

# Joe Mitchell (IA-02) Research Report

## Significant Findings

### **Mitchell Supported The One Big Beautiful Bill, Which Was Projected To Kick More Than 25,000 People Off Their Health Insurance In IA-02, Threaten Food Assistance For More Than 25,000 Households In The District, And Gave Billions In Tax Breaks To The Ultra-Wealthy**

- ✓ 2026: Mitchell praised Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill, calling it "important" and its tax reforms "historic."
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill enacted the largest cuts to Medicaid in history, slashing millions in local hospital revenue, and was projected to kick more than 25,000 people in IA-02 off their health insurance.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill let ACA tax credits expire, driving up health care costs for nearly 35,000 individuals in IA-02 on marketplace plans.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill enacted the largest SNAP cuts in history, threatening food assistance for more than 25,000 households in IA-02.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill undercut the Medicare program's ability to negotiate drug prices, an estimated \$8.8 billion benefit for pharmaceutical companies at the expense of seniors.
- ✓ Mitchell supported the One Big Beautiful Bill, which gave billions in tax breaks to the ultra-wealthy at the expense of working families and in the Iowa State Legislature he voted twice to cut taxes for the state's wealthiest individuals.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill would add \$3.4 trillion to the national debt.
- ✓ As Mitchell dismissed financial concerns for rural hospitals the One Big Beautiful Bill cut crucial health and nutrition resources for rural americans, led a health care group to close a clinic and lay off workers in IA-02, and threatened the closure of three rural hospitals in the state.

### **Mitchell Praised Reckless Republican Tariffs, Saying They Have "Actually Been A Good Thing" Even Though They Hit Iowa Farmers Hard, Caused The State To Lose Thousands Of Jobs, And Increased Costs For Iowa's Working Families**

- ✓ 2026: Mitchell praised Republican tariffs, saying they have "actually been a good thing."
- ✓ Republican tariff policies sold out Iowa farmers who endured major financial losses as American soybean and beef markets faced extreme volatility.
- ✓ Iowa's manufacturing industry suffered immensely under reckless Republican tariffs, forcing businesses to carry out mass layoffs.
- ✓ Mitchell claimed the cost of housing, groceries, and utilities had gone down despite experts identifying that costs for nearly everything were going up.

### **Mitchell Was An Aspiring Career Politician Who Ran For State House When He Was Still In College, Whose Parents Bankrolled His Campaign And Gave Him Jobs, And Who Only Passed A Single Resolution During Four Years In The State Legislature**

- ✓ Mitchell ran for office while in college and had just one job outside of politics, working for his parents' multi-million dollar medical device company.
- ✓ Mitchell's parents contributed more than \$33,000 to his Iowa House campaigns while he himself contributed \$988.
- ✓ 2019-2023: Mitchell sponsored 48 bills during his time in the Iowa State Legislature, and only one was adopted—a simple resolution approved in one chamber of the legislature.
- ✓ Mitchell claimed he “fired the [...] CEO of Freddie Mac and Chairman of Fannie Mae” at the Federal Housing Finance Agency where he held a chief of staff position.

**Mitchell Appeared To Take An Illegal Homestead Credit For One Property While Living In Another, Neither Of Which Were Located In Iowa's 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District, And Moved To The District Less Than A Week Before Launching His Campaign**

- ✓ Mitchell did not live in or near Iowa's 2<sup>nd</sup> congressional district until less than a week before launching his campaign.
- ✓ Mitchell primarily resided in Des Moines while appearing to illegally receive a homestead credit on a property he owned in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, both of which were not in IA-02.

**Mitchell Was An Anti-Abortion Extremist Who Voted To Amend Iowa's Constitution To State That Iowa Did Not Recognize Any Right To Abortion, Voted To Deny Funding For Organizations Offering Abortion Care, And Supported Legislation That Forced The Closure Of A Cedar Rapids Planned Parenthood Clinic**

- ✓ 2022: Mitchell voted for a state budget providing grant money to nonprofits counseling against abortion.
- ✓ 2021: Mitchell voted to amend Iowa's state constitution to state that Iowa did not recognize any right to abortion.
- ✓ 2020: Mitchell voted to restrict patients from receiving abortions during their initial appointments and require a 24-hour waiting period.
- ✓ 2019: Mitchell voted to prohibit Planned Parenthood from receiving grant funding.
- ✓ Mitchell supported the One Big Beautiful Bill, which restricted abortion and reproductive health care services for Iowans and sought to defund Planned Parenthood.

