

May 22, 2025

The Honorable Patty Murray & Maria Cantwell  
United States Senate

The Honorable Suzan DelBene, Rick Larsen, Marie Gluesenkamp Perez, Dan Newhouse, Michael Baumgartner, Emily Randall, Pramila Jayapal, Kim Schrier, Adam Smith, Marilyn Strickland  
United States House of Representatives

*sent via electronic mail*

**Re: 226 WA State Organizations Urge Congress to Reject Health & Food Security Cuts**

Dear Members of the Washington State Congressional Delegation:

**The undersigned 226 Washington organizations write with one voice to implore you to reject the gravely harmful budget reconciliation bill that is advancing through Congress.**

Our organizations represent a wide range of Washingtonians across the state. Together, we have expertise in the health care, food security, public health, and research infrastructure that are essential to maintaining stable economies and thriving communities. We are united in our deep concern with the budget proposal, which would inflict serious and lasting damage to our state.

Please slow this rushed process to consider the impact on your Washington constituents: hundreds of thousands of children, older adults, people with serious illnesses and disabilities, hard-working immigrant families, small business owners, and low-wage earners struggling to make ends meet whose lives would be upended by the proposed bill.

**Proposed health cuts will terminate coverage for a half-million Washingtonians, threaten local hospitals & businesses, and cost our state billions.**

Washington's Medicaid expansions and Exchange have operated with strong bipartisan support for a decade, helping the number of [insured Washingtonians reach an all-time high of 95%](#).

If the proposed bill moves forward, Washington's Apple Health/Medicaid program – which covers one in four Washingtonians – could see a [25% drop in enrollment](#), a higher percentage than any other state. That's approximately 500,000 Washingtonians whose coverage will be terminated due to new administrative hurdles, out-of-pocket costs, and funding cuts. If Congress also restricts Exchange eligibility & enrollment and [fails to extend the enhanced premium tax credit](#), as many as 100,000 Washingtonians will lose their private insurance and premiums will skyrocket. This Congress will be responsible when people fighting cancer can't see the doctor, elders can't fill their prescriptions, and people struggling with mental illness and addiction go without care.

Many of the current reconciliation bill proposals would threaten coverage by expanding government bureaucracy and red tape, harming everyday Washingtonians without any impact on corruption or fraud. The Congressional Budget Office confirms that barriers like [work requirements -- or more accurately, job loss penalties -- do nothing to increase employment](#). Instead, they [terminate coverage for eligible people due to paperwork](#) hurdles, resulting in more Washingtonians burdened by medical debt, skipping needed care, and rationing medications.

Other proposals would [punish Washington by doubling our state Medicaid Expansion costs – cutting as much as \\$6 billion](#) in federal funds over a decade to Washingtonians simply because our state aims to extend care to all our residents. This cruel policy [disregards the contributions of Washington's immigrants](#), who pay over \$1 billion in state & local taxes each year and power key local industries such as agriculture & technology. Local businesses will grind to a halt without a healthy workforce.

These proposals won't just devastate Washington's people and businesses – the cuts will also wreak havoc statewide by [shifting up to ~\\$3 billion per year in costs to the state, municipalities, and providers](#). [Some providers would lose federal funds altogether](#). Local hospitals, clinics, and nursing homes will struggle to keep their doors open against an influx of uncompensated care – weakening health care infrastructure for all Washingtonians, particularly in underserved rural areas. The cuts are particularly disturbing when paired alongside the elimination of [\\$430 billion nationwide in executive branch cuts to health research, public health funding](#), and other funds Congress previously appropriated to invest in our health & wellbeing.

Because the budget proposal also limits long-standing state options such as provider taxes, Washington will be hamstrung in its ability to address these dramatic funding changes. Instead, local lawmakers will be forced to cut programs that Washingtonians from all walks of life depend on, such as those that allow elders to remain in their homes.

**Proposed SNAP cuts will strip eligibility and take food from more than 212,000 Washingtonians – and make our state pay hundreds of millions of dollars to do it.**

The budget package would also implement harsh cuts to food security programs that are an essential component of a healthy Washington. Under the proposal, more than 146,000 Washington children, families, and vulnerable adults would lose food assistance. This would affect parents, children, veterans, unhoused people, and adults over age 55 who face significant barriers to steady, year-round employment, including in areas with high unemployment or more people than available jobs.

