

# HIV Community Emergency: Tax Bill

December 4 2017

# Tax Bill Updates: what happened?

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Late Friday night/early Saturday morning, the Senate approved the #GOPTaxScam 51-49 along party lines, except for one Republican Senator - Bob Corker (TN), who voted against it.

The Senate version of the tax bill includes massive tax breaks for corporations and will force deep cuts to Medicaid, Medicare and Social Security, among other programs.



THE **GOP TAX SCAM** ISN'T LAW YET

CALL 202-335-5529

**TO RESIST**

# What now? Next steps on the Tax Bill

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The House had previously passed their version of the tax bill in November.

The Senate and House versions of the tax bill are both terrible. But they are different.

Today, Monday December 4th at **6:30pm ET**, the House will convene to vote on a motion to go to conference.

# Conference Process

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Unless the House passes the Senate bill as is (unlikely), the House and Senate will need to meet and reconcile the differences between their two versions of the tax bill.

Representatives from both Houses will be selected to form a **conference committee** that will be responsible for consolidating the two bills into a final version called a conference report (which could be drafted as early as next week).

The report must then be voted through by each chamber before it goes to Trump's desk for his signature.

# Targets

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Priority are House Republicans who voted against ACA or who are vulnerable in re-election. List of targets is available at <http://bit.ly/TaxBillTargets>

# What can we do?

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- Make calls and get everyone you know to make calls
- Organize a phone bank
  - see [Tax Bill Resource Center](#) for phonebanking tip sheet!
- Some resources to find out if an action is planned near you:
  - Indivisible: <http://act.indivisible.org/event/local-actions/search/>
- If not, plan your own visit.
- Text everyone you know right now to take action.
- Social media images available at [Tax Bill Resource Center](#)

# Sample Script for Calls

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*“Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_]. I’m a person [living with/concerned about] healthcare. The tax bill would repeal the individual mandate and increase pressure to gut essential safety net programs like Ryan White, Medicare, and Medicaid in future budgets. I demand that you VOTE NO on the tax bill!”*



# Talking Points

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- Both the House and Senate tax bills will hurt middle and low income communities and deepen income inequality while benefiting the wealthiest individuals and corporations
- Giving massive tax cuts to the rich will trigger cuts to vital healthcare and safety net programs that people living with HIV rely on, including Medicare, Medicaid, Ryan White HOPWA and SNAP (food stamps)
- The Senate bill repeals the individual mandate which could cause 13 million people to lose access to care.

# Some suggested slogans for signs

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#Medicaid NOT Millionaires

#GOPTaxScam is #ClassWarfare

#GOPTaxScam will cost billions in Medicare; Medicaid

Hands off Medicaid, Ryan White, Medicare!

#GOPTaxScam will kill people with #HIV

# Resources

- AIDS Foundation of Chicago action center: <http://p2a.co/skSs2Ts> to call, email, post on social media
- National Call-in number: **202.335.5529**
- HIV Tax Bill Resource Center: [bit.ly/HIVTaxBill](http://bit.ly/HIVTaxBill)
  - Has background info and analysis; social media images for posting; phone bank organizing info, etc
- Join the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities webinar tomorrow at 11am Pacific/ 2pm Eastern: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3034088430311794691>

## HIV Tax Bill Resource Center

### HIV COMMUNITY EMERGENCY ON TAX BILL

December 4, 2017

This World AIDS Day, the Senate voted to approve a massive tax plan that will decimate the social safety net. The House previously passed their version of the plan. What's next? The two bills are different. They now head to conference committee, to work out the differences. Both chambers of Congress will have to vote on the conference bill. A final bill is expected to be ready by the end of this week, for a vote next week. Make no mistake, both versions of this bill are a declaration of class warfare and a direct [attack on health care](#). [Click here to take action now.](#)



Both the House and Senate versions of the bill would **cut billions in funding** for programs that benefit people who are working and middle-class, living in high-tax rate states, have pre-existing conditions, and who use safety net programs, like Medicaid and SNAP (food stamps). Republicans pushed these cuts to fund tax breaks for corporations and the ultra-wealthy.

### What's at Stake?

1. **Health care.** As part of the Republican administration's attempt to dismantle affordable health care coverage, the Senate tax bill eliminates the individual mandate of the ACA. The mandate requires that people have health insurance coverage or face a penalty. Without it, millions of people will drop out from the insurance market, destabilizing it and driving up the price of premiums for everyone else including people with pre-existing conditions. **An estimated 13 million people would lose coverage by 2027 under this bill.**
2. **Everything else we depend on!** The House tax bill would cut **\$25 billion from Medicare in 2018**, with an additional **\$5.8 trillion in cuts** over the next ten years to **Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security.**

### What Do We Need to Do?

[bit.ly/HIVTaxBill](http://bit.ly/HIVTaxBill)

A woman is shown from the chest up, holding a telephone receiver to her ear with her left hand. Her right arm is raised, with her fist clenched. She has a determined expression. The background is a solid red color.

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**TO RESIST**

# Thank you

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Email questions, ideas, resources to [info@pwn-usa.org](mailto:info@pwn-usa.org)

[www.pwn-usa.org](http://www.pwn-usa.org)