



July 2025

Public Policy & Government Relations Update

Volume 1: Issue 5

Introduction

As we move into the Summer and we plan vacations, Public Policy and Government Relations (PPGR) would like to take this opportunity to provide you with a progress update on our collective advocacy efforts and our thoughts about a path forward to sustain our efforts to protect our members, Amida Care and the network of providers who make our plan's efforts possible.

Summary of PPGR Priorities.

Since the mid-June update, PPGR has continued to focus on protecting Medicaid, HIV funding and access to gender affirming care. Thank you for joining us in these efforts by making calls and staying in touch with your elected officials. Together, we worked to educate elected officials and our advocacy partners about the value of Medicaid and the detrimental effects of cutting the program.

The principle focus of our advocacy was to counter the federal budget bill, HR1- One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBA), that sought to cut \$1 trillion in Medicaid funding, food assistance and other social services to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy and big corporations.

Unfortunately, the bill passed, and all Republicans in the New York delegation voted for passage. As we've outlined in previous updates, the bill will cause great disruption to the health care delivery system across New York and the United States. It is likely that many, including up to 1.5 million New Yorkers, will lose Medicaid and commercial health insurance by 2032. Health insurance costs could increase for everyone, and the provider health care infrastructure could be underfunded and therefore disrupted.

This sober perspective is disturbing; however, our advocacy mattered and must continue. Your calls, along with PPGR and Amida Care's constant presence with legislators and in the media, had an effect. We can take solace in the failure of an effort to ban access to gender affirming care in Medicaid and through the health exchange. Our calls, advocacy and direct work with our New York Senators helped make this happen, but the fight is not over.

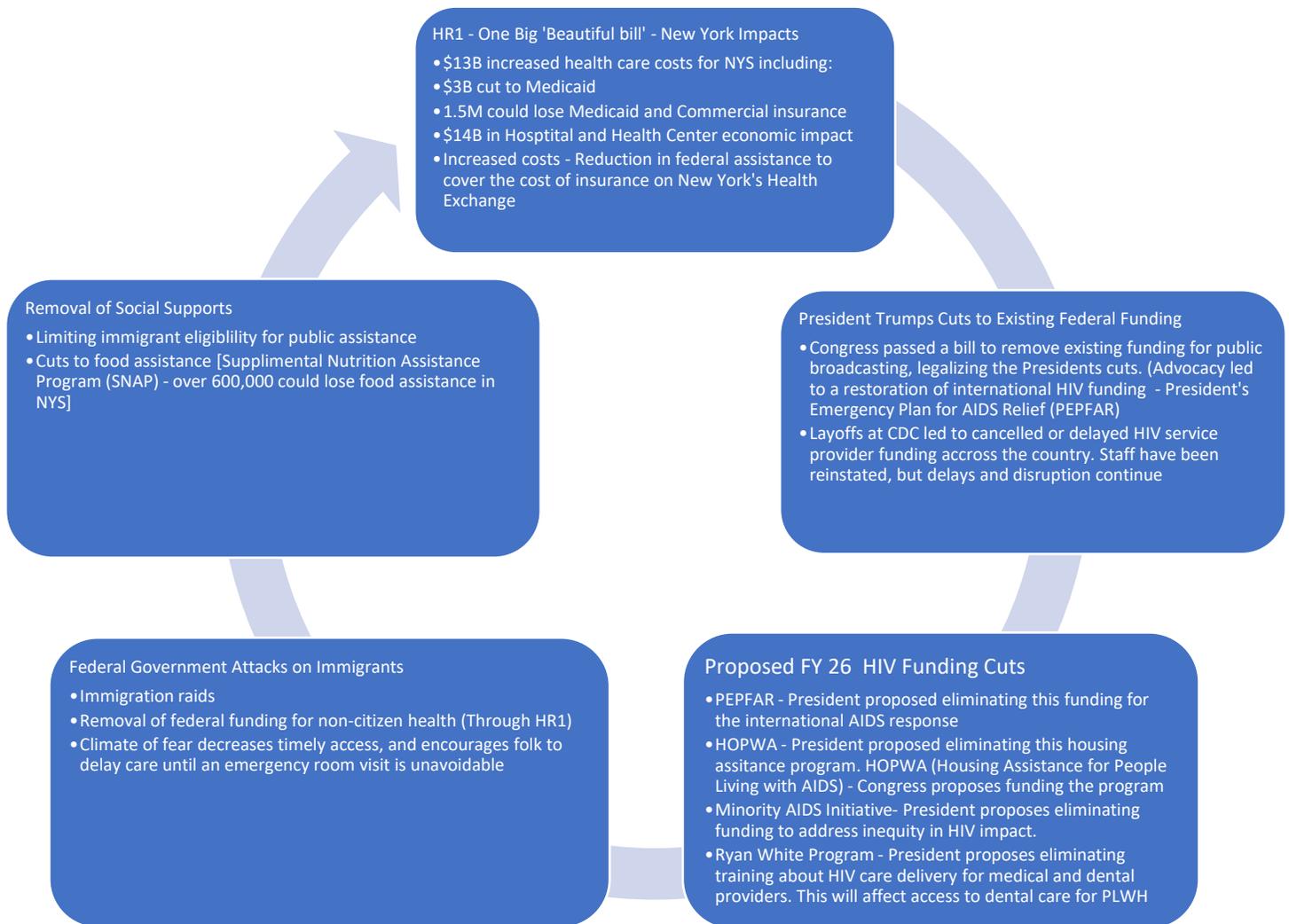
Over the summer we must persevere. The most harmful provisions of HR1-OBBA will be phased in, starting after the 2026 Congressional election. This gives us time for sustained action. Later in this update we provide some tools you can use to stay in contact with your federal and state elected officials over the summer. These elected officials will be at home in their districts.

