



## Q&A: Mixed Messages on Medicaid Cuts in the House Budget Resolution

### **Q: Didn't the President say he does not want cuts to Medicaid?**

**A:** Yes, the President has stated on [several occasions](#) that he opposes cuts to Medicaid. Many other members of Congress also state opposition to cutting Medicaid. However, the budget resolution that passed the House on February 25, 2025, which the President also said he supports, lays the groundwork for over **\$880 billion in cuts** to Medicaid and other low-income programs over the next 10 years. Think of it as the first inning in a long baseball game.

👉 [Watch The Arc's video](#) for a plain language explanation.

### **Q: Some members of Congress say Medicaid is not mentioned in the House bill.**

**A:** Correct. Medicaid is not mentioned in the budget resolution. However, the bill **directs** a health committee (Energy & Commerce) to find \$880 billion in “savings” (over 10 years) necessary to meet the budget targets. The Energy and Commerce Committee must make changes to the Medicaid program and other programs they oversee to meet the budget targets.

### **Q: Some members of Congress say they are only [targeting “waste, fraud, and abuse”](#) in Medicaid. Is that true?**

**A:** Members of Congress are saying their goal is to get rid of waste, fraud, and abuse, but the numbers may not add up. You cannot “trim” your way to **\$880 billion** in cuts. Medicaid is already the most [cost-efficient](#) health insurance program in the country. The federal government and state governments have programs in place to prevent and detect waste, fraud, and abuse. It seems extremely unlikely that further efforts to eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse would result in \$880 billion in savings over 10 years. The only way to get to this magnitude of cuts is to cut health care and services that people with disabilities, children, and adults rely on. People will be hurt by these deep cuts.

### **Q: Will work requirements impact people with disabilities on Medicaid?**

**A:** Yes, despite claims that beneficiaries with disabilities won't be affected by **work requirements** for Medicaid, research shows that [work requirements don't work](#)—they don't lead to higher employment rates and cause people to **lose access to health care**. These requirements, including increased paperwork, doctor's signoffs, and other bureaucratic burdens, disproportionately impact people with disabilities who may face barriers to employment. They create real administrative waste. They achieve savings in the Medicaid program by reducing the number of people eligible for Medicaid, but they

may raise states costs in administering the new requirements.

👉 Watch [The Arc's short video](#) on work requirements.

**Q: Some members of Congress say they want to restore the Medicaid program to its “original purpose.”**

**A:** This generally refers to the people who were eligible before the Medicaid expansion (enacted in 2010), which created a new eligibility category for low-income childless adults to qualify for coverage. This expansion is especially beneficial for adults who might not qualify under traditional disability categories because their disability may not qualify them for coverage, or they may have slightly higher income.

👉 [Read more by KFF.](#)

**Q. What are the next steps in this process, and when can we expect them to happen?**

**A:** The next step is for the Senate to take up the House-passed budget as soon as mid-March. Once the House and Senate can agree on a unified budget resolution, the House Energy and Commerce and Senate Finance committees will make changes to programs to come in line with the budget targets. During this step we will see the proposed changes in the law that will result in the savings required by the Budget Resolution. The House and Senate will then have to pass the final reconciliation bills and be signed by the President.

**Q: How is The Arc responding to these proposed cuts?**

**A:** The Arc is committed to advocating for people with disabilities by highlighting the consequences of these policies. We are actively engaging with Congress and the Administration to protect Medicaid. We will be developing a March recess Action Alert for our chapters.

👉 Watch [Katy Neas, President and CEO of The Arc US](#), on CNN discussing Medicaid cuts.

For more information about the impact of cuts on states, see [The Arc's Medicaid state profiles](#), [KFF state fact sheets](#), and a [letter from state legislators](#).