

# COVERAGE THREATENED: MEDICAID FACES FEDERAL BUDGET CUTS

Medicaid is a taxpayer-funded program that provides health insurance to low-income individuals and families, including children, pregnant women, the elderly, and people with disabilities. Utah Medicaid acts as a crucial safety net for thousands of Utahns who otherwise lack health insurance.

Each state has its own Medicaid program tailored to meet the needs of its people. The federal government provides essential financial support to the program. Currently, it guarantees that it will match the funds that Utah contributes to its program.

For decades, advocates, voters, and legislators have worked to build a robust Utah program that provides access to medically necessary services. Utah's program includes support for postpartum coverage and access to mental health/dental services. It also targets support to those at the highest risk of becoming homeless.

Utah's Medicaid program is now at risk of significant federal funding cuts made to offset tax cuts for the most wealthy. These cuts would devastate the Utah Medicaid program.

On January 17th, the U.S. House Budget Committee distributed a list of proposed budget cuts to the House Republican Caucus that would fundamentally change Utah Medicaid funding and force a reduction in coverage and benefits if passed (Politico). Now is the time to act and express strong support for sustained federal funding for Utah Medicaid.

**MEDICAID COVERS 1 IN 6  
UTAH CHILDREN**



Representative/District	Number of Constituents Currently Covered by Medicaid/CHIP	Number of Constituents Who Will Lose Coverage Due to Budget Cuts
Blake Moore - 01	84,576	27,000
Celeste Maloy - 02	117,935	33,000
Mike Kennedy - 03	91,294	34,000
Burgess Owens - 04	85,711	19,000

## GET INVOLVED NOW TO PROTECT COVERAGE

Utahns depend on Medicaid. Support sustained funding for a healthy Utah.



Tell Your Members of Congress:  
No Cuts to Medicaid!

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Through the Medicaid joint financing agreement, the federal government covers 64% of Utah's Medicaid costs. There is no fixed limit on the funds that Utah receives, so if there is a high healthcare cost year due to a public health emergency, Utah will get more financial support.

## Proposed Change: Capping the Amount of Federal Medicaid Funding to the States

This proposed change would fix the amount of money a state could receive based on the number of beneficiaries—no matter the states' actual expenses. This per beneficiary growth rate would be set lower than the expected growth in Medicaid costs meaning the state would be responsible to cover the gap in funding. Further, the gap would grow larger each year. Capping funding would progressively restrict Utah's budget and hurt Utah's ability to support medically-necessary services like pharmacy benefits, behavioral health support, chronic condition management, home care, and more.

## Proposed Change: Decreased Funding for Medicaid Expansion that Covers Working-Class Adults

Currently, the federal government provides enhanced matching to support states who have expanded Medicaid coverage. This change would drop the percent that the federal government covers from 90% to 64% for Utah. This drop in federal matching could result in lost coverage for 132k Utahns who benefit from this program.

**FEDERAL GOVERNMENT  
PAYS 64% OF THE COST OF  
TRADITIONAL UT MEDICAID**



↑  
**Federal  
Share**

↑  
**State  
Share**

**FEDERAL GOVERNMENT  
PAYS 90% OF THE COST OF  
UT MEDICAID EXPANSION**



↑  
**Federal  
Share**

↑  
**State  
Share**

**Medicaid Expansion  
covers adults with  
incomes less than 138%  
FPL and was approved  
by Utah voters in 2018.**

## CALL YOUR FEDERAL LEGISLATORS TO ADVOCATE FOR SUSTAINED MEDICAID FUNDING

Utahns depend on Medicaid.  
Support sustained funding for a  
healthy Utah.



Reach out to  
[policy@healthpolicyproject.org](mailto:policy@healthpolicyproject.org) for  
more information