



U.S. SENATOR MARIA CANTWELL WASHINGTON

Cantwell's Fight to Preserve Medicaid Funding

PHOTOS available [HERE](#) from Cantwell Medicaid events in Seattle, Wenatchee, Tri-Cities, and Spokane

Medicaid, also known as Apple Health in Washington state, provides health care to one in five Americans, including over 1.9 million Washingtonians. U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) has been fighting hard to prevent Congressional Republicans and the Trump Administration from gutting federal resources for Medicaid.

- On May 21: She convened a group of health care leaders from **Seattle, Spokane, Clarkston, and White Salmon** for a [virtual press conference](#).
 - WATCH: [KNDO -- Medicaid cuts in Washington spark concern among health leaders and Cantwell](#)
- On May 21: She highlighted a [letter](#) sent from 23 Republican members of the Washington state legislature to the entire Washington state federal Congressional delegation, urging the delegation to protect Medicaid. Of the 23 legislators who signed the letter, 18 share at least parts of their districts with Republican Congressmen Dan Newhouse (**WA-04**) and Michael Baumgartner (**WA-05**).
- On May 21: She delivered a [speech](#) on the Senate floor warning of the impacts to state economies and budgets if the Republican proposal becomes law.
- On May 13: She delivered a [speech](#) on the Senate floor condemning the House GOP's ill-conceived proposal to cut health care by \$715 billion.
- On May 12: She responded to the ["shortsighted"](#) draft proposal from GOP House leadership.
- On May 6: She joined Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) for a [press conference](#) at the Capitol calling on Republican lawmakers to protect Medicaid funding.

- On May 2: She released a snapshot [report](#) highlighting the impact that Medicaid cuts would have on Washington state's long-term care system for seniors and people with disabilities. Takeaways included:
 - 67 of 68 WA nursing homes would cut services if Medicaid were cut by 5% or more. 65% would consider closing.
 - 94% of SEIU 775 WA home care workers said that their clients would likely need care at an ER if their home care stopped.
 - On average, WA nursing homes receive 52.3% of their revenue from Medicaid.
 - WATCH: [KING 5-- Trump Medicaid cuts could close long-term care facilities in WA, Cantwell says](#)
- On April 17: She joined U.S. Representative Kim Schrier to [hear](#) from health care providers in the **Wenatchee Valley**.
 - READ: [The Wenatchee World-- Cantwell, Schrier visit Wenatchee to hear concerns about potential Medicaid cuts](#)
- On March 21: She held a [press conference](#) in **Richland** with Central Washington health care professionals and providers.
 - READ: [The Tri-City Herald-- Think proposed Medicaid cuts will affect only poor, elderly in Central WA? Think again.](#)
- On March 19: She convened a [roundtable](#) in **Spokane** with folks who would be impacted by Medicaid cuts.
 - READ: [The Spokesman Review-- 'Are we just left to die?': Spokane health care providers, patients consider Medicaid cuts in roundtable](#)
- On March 18: She hosted a press conference in **Seattle** with health care professionals and patients to highlight the harms of proposed Medicaid cuts.
 - WATCH: [FOX 13 -- WA health leaders join Sen. Cantwell against proposed Medicaid cuts](#)
- On March 18: She released a snapshot [report](#) on the crucial role Medicaid plays in funding **Seattle-area** health care. Takeaways included:
 - In the **Federal Way, Burien, SeaTac**, and **Kent** areas, more than 70% of children are enrolled in Medicaid.

- Medicaid covers more than half of **Seattle Children's** patients and sourced 39% of **Harborview's** revenue last year.
- On March 14: She [grilled](#) Dr. Mehmet Oz in his confirmation hearing as President Trump's nominee to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on the administration's plans to cut billions from Medicaid.
- On February 25: She released a snapshot [report](#) highlighting the impact that slashing Medicaid to fund tax cuts would have on Washington state's health care system-- especially in **Central and Eastern Washington**. Takeaways included:
 - In the WA-04 Congressional District, 70% of kids and 24% of adult are on Medicaid.
 - In the WA-05 Congressional District, 54% of kids and 22% of adults are on Medicaid.
 - Hospitals in rural areas with low patient volumes are especially vulnerable to closures due to Medicaid cuts.
 - READ: [The Seattle Times-- Cuts to Medicaid would hurt WA's children, poor](#)

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