

NETWORK

Welcome Back, Congress

Welcome!



Moving from Budget Reconciliation to Appropriations

- Your energy carried us through Budget Reconciliation
- And, your advocacy made a difference!
- They are **still** trying to gut our programs to enrich their billionaire backers — but we are coming together to protect each other

Friends, this is long haul work.



President Trump's Goal: Break Constitutional Checks & Balances to Create an Imperial Presidency



- Unprecedented grab of power to disrupt and break the American political system **as defined by the U.S. Constitution**
- Continued roll out of political agenda through Executive Actions
- Power-grabbing actions long opposed by people across the political spectrum
- Illegally withholding funds from vital programs approved by Congress

Bottom line: President Trump's actions threaten our democracy, our freedoms, and NETWORK's policy agenda.



Key Political Factors to Consider as Congress Returns

- **President Trump losing support**
- President Trump's major legislative accomplishment is **unpopular**
 - Key: 23% say they are unsure about it! Education is important!
- President Trump has successfully held Republicans in Congress
 - Three major bills have passed without major opposition within the party:
 - FY 25 Budget Bill
 - Big Brutal Budget Law
 - Recission Package



Legislation Focus Now through December

- FY 26 Appropriation (funding) bills—**will happen**
- Possible NEW rescission packages: Trump and OMB Director Voight promise more!—**likely to happen**
- Possible 2nd reconciliation bill—**might happen**

We are NOT giving up!
Together, we will make
the difference!



SNAP is a Lifeline that Builds Stronger Communities



- Helps millions of people afford healthy food
- Cuts hunger, boosts well-being
- Supports families and kids
- Improves public health
- Grows local economies
- Lifts people out of poverty
- Lightens the load for food banks



SNAP During Hard Times



- Provides emergency support
- Stabilizes families in crisis
- Proven track record over decades



Threats to SNAP



- **Biggest SNAP cut ever**
 - House plan cuts \$300B (over the next 10 years)
 - Millions lose help, even as costs rise
- **Federal support drops by up to 25%**
 - States must cover bigger share
 - Some may drop SNAP or cut benefits
- **50-year bipartisan promise at risk**



Major Policy Changes (HR 1)



- States pay based on error rates
- More paperwork; stricter rules
- Summer EBT = Some states will opt out

This will lead to...

- More hunger—especially for kids and seniors
- Local jobs and businesses will hurt
- Health problems will rise



SNAP Matters!



- **Not just food:** health, education, and opportunity
- SNAP helps communities thrive
- Keeping SNAP strong helps us all

SNAP works—don't let it get gutted!



Housing: Bottom Line Up Front

- FY 2026 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development: House vs. Senate
 - **Senate:** Protects crucial HUD accounts including HOME Investment Partnerships Program, Homeless Assistance Grants, Administrative Fees, and contract renewals
 - **House:** Eliminates HOME and Choice Neighborhoods funding and underfunds renewals and administrative fees
 - Increases Community Development Block Grant funding

Vouchers: Housing Choice Voucher/Tenant Based Rental Assistance



- Total Tenant-Based Rental Assistance:
 - House \$35.268B v. Senate \$37.354B
- Renewals:
 - House \$32.145B v. Senate \$33.974B
- Administrative Fees:
 - House \$1.975B v. Senate \$2.906B
- Tenant Protection Vouchers:
 - House \$375M v. Senate \$429M
- Note: The House uses a \$4B advance for Fiscal Year 2027 that masks part of Fiscal Year 2026 outlays



Public Housing



- Capital Fund:
 - House \$2.286B v. Senate \$3.200B
- Operating Fund:
 - House \$5.000B v. Senate \$5.087B



Community Development



- Community Development Block Grant total (includes earmarks):
 - House \$5.642B v. Senate \$4.541B
- Formula:
 - House \$3.3B v. Senate \$3.1B
- Economic Development Initiative earmarks:
 - House \$2.312B v. Senate \$1.351B
- Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Housing:
 - House \$0 v. Senate \$60M