**Mitchell Consulted Hospital CEOs On Legislation, Opposed A \$50 Cap On Insulin Co-Pays, And Downplayed Iowa's Disastrous Privatization Of Medicaid That Led To Iowans Being Denied Critical Health Care And Facing Delayed Reimbursements**

- ✓ 2020: Mitchell voted against considering an amendment that proposed capping insulin cost-sharing at \$50.
- ✓ Mitchell downplayed the failures of Iowa's privatization of Medicaid saying there were some “bumps in the road”; a year later, private Medicaid firms serving Iowans were investigated by the federal government for unfairly denying services.
- ✓ Mitchell suggested Medicaid cuts to supplement education funding, asking his fellow legislators “where do you want the money to come from?”

- ✓ 2020: Mitchell voted to make it more difficult for Iowans suffering from asbestos or silica-related health issues to seek damages for exposure.
- ✓ Mitchell supported a bill limiting non-economic damages for medical malpractice cases because of concerns hospital CEOs had voiced to him.
- ✓ 2020: Mitchell's Iowa house campaign committee took money from pharmaceutical and health insurance giants Pfizer and Anthem.

**Mitchell Supported Governor Reynolds' "School Choice" Plan To Fund Students' Private School Enrollment Using Public Dollars While Taking Money From Public Schools And Voted To Allow Charter Schools To Be Established Without Approval From Local School Boards**

- ✓ 2021: Mitchell voted for a bill removing restrictions on open enrollment which cost one school district thousands of dollars after more than 150 students left.
- ✓ 2021: Mitchell voted for a bill undermining local school boards' authority, allowing charter schools to seek approval from the state and operate independently.
- ✓ 2022: Mitchell defended Governor Reynolds' "school choice" bill that would give 70% of students per pupil funding to private schools, saying it would keep schools accountable and later praised himself for helping to pass it.
- ✓ 2022: Mitchell voted for a \$16.4 million per year program requiring school districts to publish information on their curricula and allow parents to opt their children out from certain learning.

**Mitchell Was Bad For Iowa Workers And Families, Voting To Reduce Workers' Protections, And Cut Funding For Workforce Development**

- ✓ 2022: Mitchell voted for an economic development budget that cut \$2.7 million in funding for economic development and workforce-related departments, including Iowa workforce development.
- ✓ 2019: Mitchell voted to disqualify certain accidents from workers' compensation.

**Mitchell Was Too Extreme For Iowa, Supporting Legislation That Could Enact "Potentially Deep Cuts" To Social Security And Medicare And Founded An Organization That Merged With An Extreme Right-Wing Group**

- ✓ 2026: Mitchell supported a balanced budget amendment, which could subject Social Security and Medicare to "potentially deep cuts," putting benefits at risk for more than 150,000 people in Iowa's 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District.
- ✓ Mitchell founded an organization to recruit young conservatives to run for office, then celebrated its merger with ALEC Action, the advocacy arm of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), a "bill mill" for pushing extreme right-wing model legislation.
- ✓ ALEC Action supported repealing the ACA and Medicaid expansion and encouraged state legislators to oppose capping prescription drug prices.
- ✓ ALEC celebrated the Dobbs decision for returning abortion "to the people" and partnered with Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America to train legislators on anti-abortion talking points.

### **In The Legislature, Mitchell Voted To Cut Millions In Funding For Iowa Agriculture While Defending Operations That Hurt Small Iowa Farmers And Contributed To Iowa's Skyrocketing Cancer Rates**

- ✓ 2022: Mitchell voted for a state budget that cut \$6.9 million in funding for Iowa agriculture & natural resources.
- ✓ 2022: Mitchell opposed a moratorium on CAFO's, large animal feeding operations that contributed to Iowa's skyrocketing cancer rates and destroyed small family farms in the state.
  - ✓ CAFO's polluted Iowan's water, contributing to skyrocketing cancer rates across the state.
  - ✓ CAFO's contributed to the collapse of small family farms in Iowa.