Like the proposed health cuts, the proposed SNAP cuts represent a massive cost shift to Washington and other states, offloading federal costs and responsibilities to state budgets. If these structural changes had been in place, it would have cost Washington approximately \$432 million in 2024 alone. SNAP reductions also undermine revenue for local businesses like farmers and grocery stores: [each \\$1 cut from SNAP eliminates \\$1.80 in total economic activity](#).

**Please reject these cuts and protect the Washingtonians you were elected to represent.**

The proposed budget cuts do not lower costs or put money back in the pockets of your constituents. Instead, the budget proposal would extract tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans by gutting the safety net that makes it possible for ordinary Washingtonians to get by.

Washington constituents are depending on you. We ask for your courage at this critical time.

Sincerely,

*226 Washington State organizations:*

AARP Washington State  
AFSCME Council 28/Washington Federation of State Employees (WFSE)

AFT Washington  
AFT Washington Retirees Chapter  
Akin  
All Saints Community Services  
Alliance for Gun Responsibility  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Washington  
American College of Physicians  
American Indian Health Commission  
Anti-Hunger & Nutrition Coalition  
Arcora Foundation  
Asia Pacific Cultural Center  
Asian Pacific Directors Coalition  
Asian Counseling and Referral Service  
Asians for Collective Action  
Asian and Pacific Islander Coalition of South Puget Sound  
Asian and Pacific Islander Coalition of Washington  
Balance Our Tax Code  
Ballard Food Bank  
Bellingham Food Bank  
Better Health Together  
BIPOC ED Coalition of WA State  
Birchwood Food Desert Fighters  
Building Changes  
CarePoint Clinic  
Casa De Esperanza Asambleas De Dios  
Cascade AIDS Project  
Children's Alliance  
Children's Campaign Fund Action  
City Fruit  
Coalition of Accountable Communities of Health  
Columbia Legal Services  
Community Employment Alliance  
Community Health Care  
Community Health Network of Washington  
Community Health Plan of Washington  
Community lunch on Capitol hill  
Cowlitz Family Health Center  
Crisis Connections  
Cross Cultural Health Care Program  
Cultivate South Park  
Delta Dental of Washington  
DiY-Postbacc Consulting  
EastWest Food Rescue  
Eatonville Family Agency  
Edgewood Nourish Food Bank  
El Centro de la Raza  
Elevate Health  
Elizabeth Gregory Home  
Emergency Food Network  
Empower Next Generations

Encompass NW  
Essentials First  
Fair Housing Center of Washington  
Faith Action Network  
Family Health Centers  
FareStart  
Farmer Frog  
Ferndale Food Bank  
Financial Empowerment Network  
Firelands Workers United / Trabajadores Unidos  
Food Backpacks 4 Kids.org  
Foundation for Healthy Generations  
Friends of Youth  
Fuse Washington  
Grant County Health District; note: the Grant County Board of Health has adopted resolutions regarding cuts to Medicaid and cuts to Federal Public Health funding  
Greater Spokane Progress  
Greater Tacoma Community Foundation  
Harvest Against Hunger  
Health and Justice Recovery Alliance  
Health Care for All - Washington  
Health Care Is a Human Right WA  
Healthcare Management Alternatives, Inc.  
HealthierHere  
Healthy Food America  
Hilltop Artists  
HopeSparks Family Services  
Hunger Intervention Program (HIP)  
Immanuel Community Services  
Indivisible Greater Vancouver  
Indivisible South Puget Sound  
International Community Health Services  
International Organization of Human Right Protection & Global Peace  
Islamic Civic Engagement Project  
Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank  
Jackson Street Food Bank Tacoma  
Jefferson County Food Bank Association  
Joyce L. Sobel Family Resource Center  
Key Peninsula Bischoff Food Bank  
King County Promotores Network  
LASA (Living Access Support Alliance)  
Latino Community Fund of Washington State  
Latinos Promoting Good Health  
Latinx Health Board  
LeadingAge Washington  
Legal Counsel for Youth and Children  
Legal Voice  
Lifelong: Health For All  
LISC Puget Sound  
Lopez Island Family Resource Center  
LWUMC Safe Parking

