

Rhode Island

STATE MEDICAID FACTS

Protect Your Healthcare, Schools and Hospitals

The U.S. House of Representatives has approved \$880 billion in cuts that will likely come from Medicaid.

One plan could cause **148,000 people in Rhode Island to lose coverage from RI Medical Assistance** (the state's Medicaid program).^{cdlxix} Rhode Island would lose \$2.2 billion under another proposal.^{cdlxx} That money will be made up through firing public service workers, raising taxes or kicking people off of RI Medical Assistance.



medicaid helps
72 MILLION
people with disabilities, veterans,
new mothers, retirees, students
and low wage workers.

In Rhode Island, **273,124 people** are supported by Medicaid.^{cdlxxi} This includes **43% percent of moms giving birth**,^{cdlxxii} **37% percent of children**^{cdlxxiii} and **64% percent of grandparents and other seniors in nursing homes in Rhode Island**.^{cdlxxiv} Medicaid also supports **veterans, students, working families and AFT members**.



medicaid is the
LARGEST
health insurance provider for
children in the United States and
covers about half of all kids.

School health professionals, like speech pathologists, occupational therapists and school nurses and psychologists, all rely on Medicaid funding. **Without Medicaid, they will not be able to help as many of the 25,000 students in Rhode Island schools with disabilities**.^{cdlxxv}

more emergencies, less staff
TRAGEDY

More patients will use the ER in place of primary care, and staffing and workplace violence in hospitals will worsen if Medicaid funding is cut.



Medicaid accounts for 19 percent of all payments to hospitals nationwide.^{cdlxxvi} Cuts **could lead to longer wait times, rushed care, hospital closures** and an increase in workplace violence and other challenges faced by our healthcare members. Rural areas and small towns could be impacted the worst, with families having to travel hours for maternity or cancer care.^{cdlxxvii}

medicaid provides
THE MOST

federal funding to states for public services and schools. If Medicaid is cut, jobs will be lost.



Rhode Island receives \$2,434,000,001 in federal Medicaid funding annually.^{cdlxxviii} Gutting Medicaid will mean **job losses**—in hospitals, in schools and to Rhode Island public service jobs.

We're in this fight together. Bipartisan groups representing state legislators, state governments, county managers and cities are concerned about the fate of Medicaid.^{cdlxxix} **And 71 percent of voters who supported President Trump oppose cuts to Medicaid**.^{cdlxxx} We need you to **tell the political leaders and donors in Washington, D.C., to keep their hands off of RI Medical Assistance**: www.actionnetwork.org/letters/medicaid-cuts-2025.

The AFT is a union of professionals that champions fairness; democracy; economic opportunity; and high-quality public education, healthcare and public services for our students, their families and our communities. We are committed to advancing these principles through community engagement, organizing, collective bargaining and political activism, and especially through the work our members do.

Randi Weingarten
PRESIDENT

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ENDNOTES

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