The message to Congress is simple, let them know that you are upset that the bill passed and that you want them to act now to reverse cuts to Medicaid, food assistance and other critical programs. Regardless of how your member voted, call and register your concerns about HR1-OBBA. If they voted against the bill, thank them and state that you need their continued support. For those who voted for the bill, which were all of the New York State Republican members of Congress, tell them how upset you are. *(For further details, please read on. If you are unsure how your member voted or have difficulty contacting them, please feel free to contact PPGR).*

A feature of HR1-OBBA is that it passes the most difficult decisions about how to implement the Medicaid and health care cuts to State officials, particularly the Governor and members of the State legislature. In the current state budget year, ending on March 31, 2026, New York will experience a \$750M loss in federal funds. Therefore, it is imperative that we continue to reach out to our State officials and ensure that they do all in their power to minimize the effects of the cuts on every day New Yorkers.

We in PPGR are saddened by the passage of the terrible bill HR1, but we remain resolute and determined to amplify our voices and act to protect the communities we all serve.

Overview of Ongoing Threats to Medicaid and HIV Care Delivery System



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¹ Source for Hospital Impacts - <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/numbers-republican-big-ugly-bill-would-have-devastating-impacts-new-york-health-care-providers>

Source for Health Care Impacts - <https://sharegisny.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/03f4a73b91df459d9089e1603b9dc7eb>

Opportunities to ACT

Over the summer, your members of Congress and New York State legislators are at home in their districts. Building relationships with State officials is also important because they will be responsible for finding solutions to the federal cuts either this year or next.

Sign up for their newsletters, stop by the district offices and ask about when they are holding town hall meetings. Meet and talk to your elected officials, both the ones who voted to make the Medicaid cuts and the ones who stood strong against them. The relationships are invaluable.

Strong relationships will benefit your advocacy later on.

Use this link to find your local, state and federal representatives, and how to contact them.

<https://www.commoncause.org/find-your-representative/>

The link below will take you to Families USA's Action Alert site which has a template letter and a form which you can utilize to send a message to your representative:

<https://familiesusa.org/defending-medicaid/>

(The photo below is a screen capture of the Families USA Action Alert)

FAMILIESUSA
THE VOICE FOR HEALTH CARE CONSUMERS

DEFENDING MEDICAID

Last Updated on July 15, 2025

Medicaid provides critical health care to millions of children, families, older adults and people with disabilities. Despite its importance, benefits, and [approval from people both sides of the political aisle](#), President Trump and Congressional Republicans just **cut more than \$1 trillion from our health care**, including more than \$900 billion in cuts to Medicaid. This will strip health care away from millions and impact communities and local economies across the country.

