



Institute for
Policy Studies

REPAIRERS
OF THE BREACH

THE REPAIRER'S BRIEF

Facts and Focus to Empower the Fight For a Third Reconstruction

IMPACT OF 119th CONGRESS

What was the main legislative achievement of the 119th Congress?

The passage of [H.R. 1](#) on July 4, 2025, marked the most sweeping [transfer](#) of wealth from working families to the richest Americans in our history. The law restricted access to and cut \$ 1 trillion from critical programs such as Medicaid, SNAP, and other forms of public assistance that millions of families rely on to meet basic needs. The same bill gives \$1 trillion in tax cuts to the nation's wealthiest one percent.

How has this bill impacted healthcare access?

Over [65 million people](#) rely on Medicaid for their health coverage. Among non-elderly Medicaid enrollees, [nearly half are children, 57 percent are female, and 6 in 10 are people of color](#). [Forty-one percent](#) of all births in the US are covered by Medicaid.

An estimated [10 million](#) people will lose Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage within the next decade due to the budget cuts in H.R. 1. The bill slashed Medicaid spending by [\\$911 billion](#), the [largest healthcare cut](#) in US history. Between 2014 and 2024, [448 rural hospitals](#) stopped offering chemotherapy services, and [hundreds](#) also stopped offering obstetric and surgical services. An additional [400](#) rural hospitals and clinics may have to close due to H.R. 1.

At least [five million](#) people have already had to drop coverage through the Affordable Care Act Marketplace after the GOP in Congress declined to extend the subsidies that made these plans affordable.

How did this bill impact food assistance?

In a typical month of 2021, SNAP helped about [41.5 million](#) low-income Americans afford a nutritious diet. [Two-thirds](#) of SNAP participants are in families with children, and over a third are in households with older adults or people with disabilities. SNAP [improves child health](#) and even improves [academic performance](#). Eligible children with access to SNAP benefits are more likely to have food security as adults.

In 2021, increased SNAP benefits [reduced poverty](#) by 14.1% and child poverty by 21.8%. SNAP also benefits local economies, with each dollar in federally funded SNAP benefits generating [\\$1.79](#) in economic activity.

Since the passage of H.R. 1, as of February 2026, the number of people receiving SNAP has dropped by [9 percent](#). As of August 2026, the USDA estimates [5 million](#) people have lost SNAP (a 12 percent drop), even before most restrictions have been implemented. Several legally present immigrant categories, including refugees, asylees, and human trafficking survivors, [are already](#), and will, [lose access to SNAP](#) due to new eligibility requirements.

How has increased ICE funding impacted US children?

H.R. 1 tripled the size of ICE, making its [budget larger than those of most militaries in the world](#). On June 10, 2026, Trump signed an immigration enforcement bill that provided nearly [\\$70 billion more for ICE](#), Border Patrol, and the Department of Homeland Security through 2029. ICE held [60,311 people in detention](#) as of April 4, 2026. Of those, 42,722 people, or [70.8 percent](#), had no criminal conviction.

Researchers estimate that more than [4.6 million U.S. citizen children](#) live with at least one unauthorized parent or parent without firm legal status. They also estimate that about [205,000 children, including 145,000 U.S. citizen children](#), have likely experienced the detention of a parent. More than [22,000 U.S. citizen](#) children are estimated to have experienced the detention of all parents living in their household. [More than 1 in 7](#) adults in immigrant families with children reported that immigration concerns were increasing emotional distress for their children.