### **Mitchell Supported The One Big Beautiful Bill, Which Was Projected To Kick More Than 25,000 People Off Their Health Insurance In IA-02, Threaten Food Assistance For More Than 25,000 Households In The District, And Gave Billions In Tax Breaks To The Ultra-Wealthy**

#### **2026: Mitchell Praised Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill, Calling It "Important" And Its Tax Reforms "Historic"**

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#### **2026: Mitchell Praised The One Big Beautiful Bill, Calling It "Important" And Said Its Tax Reforms Were "Historic"**

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**April 2026: Mitchell Said The Big Beautiful Bill Was "Important."** MITCHELL: "This is where you the big, beautiful bill is so important because you've seen tax cuts go to working class people. And so you had no tax on tips, no tax on overtime, no tax on Social Security. So you had, you know, tax cuts that, you know, uh, you know, by, you know, the Democrats definition. Was it for, you know, just business owners and wealthy people is for working class people. And so I think that's important because that's who we need to be helping out. As you know, your everyday person here in Cedar Falls or elsewhere around the district. And that's what we're focused on and that's the policies that we're going to champion in Congress." [KXEL, YouTube, 9:22, [4/28/26](#)] (AUDIO)

- **January 2026: Mitchell: "We've Got To Talk About The Big Beautiful Bill."** MITCHELL: "Again, the Democrats want to talk about this affordability crisis, but they caused it! And we have to remind voters of that, you know, going into the midterms, because that's how we win. We've got to talk about the Big Beautiful Bill, we've got to talk about everything the president's done to help bring down costs, which he's absolutely done." [Doug Wagner Show, 04:00, [1/27/26](#)] (AUDIO)

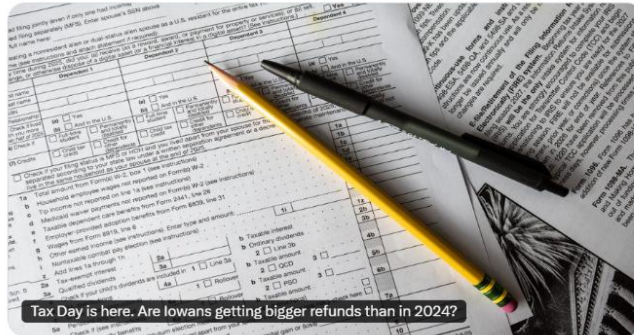
**February 2026: Mitchell Praised The One Big Beautiful Bill's Tax Reforms.** MITCHELL: "And remember, for this year, the tax cuts just set in for 2026 the tax cuts just set in from the big, beautiful bill. And so you have no taxes on overtime, you have no taxes on Social Security, you know, no taxes on tips, of course. And so you have more people taking home their hard earned income." [John Fredericks Show, 06:22, [2/13/26](#)] (VIDEO)

**April 2026: Mitchell Praised The One Big Beautiful Bill's Tax Reforms As "Historic."** "This Tax Day, Iowans are getting back more of their hard-earned \$\$\$\$. The reason is clear: HISTORIC tax cuts in President Trump's working families tax cuts! Even the Des Moines Register can't deny it. This November, vote to KEEP your hard-earned money!" [Joe Mitchell, Twitter, [4/15/26](#)]

 Joe Mitchell   
@joemitchelliowa

 ...