What This Means in Congressional Districts

Without Senate funding levels

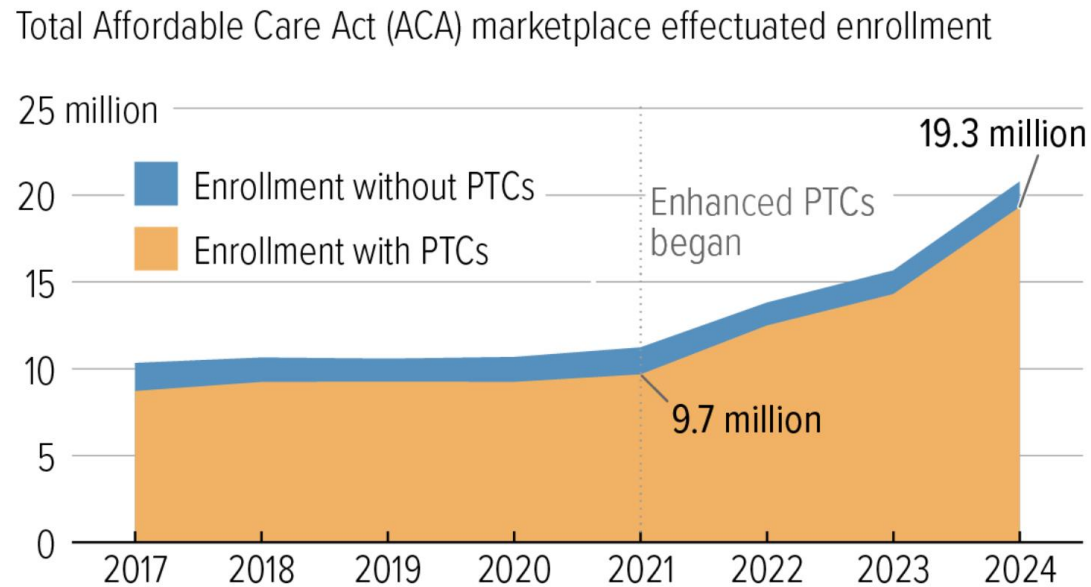
- Expect...
 - Fewer voucher renewals
 - Less public housing administrative support
 - A stalled HOME Investment Partnerships Program pipeline
 - Weaker response to homelessness
 - Reduced fair housing enforcement and counseling

With Senate Funding Levels

- Expect...
 - Program stability
 - Public housing capital backlog relief
 - A continued pipeline for HOME Investment Partnerships Program and Choice Neighborhoods



Healthcare Debate Ahead This Year



Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services effectuated enrollment report.

- **Extending premium tax credits to keep health care affordable for more than 20 million people**
 - First enacted in the American Rescue Plan and extended by the Inflation Reduction Act
 - Help over 20M people afford health coverage through ACA marketplaces
 - Contribute to record low uninsured rates

Unless Congress acts now to extend these critical health tax credits, they will expire on Jan. 1, 2026



Healthcare State of Play

- We worked hard to encourage Congress and the Trump administration to extend the premium tax credits as part of their Big Brutal Budget fight.
 - But, they refused to extend the credits and instead cut over **\$1 Trillion Dollars** from Medicaid and the ACA.

We are not giving up!





Healthcare and Appropriation Funding

- Two chances to get the job done:
 1. As part of the September Continuing Resolution
 2. As part of the Final Appropriations Package
- Appropriations bills **must be bipartisan to pass the Senate**

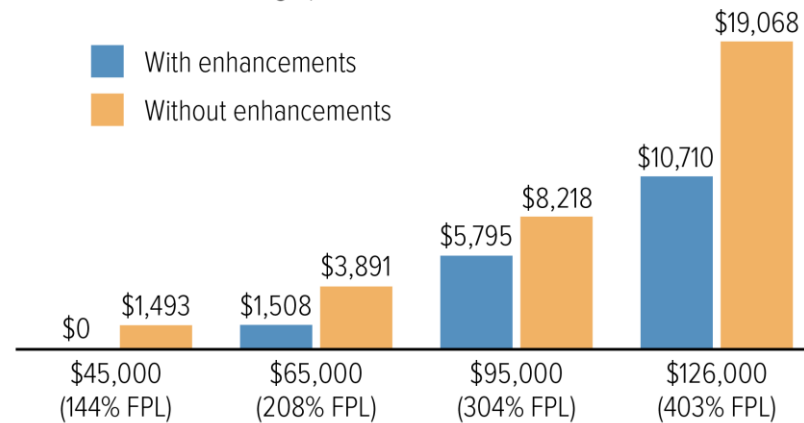




Rising Costs for All of Us!

