

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HISPANIC COUNTY OFFICIALS

## NAHCO Statement on H.R. 1-The Big Beautiful Bill

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Last month, House Republicans passed H.R. 1 One Big Beautiful Bill Act, a tax and spending bill. This bill includes several of President Trump's key campaign promises. The bill now heads to the Senate, where Senate Republicans will use the reconciliation process to bypass the 60-vote filibuster and pass the bill strictly along party lines. The main purpose of this bill is to make the tax cuts from the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) permanent as well as limit the power of judges, change the student loan process, reduce investments in renewable energy, make states pay more for federal programs, and increase deportations.

According to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), a nonpartisan organization, this bill is expected to decrease revenue by \$3.7 trillion over the next 10 years in order to keep tax cuts, to which if those 2017 tax cuts were to expire at the end of this year, the average taxpayer would see a 22% tax hike. Republicans are to offset the enormous amount of money this bill will add to our debt by decreasing current government spending by \$1.3 trillion. These cuts will have consequences for millions of Americans. Several vital federal programs essential to millions of Americans nationwide would be cut by over \$100 billion if this bill were to become law. \$344 billion will be cut from Medicaid over 10 years, \$295 billion from SNAP and other related programs, and \$132 billion from the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Marketplace. Even with these cuts and reduced government spending, the bill will add \$2.4 trillion to the national debt over 10 years, according to the CBOs analysis. Some other economic impacts of the bill include raising the child tax credit from \$2,000 to \$2,500 for four years, raising the SALT cap to a \$40,000 deduction, and creating \$1,000 savings accounts for children. In addition, there would be no taxes on overtime, social security, car loan interest, or tips. This bill will seek to alter the accessibility of benefits to immigrants. States with expanded Medicaid programs run the risk of losing an estimated \$145 million by 2034 if they provide comprehensive health coverage to any person who does not meet the "qualified alien" standard. This includes humanitarian parole immigrants. While the child tax credit is expanded, it will not be available to children whose parents do not have a Social Security number.



Overall, the CBO analysis found that this bill will raise the uninsured population by 15 million, eliminate SNAP benefits for 1.3 million people a month, and raise the national debt by trillions in exchange for tax cuts that benefit the ultra-wealthy. They found that households with the lowest 10% of income would lose resources equal to 4% of their income by 2033, while the highest 10% of household income would gain resources equal to 2% of their income by 2033 if this bill were to become law.

In addition, this bill also seeks to weaken the American justice system. This bill includes a provision that would prevent judges from enforcing their orders unless litigants post a bond. The bond could match the amount at stake in the lawsuit, which, in one case, was trillions of dollars in federal grants. According to the nonprofit Campaign Legal Center, this provision would prohibit any court from enforcing an injunction or restraining order using its contempt authority.

The bill seeks to make higher education less accessible for students from low-income families. \$330 billion would be cut from the Department of Education to eliminate the SAVE student loan payment plan that based payments on income and household size. It would also change the qualifications for the Pell Grant which could lead to 700,000 students becoming ineligible for the grant. It would eliminate federal subsidies for undergraduates and Direct Plus loans for graduate students, put a cap on Parent Plus Loans and only allow these loans to be taken out if their dependent has already taken out the maximum in unsubsidized loans, and set an overall lifetime student loan limit of \$200,000 for any single borrower across all federal loan types.

The previous administration encouraged local governments, businesses, and individuals to invest in renewable energy by offering incentives in the form of grants and tax deductions. Renewable energy investments is now on the chopping block with the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. It would eliminate the \$7,500 credit for anyone purchasing an electric vehicle and phase out credits for local governments and businesses that produce or invest in renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind.

The bill aims to increase state funding to maintain vital programs. SNAP, over its 50-year history, has been fully funded by the federal government. If this bill were to become law, it would require all states to pay a minimum of 5% of food benefit costs and increase based on their error rate. Over the last 20 years, 49 states have had an error rate exceeding 6% for at least one year. For example, it could cost the state of Michigan \$152 million to pay 5% of food benefit costs, in addition to forcing states to pay 75% of the administrative costs of SNAP.

While this bill contains numerous cuts to programs and departments, it also includes additional funding for the Department of Homeland Security to increase the number of deportations. \$80 billion is allocated in this bill for the construction of immigration jails, hiring of immigration agents, deployment of military personnel for immigration enforcement, and an additional \$69 billion for the construction of the border wall. Families who have children at these detention centers must pay \$3,500 to reunite with their children; otherwise, they will be held indefinitely. In addition, increasing deportations, this bill also aims to decrease the number of crossings into



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the US by charging an application fee of at least \$ 1,000 for those seeking asylum for the first time.

NAHCO opposes the One Big Beautiful Bill Act because it will remove vital programs, increase the uninsured population, stop people from receiving snap benefits, make higher education more inaccessible, hurt immigrant communities, weaken the justice system, make climate change worse, and ultimately make the middle and working class poorer. NAHCO will continue to support access to higher education, addressing environmental justice, ensuring due process for everyone, advocating for immigrant rights, and expanding affordable healthcare to everyone.