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From desmoinesregister.com

[Joe Mitchell, Twitter, [4/15/26](#)]

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## **Mitchell Was Named As Part Of The “MAGA Majority,” The NRCC Candidate List For Individuals Aligned With Trump’s Agenda, Including His Agenda On Costs**

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**March 2026: Mitchell Was Added To The “MAGA Majority,” An NRCC List Of Candidates Aimed At Boosting Candidates “Who Align With President Donald Trump’s Agenda.”** “The National Republican Congressional Committee on Tuesday announced that Joe Mitchell has been selected as one of nine candidates in its initial ‘MAGA Majority’ slate for the 2026 election cycle. [...] The MAGA Majority is an NRCC initiative aimed at boosting a new generation of ‘America First’ candidates as Republicans look to expand their U.S. House majority in 2026. The program spotlights contenders in key battleground districts who align with President Donald Trump’s agenda, including border security, lowering costs, energy production and prioritizing American workers.” [Cedar Rapids Gazette, [3/17/26](#)]

- **The Agenda Included Trump’s Agenda On Costs.** “The National Republican Congressional Committee on Tuesday announced that Joe Mitchell has been selected as one of nine candidates in its initial ‘MAGA Majority’ slate for the 2026 election cycle. [...] The MAGA Majority is an NRCC initiative aimed at boosting a new generation of ‘America First’ candidates as Republicans look to expand their U.S. House majority in 2026. The program spotlights contenders in key battleground districts who align with President Donald Trump’s agenda, including border security, lowering costs, energy production and prioritizing American workers.” [Cedar Rapids Gazette, [3/17/26](#)]

## **The One Big Beautiful Bill Enacted The Largest Cuts To Medicaid In History, Slashing Millions In Local Hospital Revenue, And Was Projected To Kick More Than 25,000 People In IA-02 Off Their Health Insurance**

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## **The One Big Beautiful Bill Made The Largest Cuts To Medicaid In The Program’s History**

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**The Hill: Republicans Passed “The Largest Cuts To Medicaid Since The Program Began In The 1960s.”** “Senate Republicans on Tuesday passed the largest cuts to Medicaid since the program began in the 1960s, a move that would erode the social safety net and cause a spike in the number of uninsured Americans over the next decade. The tax and spending bill is projected to cost more than \$3 trillion during that time, but it would be partially paid for with about \$1 trillion in cuts to Medicaid. Almost 12 million lower-income Americans would lose their health insurance by 2034, according to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO).” [The Hill, [7/1/25](#)]

- **The Hill: The Republicans’ Reconciliation Bill Made About \$1 Trillion In Cuts To Medicaid.** “Senate Republicans on Tuesday passed the largest cuts to Medicaid since the program began in the 1960s, a move that would erode the social safety net and cause a spike in the number of uninsured Americans over the next decade. The tax and spending bill is projected to cost more than \$3 trillion during that time, but it would be partially paid for with about \$1 trillion in cuts to Medicaid. Almost 12 million lower-income Americans would lose their health insurance by 2034, according to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO).” [The Hill, [7/1/25](#)]

**The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Take Health Insurance Away From More Than 14 Million People**

**KFF: “CBO Estimates Show That The Number Of Uninsured People Will Increase By More Than 14 Million In 2034.”** [KFF, [8/20/25](#)]

**Rolling Stone Headline: “Congress Officially Passes Trump’s Bill To Kick Millions Off Medicaid.”** [Rolling Stone, [7/3/25](#)]

**The One Big Beautiful Bill Was Estimated To Kick More Than 25,000 People In IA-02 Off Their Health Insurance**

**September 2025: The Joint Economic Committee Minority Estimated More Than 25,000 People In Iowa’s 2nd Congressional District Would Lose Health Insurance By 2034 Due To Congressional Republicans’ Cuts To Medicaid And The ACA.** “According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO)’s most recent analysis, President Trump and Congressional Republicans’ cuts to Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act (ACA) would result in 16 million people losing their health insurance by 2034. Using CBO’s analysis released June 4 and other research, the Joint Economic Committee – Minority calculated new estimates of the number of people who would lose health insurance.” [Joint Economic Committee Minority, Press Release, [September 2025](#)]

<b>IA-02: Health Insurance Losses From Cuts To Medicaid And The Affordable Care Act Under The One Big Beautiful Bill</b>		
<b>Est. Number of People Losing Affordable Care Act Coverage</b>	<b>Est. Number of People Losing Medicaid Coverage</b>	<b>Est. Total Number of People Losing Insurance</b>
10,400	14,700	25,100

