NO MEDICAID CUTS

The Republican Plan for Medicaid Will Harm Massachusetts

<u>MassHealth</u> is the state's Medicaid program. More than <u>1.6 million</u> Massachusettsians rely on Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

Republican Cuts to Medicaid Put Massachusettsians' Health and Coverage At-Risk

Every proposal on the Republican <u>wish list</u> of more than \$2 trillion in Medicaid cuts is bad news for Massachusettsians. Medicaid cuts would harm children, older adults, and families, ripping away their health care access and coverage. Republican Medicaid cuts would:

Cut Care for Children. More than 35% of children in Massachusetts are enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP. Around 33% of kids with special health care needs, such as a physical or behavioral disability, rely on Medicaid in Massachusetts. Cuts would disproportionately hurt children with the lowest incomes and the highest health care needs.

Block Access for Pregnant Women and Newborns. More than 21,000 births (32%) in Massachusetts per year are covered by Medicaid. A cut to Medicaid would prevent mothers and babies from getting the care they need.

Increase Disparities for Communities of Color. Around 59% of children and adults with Medicaid in Massachusetts are people of color. A decrease in Medicaid funding would reduce access for the communities that need it the most.

Curb Health Care Access for People with Disabilities. Medicaid covers over 393,000 people with a disability in Massachusetts. Only

34% receive SSI, meaning many do not qualify for Medicaid on the basis of their disability and could be subject to Republican policies like work reporting. People with disabilities often depend on Medicaid for services in order to thrive in their communities.

Create Barriers to Behavioral Health
Services. More than 163,000 Medicaid
beneficiaries were treated for a substance use
disorder in Massachusetts in 2021. Medicaid
cuts and eligibility restrictions threaten
lifesaving treatment for people with behavioral
health needs.

Cut Coverage for Medicare Beneficiaries.

More than <u>348,000</u> dually-eligible Massachusettsians rely on Medicaid to help pay their Medicare premiums and co-pays. For these enrollees, a cut to Medicaid is a cut to Medicare.

Disrupt Nursing Home Care. Cuts to Medicaid could disrupt care for <u>62%</u> of nursing home residents in Massachusetts who use Medicaid to pay for care in a nursing home.

Bottom Line:

Republican proposals to cut Medicaid will result in Massachusettsians losing Medicaid coverage—and there is no acceptable coverage loss. No Medicaid cuts to Massachusettsians to fund tax handouts to billionaires.