Families Would Face High Premium Increases if Tax Credit Enhancements Expire

Annual premium for benchmark marketplace coverage for a family of four, based on national average premium



Annual income for a family of four, \$ and % of federal poverty level (FPL)

Note: The example family includes two 40-year-old adults, a 10-year-old child, and a 5-year-old child. Premium costs differ for states with different poverty level standards than the national standard (Alaska and Hawai'i) and for states that provide additional financial help beyond federal subsidies. In certain states, some children and/or their parents with incomes above 138% of the federal poverty level are eligible for Medicaid, CHIP, or a Basic Health Plan, making them ineligible for premium tax credits.

Source: CBPP calculations and Congressional Budget Office estimates of applicable percentages without enhancements in 2025.

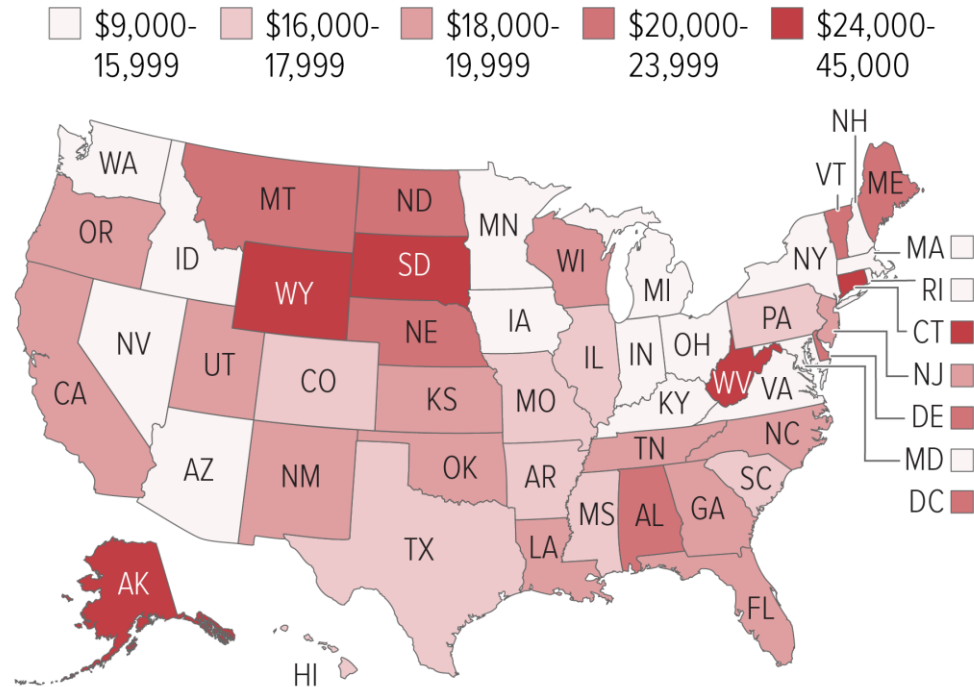
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- Health insurance companies are now requesting **premium increases** averaging 15% to 20%--with some requesting increases of 50%!
- **Why?**
 - The expected loss of the ACA premium tax credits and cuts to Medicaid



Premiums Would Rise Dramatically for Some Groups if Tax Credit Enhancements Expire

Annual premium increase, 60-year-old couple with income of \$82,000 (401% FPL)



Note: FPL = federal poverty level. The FPL for these calculations is based on 2024 poverty guidelines, which are used to determine premium tax credits for 2025 marketplace coverage. Examples are illustrative and based on 2025 state average benchmark (second-lowest-cost silver plan) premiums with age adjustments. Calculations for Alaska and Hawaii are for incomes of 401% of state poverty levels, which differ from the FPL. Calculations do not account for any state subsidized marketplace premiums beyond the federal subsidy because such state policies may be dependent on the federal tax credit enhancements.