[Joint Economic Committee Minority, Press Release, [September 2025](#)]

**The One Big Beautiful Bill Was Projected To Cut More Than \$60 Million In Revenue To Hospitals In IA-02**

**Under The One Big Beautiful Bill, Hospitals In IA-02 Were Projected To Lose More Than \$60 Million As A Result Of Medicaid Cuts.** [Third Way, GOP Medicaid Cuts Will Decimate Hospitals Nationwide, [7/8/25](#)]

<b>Projected Cuts To IA-02 Hospital Revenue From Medicaid Cuts In The One Big Beautiful Bill</b>		
<b>Hospital</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Projected Cut To Hospital Revenue</b>
St. Lukes Methodist Hospital	Cedar Rapids	\$10,688,202
Mercyone North Iowa Medical Center	Mason City	\$8,529,604
Mercy Medical Center	Cedar Rapids	\$8,045,068
Mercyone Waterloo Medical Center	Waterloo	\$7,583,464
Allen Memorial Hospital	Waterloo	\$6,509,328
The Finley Hospital	Dubuque	\$2,626,661
Mercyone Dubuque Medical Center	Dubuque	\$2,126,960
Grinnell Regional Medical Center	Grinnell	\$1,615,805
Winneshiek Medical Center	Decorah	\$1,484,147
Waverly Health Center	Waverly	\$1,056,301

Virginia Gay Hospital	Vinton	\$978,425
Floyd County Hospital	Charles City	\$960,675
Regional Health Services Of Howard C	Cresco	\$951,778
Palmer Lutheran Health Center	West Union	\$900,871
Hansen Family Hospital	Iowa Falls	\$886,221
Peoples Memorial Hospital	Independence	\$879,069
Clarke County Public Hospital	Osceola	\$863,740
Mercyone Cedar Falls Medical Center	Cedar Falls	\$618,433
Grundy County Mem. Hospital	Grundy Center	\$586,142
Mercyone Oelwein Medical Center	Oelwein	\$525,858
Guttenberg Municipal Hospital	Guttenberg	\$438,358
Veterans Memorial Hospital	Waukon	\$406,301
Mercy Medical Center - New Hampton	New Hampton	\$305,331
Mercyone Elkader Medical Center	Elkader	\$200,803
Community Memorial Hospital	Sumner	\$168,502
Mercyone Dyersville Medical Center	Dyersville	\$65,954
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$60,002,001</b>

[Third Way, GOP Medicaid Cuts Will Decimate Hospitals Nationwide, [7/8/25](#)]

**The One Big Beautiful Bill Let ACA Tax Credits Expire, Driving Up Health Care Costs For Nearly 35,000 Individuals In IA-02 On Marketplace Plans**

**The One Big Beautiful Bill Made Health Care More Expensive For Nearly 35,000 IA-02 Residents That Got Coverage From ACA Marketplace Plans; Premiums Were Expected To Increase By An Average Of \$501 For Iowa Families**

**2025: More Than 136,000 Individuals In Iowa Were Enrolled In ACA Marketplace Plans.** [KFF, [4/2/25](#)]

Number Of Iowa Residents Enrolled In ACA Marketplace Plans In 2025	
State	ACA Marketplace Enrollees
Iowa	136,833

[KFF, [4/2/25](#)]