Call or send a message to Congress today and tell your Rep that you are OUTRAGED by these cuts to YOUR health care!

Call To Action

Send a message to Congress to make your voice heard about cuts to health care.

Check Out The Newsroom

Latest press releases on all Families USA activities.

Join Us And Make Your Voice Heard!

CONTACT CONGRESS

PPGR Advocacy Actions - Presentations, Rallies and Other Engagement

Amida Care Press Conference & Rally at The NYC AIDS Memorial Site

On Wednesday June 25th Amida Care held a press conference and rally to protest the proposed cuts to Medicaid and HIV prevention, as well as the attacks on immigrant healthcare and gender affirming care.

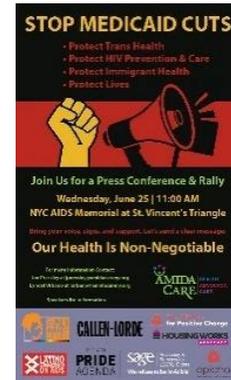
Amida Care was accompanied by Callen-Lorde, The Ali Forney Center, The Alliance for Positive Change, Housing Works, Latino Commission on AIDS, The New Pride Agenda, SAGE and APICHA. We were also joined by Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal and Senator Kristen Gonzalez whom both spoke. Again, we want to thank everybody for showing up!



CEO Doug Wirth Speaking to the Crowd



VP of PPGR Joe Pressley Speaking to the Crowd



Meetings in Washington D.C.

On Wednesday June 18, 2025, Lyndel joined NASTAD for an all-day meeting regarding Federal AIDS policies.

AIDS United Meetings with Legislators in Washington D.C.

From Tuesday June 24 through Thursday June 26, 2025, Lyndel joined AIDS United for advocacy efforts and meetings with legislators in Washington D.C. Among others, Lyndel visited Representatives:

- Congressman Hakeem Jeffries
- Congressman Andrew Garbarino
- Congressman Claudia Tenney
- Congressman Nicole Malliotakis
- Senator Chuck Schumer

NYC Ending the Epidemic Meeting

On Tuesday July 1, 2025, Joe joined the Downstate ETE Regional Steering Committees and New York Links for an essential community conversation on how we can end the epidemic in NYC by 2030. This all-day meeting brought together advocates, providers and others to talk about community needs and to formulate an agenda, as well as formulating a needs assessment. This meeting kicked off efforts to come up with actions on a Borough-by-Borough basis that will move New York City towards the goal of ending the HIV epidemic.

2025-26 PPGR Advocacy Priorities

PPGR has been working in collaboration with Doug With, our lobbyist and media consultants, to formulate a strategic approach to our advocacy. The following are just some of our upcoming priorities.

- Sustained NYS level advocacy with the Governor's office and the NYS Legislature, to maintain and strengthen NYS Medicaid funding.
- Maintain support for providers affected by the pharmacy transition from managed care into fee-for-service Medicaid - including the \$50 million for Ryan White providers.
- Sustained advocacy for preserving access to gender affirming care through state level legislation, and/or Medicaid advocacy.
- Sustained federal advocacy for Medicaid and the HIV care delivery system.

Additional Information about HR1-OBBA

On Thursday July 3, 2025 the House passed HR1 – OBBA, President Trump's Big Beautiful Bill. On Friday July 4, 2025 the President signed the bill into law. The bill was passed by a 218-214 vote that was largely along party lines (all 212 Democrats voted no). They were joined by two Republicans - Reps. Thomas Massie (KY) and Brian Fitzpatrick (PA). All New York State Republicans voted yes. The US Senate narrowly passed the bill on July 1, 2025, in 51-50 vote.

