



Washington State
Hospital Association



American Health Care Act

What it means for Washington state

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WA Principles from Board

- Preserve meaningful access to care for those who gained coverage under the ACA;
- Maintain funding for safety net health care programs;
- Ensure any “replace” legislation comes before a repeal;
- If Medicaid block granting is proposed, it needs to recognize our state’s current structure, our expanded eligibility, and how we are more efficient than others;
- Preserve or improve upon innovations and payment reforms that are leading to a value-driven system;
- Maintain the stability of hospitals, clinics and other providers that provide essential care and are major employers in communities across Washington; and
- Restore Medicare and Medicaid cuts to hospitals if coverage expansions are repealed and a replacement has coverage levels below current levels (to be clear: this is not our preferred position).

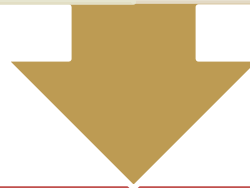
How Medicaid Would Change from ACA

+600,000 residents get Medicaid in Washington

95% federal funding



2017-2019



2020

New enrollees 50% match
Enrollees who stay covered prior to
2020 90% match

Plus per-capita funding cap –
adjusted for consumer price index

Over time, estimated cost to WA:
\$1.2 Billion



Individuals/Employers: No mandate for individual coverage or employer-based coverage for large businesses

Young people: Tax credits extend to higher incomes; penalties for lapse in coverage likely to hurt young invincibles
Older people: Allows plans to charge more; age-based subsidies may offset some higher costs, but unlikely



Low income (<400% of federal poverty): cuts to Medicaid hurts people with the fewest options and tax credits have less purchasing power than ACA subsidies

All: Ability to purchase catastrophic plans



Current Medicare cuts:
The ACA cuts Medicare payments to help pay for coverage expansion

New plan for Medicare cuts:
Keeps nearly \$4 billion in cuts; with a significant loss of coverage in 2020

A 10% restoration in cuts does not make up for the loss in coverage

Current Medicaid cuts:
The ACA cut Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospitals (DSH) payments to help pay for coverage expansion

New plan for Medicaid:
Eliminates Medicaid DSH cuts

It's time to contact your member of Congress!

www.wsha.org/policy-advocacy/



U.S. Congressional Contacts and District Maps

Find out who represents you in the U.S. Congress and how to contact them.



Keep Covered, Washington

Learn how WSHA is working to preserve access to health care coverage that was expanded through the Affordable Care Act.

Questions and Resources

From WSHA

- www.wsha.org/keep-covered-washington/
- www.wsha.org/policy-advocacy/

From the AHA

- [March 8 letter to House of Representatives](#)

From the Media and the Web

- [Kaiser Family Foundation](#) interactive map