

## House Ethics: Congressional vs. Campaign Activity

- Members of Congress are governed by the House Code of Official Conduct, which includes standards for whether, how, when, and where Members may engage in campaign activity.
  - This town hall is being hosted in my <u>official capacity</u> as Representative for California's 10<sup>th</sup> District, <u>not as a candidate</u> in a campaign. Therefore, House Rules prevent me from:
    - Solicitating, receiving, and accepting campaign contributions.
    - Making political endorsements.
    - Directing attendees to websites, resources, or events created or operated by a campaign or any campaign-related entity, including political parties and campaign committees.

You can learn more about the House Code of Official Conduct and how it relates to this event here:





### Republican Budget Scheme

- Last week, Republicans <u>rammed through a budget</u> bill that will harm <u>tens of millions of Americans</u> and <u>raise their cost of living</u> in order to give <u>tax breaks</u> to the ultrawealthy. This bill:
  - Strips health care from 17 million Americans;
  - Takes school lunches from more than 18.3 million children;
  - Reduces or eliminates Pell Grants for 4 million students;
  - Increases the national debt by more than \$3 trillion;
  - Eliminates clean energy tax credits, which will also harm the environment;
  - Raises electricity costs by 30%;
  - Gives \$1 trillion in tax cuts for the richest Americans; and
  - Explodes ICE's \$10 billion annual budget to more than \$100 billion through 2029, which is more than many countries spend on their entire military.



# Budget Bill's Impact on the East Bay

- The Republican budget bill <u>cuts Medicaid and other health insurance programs</u> by around \$1 trillion over 10 years and SNAP by <u>almost \$200 billion</u> over 10 years.
  - In California's 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, over <u>131,000 individuals rely on Medi-Cal</u> for health care coverage, and nearly <u>18,000 households rely on SNAP</u> to prevent hunger.
- Contra Costa Health Services and Contra Costa Regional Medical Center provide services to many county residents.
  - As a result of the Medicaid cuts, the <u>county health system</u> will face <u>annual</u> reductions of <u>between \$121 million and \$129 million</u>.
  - While the county is still evaluating the full impact of these cuts, they could result in <u>hospital and clinic service closures</u> and an <u>increase in uncompensated care</u> that the county must provide.
- With ICE's presence in Los Angeles and its recent activity in Concord, there is reason to believe that with an increased budget, California will see <a href="mailto:more">more</a> targeting from the Administration.
- As a leader in clean energy innovation, the Bay Area will be particularly harmed by the repeal of tax credits that promote wind, solar, clean vehicles, and more.

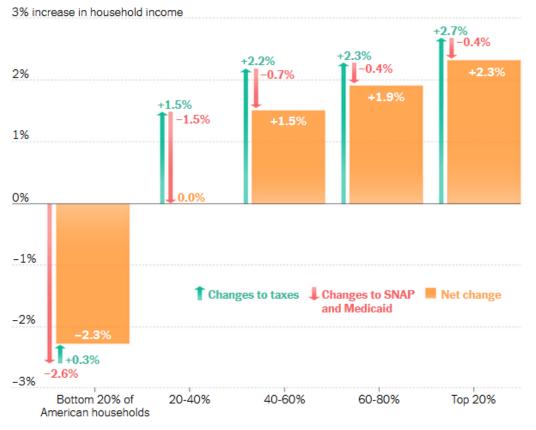


# Effects of the Republican Budget on Inequality

- The budget bill disproportionately <u>benefits</u> the richest of the rich.
- It is the single largest <u>transfer</u> of wealth from working Americans to the top 1%.
- Americans in the top income bracket will see their household resources <u>increase</u> by \$12,000 per year, while the poorest Americans will see their household resources drop by \$1,600 per year.

#### The More You Make, the More You Benefit



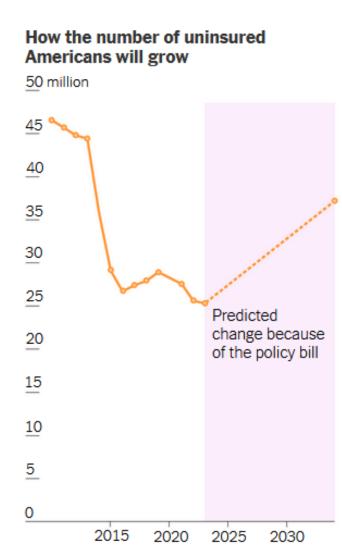


Source: The Budget Lab and C.B.O. calculations - Note: Data from estimates released June 30, 2025



# Effects of the Republican Budget on Health Care

- The uninsured rate in America dropped from 17.8% in 2010 to 9.5% in 2023.
- This <u>nearly 50% drop</u> in the uninsured rate was driven in large part by the <u>reforms passed in the Affordable Care Act</u>.
- While we should be working on ways to get more Americans covered, the budget bill will instead kick an estimated 17 million Americans off of their health insurance.