Here is a summary of some provisions of HR1-OBBA

- Makes permanent or extends certain tax provisions of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act that would have otherwise expired at the end of 2025.
- Makes sweeping changes to Medicaid and other health related programs. These changes are projected to lead to \$1.3 trillion in federal funding cuts.
- Almost 12 million more people are set to lose healthcare coverage over the next decade.
- Will cost around \$2.7 trillion to \$3.3 trillion.
- Imposes an 80 hour a month work requirement for 'able bodied' adults between the ages of 19 and 64- could go into effect by 2027, though states can request a delay up until 2028. PPGR will provide further clarity as it becomes available.
- As of October 1, 2028, legislation requires states that have expanded Medicaid to charge enrollees co-payment of up to \$35 for some services if their incomes are above the federal poverty line- won't apply to people seeking primary care, mental health care, or substance abuse treatment.
- Creates a \$50 billion rural health transformation fund, to compensate for over \$150B in rural health care losses caused by the new law. This investment will be distributed over five years, from 2026 to 2030. States must submit a rural health transformation plan to access funding, addressing access, workforce, technology, partnerships, and financial sustainability. States must apply by the end of 2025.
- The bill eliminates the 90-day period during which individuals without verified immigration or citizenship status could receive Medicaid coverage and, beginning in 2027, it eliminates premium tax credit eligibility for certain lawful immigrants.

Timeline of OBBBA Provisions with Greatest Impact for NYS

Click on tools to convert files to PDF.

Key Changes	1/1/25	1/1/26	1/1/27	1/1/28	1/1/29	Later
Essential Plan & Marketplace*						
Ending federal funding for immigrants subject to Medicaid waiting periods and income less than 100% FPL (effective 1/1/26)		● <i>Major impact: EP 4**</i>				
Restricting immigrants eligible for PTC (effective 1/1/27)			● Impacts all EP tiers & QHP			
Medicaid & CHP						
Restricting provider/MCO taxes (moratorium on new/increased provider taxes effective 7/4/25; 0.5 percentage point reduction effective 1/1/28)	● MCO Tax			● Other Provider Taxes		
Capping SDPs (cannot exceed 100% Medicare rates) (effective 7/4/25 for new SDPs; effective 2028 for grandfathered SDPs)	● New SDPs			● Grandfathered SDPs		
Eliminating eligibility for refugees, asylees, and victims of human trafficking (effective 10/1/2026)		●				
Adopting other eligibility changes, including increasing eligibility redeterminations for certain adults and modifying Medicaid retroactive coverage (effective 1/1/27)			●			
Cost-sharing changes (effective 10/1/28)				●		
Adopting work requirements (effective 1/1/27, but can be delayed to 1/1/29 with HHS secretary approval)					● Assumes NYS Approved for Delay	

*Does not include all marketplace provisions that will impact QHP (e.g., provisions in the final 2025 Marketplace Integrity and Affordability Rule).
 ** We do not have a breakdown of immigration statuses by tier, but our understanding is the vast majority of EP 4 would be impacted 1/1/26.



Congressional Budget Office Analysis of HR1-OBBA

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO), which is a nonpartisan scorekeeper, released its final prediction Monday July 21, 2025 for how the HR1 bill will affect the U.S. society. Can be read [here](#).

The analysis forecasts that over the next decade, the bill which Trump signed on July 4, 2025, will increase the federal deficit by *\$3.4 trillion* and cause *10 million people* to lose health insurance. While the newly enacted legislation will save more than *\$1 trillion* by cutting federal spending on health care — with the majority coming from Medicaid — CBO predicts that the package’s costs will far outweigh its savings.

The bulk of these numbers come from the permanent extension of the 2017 tax cuts. The analysis finds that the Senate Finance Committee, which has jurisdiction over tax policy, enacted policies that would decrease the incoming federal cash flow from taxes by a total of *\$4.5 trillion*. That sum includes the cost of tax cuts Republicans added during Senate floor debate of the package.

At the request of Senate Republicans, CBO also included an analysis using a new accounting tactic that zeroes out the cost of permanently extending Trump’s 2017 tax cuts. Senate Republicans have argued that merely extending current tax rates shouldn’t be counted towards the deficit and that traditional accounting used by CBO biases against preventing tax increases.

Impacts of Reconciliation Bill (HR1- OBBA) on Healthcare in New York State

In the current budget year, which ends March 31 2026, New York is projected to lose over \$750M in federal revenue. Once HR1-OBBA is fully enacted over 1.5 million New Yorkers are expected to become uninsured and annual Medicaid costs will grow to over \$3B.

Once the bill is fully enacted, New York State is expected to experience over \$13B in lost federal funding for health care. In addition, hospital and community health centers will also lose funding, as a result New York could experience 14B in lost economic activity.