Source: CBPP calculations and Congressional Budget Office estimates of applicable percentages without enhancements in 2025.



Congress returns with three major environmental fights

1. Permitting reform
2. Public lands sell-offs
3. Mining reform

Each has enormous consequences for climate justice and frontline communities.





Permitting Reform

- Determines **how projects (pipelines, power plants, and renewable energy) are approved**
- Push from lawmakers to weaken the **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)** in the name of “efficiency”
- Reality: A weak NEPA will fast-track fossil fuel projects that will harm communities



Public Lands & National Parks Sell-Off

- Proposals this summer to **transfer or auction federally managed lands**
- Framed as local control/revenue, but in reality:
 - Less public access
 - Fewer environmental safeguards
 - Long-term biodiversity loss
- Scope: This would touch **all national parks and 200 million acres of Bureau of Land Management Lands**



Mining Reform

- Clean energy transition causes a higher demand for **lithium, cobalt, and nickel**
- NETWORK and our partners are advocating against the inclusion of the **Mining Regulatory Clarity Act** in any must-pass bill
 - Would weaken Environmental Reviews
 - Limit tribal consultation
 - Would not require mining corporations to clean up their mining sites after extraction



Three Big Questions for Congress



1. Will permitting reform **speed clean energy** or just **fast-track polluters**?
2. Will public lands **be protected as sacred trust** or **sold off for profit**?
3. Will mining reform **modernize outdated laws** or **weaken them further**?



The D.C. Federal Occupation

What's happening?

- On Aug. 11, President Trump declared a national “crime” emergency
- Taking control of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), the president has also deployed the D.C. National Guard
- Other states have committed their National Guard
- Multiple federal agencies are involved

Elements of Takeover

1

Deployment of D.C. National Guard and out-of-state unfederalized National Guard troops

2

Takeover of Metropolitan Police Department services

3

Surge of federal law enforcement

4

Takeover of Washington Union Station



The D.C. Federal Occupation

Washington D.C.'s occupation is dangerous backsliding and a unique case

- The **1973 Home Rule Act** gives the president command of D.C.'s police department for a maximum of 30 days
- Section 740 gives the president **limited control** of the MPD for "federal purposes"
- Section 502(f) of the federal code Title 32 enables state governors to deploy their guard to D.C. as requested by the president or secretary of defense
- The **1878 Posse Comitatus Act** limits the use of the military in civilian affairs

- In **Los Angeles**, the use of the national guard is tied to protests and immigration operations, and the legality is under review
- The governors of **Illinois** and **Maryland** would need to provide consent for out-of-state troops
- **Sept 10** is the deadline for the president's limited authority over the district



Time to End the Federal Occupation of D.C.



1. Reject any extension of emergency powers and **oppose the federalization** of D.C. policing
2. Demand **transparency** from the Administration
3. Support D.C. autonomy and statehood through **H.R.51**



Focus on Immigration



- **Immigration enforcement is destabilizing communities across the nation.**
 - The Big, Bad Bill provided **\$175 billion** for immigration enforcement and the border
 - As daily arrests surge, more members of our communities are being taken
- Congress has proposed a few solutions:
 - Dream and Promise Act, DIGNITY Act, and the REGISTRY Act
- Proposed funding for FY2026 would support more funding for border wall, border agent hiring, and almost a billion more for ICE

Key question for Congress: will immigration reform entrench *enforcement* or *build up our communities*?



Take Action with NETWORK!

- **Spread the word!**
Talk with your community about the Big Bad Budget Law
- **Contact your Members of Congress**
Tell them what you think about important topics coming in Appropriations
- **Bring others along with you**
Invite your community to take action!



Q&A

We will do our best to follow-up regarding any questions we are unable to answer during our time together today!



A group photo of several people, including women and men, smiling. Some are wearing NETWORK-branded items like a 'NUN on the bus' sign and a 'Connection' magazine. The photo is overlaid with a blue semi-transparent filter.

Thank You

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