

# South Carolina

STATE MEDICAID FACTS

## Protect Your Healthcare, Schools and Hospitals


The U.S. House of Representatives has approved \$880 billion in cuts that will likely come from Medicaid.

One plan could cause **451,000 people in South Carolina to lose coverage from Healthy Connections** (the state's Medicaid program).<sup>cdlxxxix</sup> South Carolina would lose \$4.7 billion under another proposal.<sup>cdlxxxii</sup> That money will be made up through firing public service workers, raising taxes or kicking people off of Healthy Connections.



medicaid helps  
**72 MILLION**  
people with disabilities, veterans, new mothers, retirees, students and low wage workers.

In South Carolina, **939,876 people** are supported by Medicaid.<sup>cdlxxxiii</sup> This includes **46% percent of moms giving birth**,<sup>cdlxxxiv</sup> **43% percent of children**<sup>cdlxxxv</sup> and **63% percent of grandparents and other seniors in nursing homes in South Carolina**.<sup>cdlxxxvi</sup> Medicaid also supports **veterans, students, working families and AFT members**.




medicaid is the  
**LARGEST**  
health insurance provider for children in the United States and covers about half of all kids.

School health professionals, like speech pathologists, occupational therapists and school nurses and psychologists, all rely on Medicaid funding. **Without Medicaid, they will not be able to help as many of the 112,000 students in South Carolina schools with disabilities**.<sup>cdlxxxvii</sup>

**We're in this fight together. Bipartisan** groups representing **state legislators, state governments, county managers and cities** are concerned about the fate of Medicaid.<sup>cdxc</sup> **And 71 percent of voters who supported President Trump oppose cuts to Medicaid**.<sup>cdxcii</sup> We need you to tell the **political leaders and donors in Washington, D.C., to keep their hands off of Healthy Connections**: [www.actionnetwork.org/letters/medicaid-cuts-2025](http://www.actionnetwork.org/letters/medicaid-cuts-2025).

more emergencies, less staff  
**TRAGEDY**



More patients will use the ER in place of primary care, and staffing and workplace violence in hospitals will worsen if Medicaid funding is cut.

Medicaid accounts for 19 percent of all payments to hospitals nationwide.<sup>cdlxxxviii</sup> Cuts **could lead to longer wait times, rushed care, hospital closures** and an increase in workplace violence and other challenges faced by our healthcare members. Rural areas and small towns could be impacted the worst, with families having to travel hours for maternity or cancer care.<sup>cdlxxxix</sup>

medicaid provides  
**THE MOST**  
federal funding to states for public services and schools. If Medicaid is cut, jobs will be lost.



South Carolina receives \$6,638,000,001 in federal Medicaid funding annually.<sup>cdxc</sup> Gutting Medicaid will mean **job losses**—in hospitals, in schools and to South Carolina public service jobs.

The AFT is a union of professionals that champions fairness; democracy; economic opportunity; and high-quality public education, healthcare and public services for our students, their families and our communities. We are committed to advancing these principles through community engagement, organizing, collective bargaining and political activism, and especially through the work our members do.

Randi Weingarten  
PRESIDENT

Fedrick C. Ingram  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

Evelyn DeJesus  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

# ENDNOTES

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- <sup>1</sup> Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, “36 Million People at Risk of Having Health Coverage Taken Away by Medicaid Work Requirements,” March 3, 2025, [www.cbpp.org/research/health/36-million-people-at-risk-of-having-health-coverage-taken-away-by-medicaid-work](http://www.cbpp.org/research/health/36-million-people-at-risk-of-having-health-coverage-taken-away-by-medicaid-work).
- <sup>1</sup> Elizabeth Williams et al., “A Medicaid Per Capita Cap: State by State Estimates,” KFF, February 26, 2025, [www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/a-medicaid-per-capita-cap-state-by-state-estimates](http://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/a-medicaid-per-capita-cap-state-by-state-estimates).
- <sup>1</sup> Medicaid.gov, “October 2024 Medicaid & CHIP Enrollment Data Highlights,” Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, January 15, 2025, [www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/program-information/medicaid-and-chip-enrollment-data/report-highlights/index.html](http://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/program-information/medicaid-and-chip-enrollment-data/report-highlights/index.html).
- <sup>1</sup> KFF, “Births Financed by Medicaid, 2023,” State Health Facts, [www.kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/births-financed-by-medicaid/?currentTimeframe=0&sortModel={\"colId\":\"Location\",\"sort\":\"asc\"}](http://www.kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/births-financed-by-medicaid/?currentTimeframe=0&sortModel={\).
- <sup>1</sup> KFF, “Medicaid Coverage Rates for People Ages 0-64 by Age, 2023,” State Health Facts, [www.kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/people-0-64-medicaid-rate-by-age/?currentTimeframe=0&sortModel={\"colId\":\"Location\",\"sort\":\"asc\"}](http://www.kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/people-0-64-medicaid-rate-by-age/?currentTimeframe=0&sortModel={\).
- <sup>1</sup> KFF, “Distribution of Certified Nursing Facility Residents by Primary Payer Source, 2024,” State Health Facts, [www.kff.org/other/state-indicator/distribution-of-certified-nursing-facilities-by-primary-payer-source/?currentTimeframe=0&sortModel={\"colId\":\"Location\",\"sort\":\"asc\"}](http://www.kff.org/other/state-indicator/distribution-of-certified-nursing-facilities-by-primary-payer-source/?currentTimeframe=0&sortModel={\).
- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Education, “Summary: Investments and Reach of the U.S. Department of Education,” January 2025, <https://media.the-learning-agency.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/10133556/ED-Fact-Sheet.pdf>.
- <sup>1</sup> Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission, “Medicaid Base and Supplemental Payments to Hospitals,” Issue Brief, April 2024, [www.macpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Medicaid-Base-and-Supplemental-Payments-to-Hospitals.pdf](http://www.macpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Medicaid-Base-and-Supplemental-Payments-to-Hospitals.pdf).
- <sup>1</sup> Joan Alker et al., “Medicaid’s Role in Small Towns and Rural Areas,” Center for Children and Families, Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy, January 15, 2025, <https://ccf.georgetown.edu/2025/01/15/medicaids-role-in-small-towns-and-rural-areas>.
- <sup>1</sup> Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission, “Medicaid Spending by State, Category, and Source of Funds,” December 2024, [www.macpac.gov/publication/medicaid-spending-by-state-category-and-source-of-funds](http://www.macpac.gov/publication/medicaid-spending-by-state-category-and-source-of-funds).
- <sup>1</sup> National Conference of State Legislatures, “State and Local Government Organizations Express Concern Over Proposed Changes to Medicaid Financing and Requirements,” February 21, 2025, <http://www.ncsl.org/press-room/details/state-and-local-government-organizations-express-concern-over-proposed-changes-to-medicaid-financing-and-requirements>.
- <sup>1</sup> Jared Gans, “71 Percent of Trump Voters Oppose Medicaid Cuts: Poll,” The Hill, February 25, 2025, [www.thehill.com/policy/healthcare/5163193-trump-voters-oppose-medicaid-cuts-poll](http://www.thehill.com/policy/healthcare/5163193-trump-voters-oppose-medicaid-cuts-poll).