The Mockingbird Society  
MomsRising  
Mt. Si Senior Center  
MultiCare Health System  
Mystis Adult and Family Services  
National Association of Social Workers - Washington Chapter  
National Organization for Women, Seattle chapter  
Neighborhood Farmers Markets  
Neighborhood House  
New Visions Reentry  
North Sound ACH  
North Whidbey Help  
Northwest Harvest  
Northwest Health Law Advocates (NoHLA)  
Northwest Immigrant Rights Project  
Northwest Progressive Institute  
Nourish Pierce County  
Nuestras Raices  
Orcas Island Food Bank  
Orting Food Bank  
OSL Serves  
Othello Food Bank  
Pacific Islander Community Association of Washington  
Pacific Islander Health Board of WA  
Partners for Our Children  
Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane  
Peer Washington  
Pierce County Project Access  
Physician & Healthcare Consulting, LLC  
Physicians for a National Health Program Washington State Chapter  
Pike Market Senior Center & Food Bank  
Planned Parenthood Alliance Advocates  
PorchLight  
Pro-Choice Washington  
Project Access Northwest  
PROTEC17  
Providence Northeast Washington Hunger Coalition  
Public Health - Seattle & King County  
Queen Anne Helpline  
Queer Power Alliance  
Rainier Valley Food Bank  
Real Change  
Recovery Café (Seattle)  
Recovery Cafe Skagit  
ROOTS Young Adult Shelter  
Seattle Chapter Fellowship of Reconciliation  
Seattle Children's  
Seattle Indivisible  
Seattle's LGBTQ+ Center  
Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness  
SeaMar Community Health Centers

SEIU 775  
SEIU Healthcare 1199NW  
Sisters in Common  
Smith-Barbieri Progressive Fund  
Snoqualmie Valley Food Bank  
Snoqualmie Valley Shelter Services dba Reclaim  
Sno-Valley Senior Center  
Solid Ground  
Sound Generations  
South King County Food Coalition  
Southeast Seattle Education Coalition  
Southwest Washington Accountable Community of Health  
Spokane Community Against Racism  
St. Stephen Housing Association  
Start Early Washington  
Statewide Poverty Action Network  
Strengthening Sanctuary Alliance - Thurston County  
A Supportive Community For All  
Take on College  
Teen Feed  
Tenants Union of Washington State  
34th District Democrats  
Thriving Together NCW  
Thurston County Food Bank  
Toppenish Community Chest  
The Trail Youth  
Transit Riders Union  
Tum Tim Community Food Pantry  
Unidos Nueva Alianza  
United Territories of Pacific Islanders Alliance - WA  
United Way of King County  
United Way of Pierce County  
University District Food Bank  
Valley Cities Counseling & Consultation  
Vashon-Maury SURJ ~ Showing Up for Racial Justice  
Veterans For Peace, Spokane Chapter #35  
Wallingford Indivisible  
Washington Association of Area Agencies on Aging (W4A)  
Washington Association for Community Health  
Washington Association of Naturopathic Physicians  
Washington Community Action Network  
Washington Farm to School Network  
Washington Food Coalition  
Washington Health Alliance  
Washington Healthcare Access Alliance  
Washington Low Income Housing Alliance  
Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Washington School-Based Health Alliance  
Washington School Nutrition Association  
Washington State Association of Head Start and ECEAP  
Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials

Washington State Board of Health  
Washington State Budget and Policy Center  
Washington State Catholic Conference  
Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
Washington State Coalition for Language Access  
Washington State Community Action Partnership  
Washington State Community Health Workers Association  
Washington State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program  
Washington State Medical Association  
Washington State Nurses Association  
Washington State Public Health Association  
Wenatchee for Immigrant Justice  
Wenatchee Valley YMCA  
West Seattle Food Bank  
Western Washington Fellowship of Reconciliation  
White Center Food Bank  
Whole Washington  
WithinReach  
Yakima Neighborhood Health Services  
YouthCare  
YWCA | Seattle | King | Snohomish