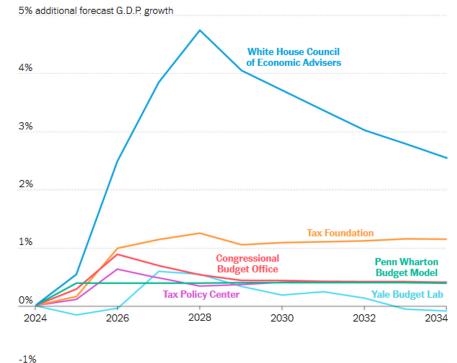


## Impact of Budget Bill on the Economy

• Despite this bill being the <u>most expensive piece of legislation in history</u>, most reputable sources expect it to have a modest to negligible effect on the economy.

#### The Economic Benefit Is Negligible

#### The White House predicts much more growth from this bill than other models



• The President's economic advisers falsely believe that this bill will drive economic growth to a degree far beyond the projections made by other sources.

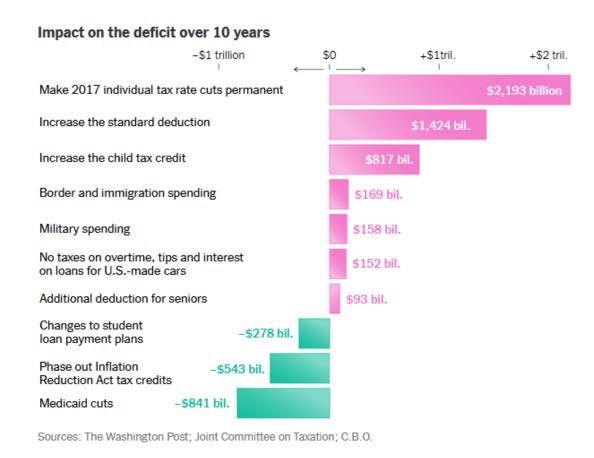
Source: Center for a Responsible Federal Budget · Note: Tax Foundation and C.E.A. estimates are based on the Senate version of the policy bill. All other estimates are based on the version passed by the House.



# Effects of the Republican Budget on the Federal Budget

- While the budget bill is partially paid for by cutting programs like Medicaid (known as Medi-Cal in CA), it will cut taxes more than it cuts spending.
- As a result, the bill will increase the federal budget deficit by at least \$3.3 trillion over 10 years.
- The overall effect of this bill is to give large tax cuts to ultrawealthy people who don't need them.

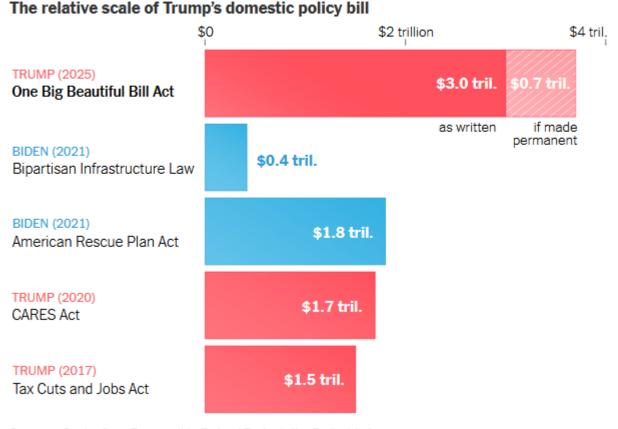
#### **Our Rich Keep Getting Richer**



# Effects of the Republican Budget on the Federal Budget (cont'd)

#### Trump's Biggest Budget Buster

 To put the enormous cost of the budget bill in perspective, it costs twice as much as the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.



Sources: Center for a Responsible Federal Budget; the Budget Lab



### How Democrats Fought this Bill

- With unified control of government, congressional Republicans used a process that allows certain legislation to pass with 51 votes in the Senate and avoid the filibuster which <u>limited the options</u> Senate Democrats had to defeat or stall the bill.
- In the House, thousands of amendments were filed by Democrats to make changes to the bill to stave off the worst impacts, but every single one of them was blocked by Republicans.
  - I offered a total of six amendments to the bill.
    - Two amendments to prevent Medicaid cuts from impacting people with disabilities.
    - Two amendments related to EV charging infrastructure and Administration compliance with court orders.
    - An amendment to ensure the <u>re-hire</u> of any <u>illegally fired federal employee</u> in the federal region that includes California.
    - An amendment to <u>support low-income graduate students</u> by removing provisions in the bill that eliminate and restrict some student loan programs.
- House Democrats used <u>all the tools at our disposal</u> to stall the vote, including dozens of us offering procedural requests.
- Just before the final vote in the House, <u>Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries gave the longest speech in House of Representatives history</u>, clocking in at eight hours and 44 minutes, to highlight the harms of this bill and delay its passage.



### What Comes Next?

- House Democrats will <u>continue to fight</u> against this bill as it gets implemented, while holding congressional Republicans and the President <u>accountable</u> for their harmful actions.
- A federal judge has already <u>temporarily blocked</u> a provision in the bill cutting off <u>Planned Parenthood funding</u>, and more challenges are expected.
- Some of the most harmful provisions are <u>not scheduled to take</u> <u>effect immediately</u>. As an example, some of the bill's provisions that cut Medicaid benefits don't take effect until <u>2026 or later</u>, which leaves time for us to fight to <u>reverse or challenge them</u>.
- If Democrats <u>re-take the majority</u> in the House of Representatives or the Senate, they would have <u>more leverage</u> to unwind some of the bill's more harmful and unpopular provisions.



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