Since 2010, the number of uninsured in New York State has declined by over 1.3 million, and the share of uninsured remains below 5%, NY1-OBBA will reverse this progress.

Below you will find a resource from the New York State Department of Health showing the impacts of the reconciliation bill on New York State Medicaid enrollees and the health systems:

- [NYSOH House Reconciliation Impact One Sheet](#)
- [New York State Overview Slide Deck](#)
- [NY Healthcare Impacts by Congressional District](#)

50-State Medicaid Coverage and Expenditure Impacts of the Senate Version of HR1- OBBA

- **New, updated state-by-state modeling** of key Medicaid provisions in the House and Senate bills prepared by Manatt Health shows that the Senate bill increases the size of the already-astronomical Medicaid cuts in the House bill to more than \$1.2 trillion over the next 10 years among the 50 states (including the District of Columbia (D.C.) but excluding Tennessee due to data limitations.
- For expansion states overall, the Senate bill increases the size of their cuts by 10% over the already large cuts in H.R.1. Ten expansion states would see the size of their Medicaid expenditure reductions jump by 20% or more in the Senate bill as compared to H.R.1.
- While non-expansion states will still face unprecedented cuts, the 9 non-expansion states included in Manatt's model would see the size of their cuts drop by 6% under the Senate bill.

Medicaid coverage losses are estimated at 8.7 million fewer people enrolled in Medicaid under the House and Senate Medicaid provisions of OBBBA.

PPGR Round Up

PPGR is motivated and will not despair. We will continue to work directly, and in coalition to delay, reverse or stop the most harmful impacts HR1 and to prevent a disruption in access to HIV services. We will use these monthly updates and our periodic action alerts to keep you informed about opportunities to act. Join Us in Action.

Our legislators need to know that their decisions have real consequences and impact on their constituents directly. Just because the bill passed, we must not remain silent.

Together we can still protect Medicaid and ensure that our members and provider network remains strong and healthy.

Sincerely,

Joe Pressley, Lyndel Urbano & Casper Christiansen

Additional Readings & Relevant Topics

By Maintaining Obamacare Pillar, Supreme Court Hands Win to HIV Advocates

The Supreme Court on Friday granted the HIV-prevention field a historic win — yet with a major caveat — as it upheld a federally appointed health task force’s authority to mandate no-cost insurance coverage of certain preventive interventions but clarifying that the health and human services secretary holds dominion over the panel. The 6-3 decision in *Kennedy v. Braidwood* essentially leaves in place a popular pillar of the Affordable Care Act, which mandates that most insurers cover various task force-recommended preventive screenings, therapies and interventions, with no out-of-pocket costs imposed on patients. The case reached the high court after a group of Christian businesses in Texas objected to being compelled to cover certain drugs used for HIV prevention, known as PrEP, given their claims that it “promotes homosexuality.” Read the full article [here](#).

Former USAID chief says gutting of agency could put millions at risk of death

The dismantling of the US Agency for International Development (USAID), as ordered by President Donald Trump and enacted by the Department of Government Efficiency, has seen funding for thousands of foreign assistance programs frozen or slashed. Now, a new study estimates that the loss of that funding could result in more than 14 million additional deaths by 2030. Nearly a third of those deaths — more than 4.5 million — are estimated to be among children younger than 5. The authors of the study said the effects of the cuts would be similar in scale to a global pandemic or a major armed conflict. Read full article [here](#).

CNN host puts Republican Representative Mike Lawler in a corner over changing Medicaid 'eligibility'

Rep. Mike Lawler (R-N.Y.) is one of three Republicans who won districts where former Vice President Kamala Harris also won in 2024. Now he's being forced to defend cuts to Medicaid using political spin. Watch the interview [here](#).

Industry slams passage of tax bill with \$1T in healthcare cuts

Healthcare industry stakeholders are blasting Congress after it passed more than \$1 trillion in cuts to Medicaid and other programs Thursday, advancing the One Big Beautiful Bill Act of 2025 to President Donald Trump’s desk.

Providers, insurers, unions and other industry trade groups have vehemently opposed the proposed healthcare cuts for months. Thursday’s vote represents an enormous blow to healthcare funding — particularly for Medicaid, which is projected to drop by \$940 billion over 10 years, according to the Congressional Budget Office. Read the full article [here](#).