million households](#) rely on both Medicaid and SNAP, so many families will lose access to healthcare and food assistance at the same time.

## New Proposed Medicaid Restrictions

On June 1 the Trump Administration announced new rules that will make it much harder to qualify for and keep Medicaid coverage. These rules will force millions of people to bend over backwards, multiple times a year, to prove they're either employed, in school, or are too sick to work - and if you can't prove it, Republicans will terminate your coverage. While Republicans claim that folks with serious medical conditions, like cancer or HIV, will be exempt from these work requirements, these rules are so harsh and complicated that millions of people who qualify for an exemption will lose healthcare regardless.

**Cancer patients shouldn't have to prove they deserve healthcare, especially not to pay for some billionaire's new megayacht.** Big corporations and billionaires never have to prove they deserve giant tax cuts, even though cutting taxes for them [doesn't create jobs](#) and [doesn't help anybody](#)

but the ultra-rich. So why do Republicans think hardworking people struggling to get by should prove they deserve healthcare?

Medicare is also under threat. H.R.1 will increase out-of-pocket costs for 1.3 million people on Medicare, and end coverage entirely for at least 100,000 immigrants who have worked and paid into the program. Now, Speaker Johnson is threatening more cuts to Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security in 2027.

## Take Action

Everyone needs access to affordable healthcare. **On July 30th join the Day of Action and hold Republicans accountable for these devastating cuts to healthcare.** Economic Security Project Action encourages in-person or virtual events, such as birdogging, Congressional office visits, press conferences, as well as op-eds, LTEs, and social media campaigns. Keys to a successful tactic include highlighting a local impact such as a hospital closure and/or someone who relies on a local hospital, or stories from people who are covered by Medicaid or Medicare.

In our first week of action, together we moved a complex policy from the margins to the mainstream. Twenty-one Republicans ultimately broke with party leadership because we made the first healthcare impact of H.R.1 impossible to ignore.

## Toolkit

### Ready to take action?

Please [complete this form](#) to sign-up as a co-sponsor. Contact Jen Kim [jen@economicsecurity.us](mailto:jen@economicsecurity.us) with questions.

Join us Thursday, July 23rd at 3:30pm ET (right after our Affordability Collaborative Call) to discuss amplification and best practices for the Day of Action and hear from our sponsors about how they are activating folks for the 61st anniversary of Medicaid/Medicare. We encourage all co-sponsors to send a representative. Zoom Link [here](#).

## Co-Sponsors





Seniors Taking Action, Unseat Ciscomani Team, Indivisible Tucson Action Alliance, For Our Future PA, MDP Senior Caucus, Arkansas Community Organizations

*This campaign is part of ESPA's broader Affordability Agenda — fighting for an economy where everyone can afford their basic needs, including healthcare. We're building on the momentum from our tax fight to demand Congress put working families before billionaire tax cuts.*