**2025: Nearly 35,000 Individuals In IA-02 Were Enrolled In ACA Marketplace Plans.** [KFF, [10/3/25](#)]

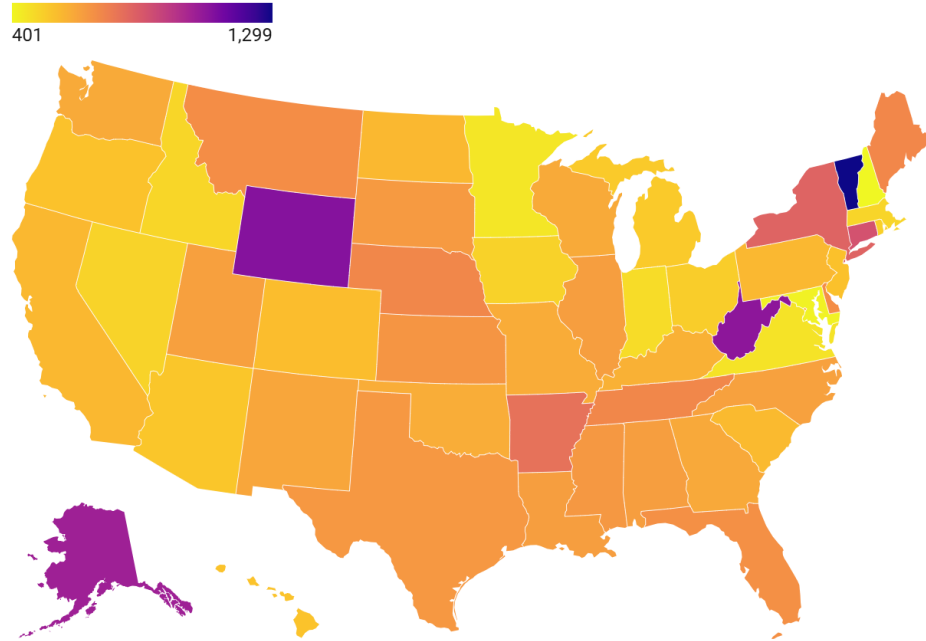
Number Of IA-02 Residents Enrolled In ACA Marketplace Plans In 2025	
Congressional District	ACA Marketplace Enrollees
IA-02	34,726

[KFF, [10/3/25](#)]

**December 2025: Daily Iowan/KFF: ACA Premiums Were Projected To Increase By An Average Of \$501 A Year For Iowa Families.** [Daily Iowan, [12/16/25](#)]

## Average ACA Plan annual Premium Increase in 2026

Premiums are expected to increase by an average of \$501 a year for Iowa families, with the U.S. average at \$625.



Map: Liam Halawith/The Daily Iowan • Source: [KFF](#) • [Get the data](#) • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

[Daily Iowan, [12/16/25](#)]

**2025: A 60-Year-Old Couple Making \$85,000 In IA-02 Would See A 242% Increase In Their Average Out-Of-Pocket Monthly Premium Payments If The ACA Tax Credits Expired.** [KFF, [10/9/25](#)]

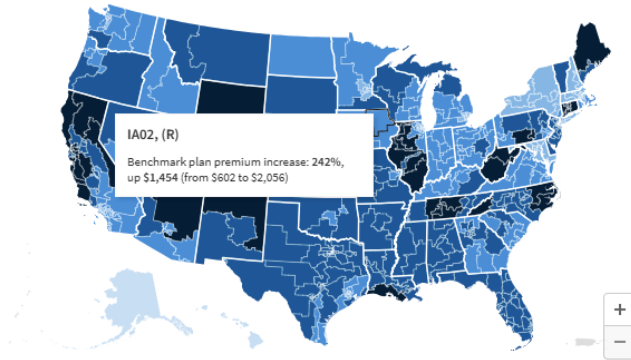
Figure 1

### Premium Payments for Subsidized Enrollees Will Increase Nationwide if Enhanced ACA Subsidies Expire

Percent Increase in Average Monthly Premium Payments for Benchmark Silver Plan Without Enhanced Subsidies, 60-Year Old Couple Making \$85,000, 2026

40-Year-Old, \$32,000    60-Year Old Couple, \$85,000

< 100%    100%–200%    200%–300%    300%–400%    ≥ 400%



Note: Premiums reflect the state median increase from rate filings applied to 2025 amounts and weighted by plan selections. Premiums do not reflect state-provided subsidies. Hawaii and Alaska have different federal poverty levels; the premium increase for an Alaskan 60-year-old couple making 401% of poverty would be substantially higher.

Source: KFF analysis of [Census data](#), [CMS data](#), [Missouri Census Data Center Geocorr 2022 tool](#), plan selection data from state regulators and [2025 Open Enrollment Period Public Use Files](#), and premium data from [Healthcare.gov](#), state regulators, or insurer filings • [Get the data](#) • [Download PNG](#)

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[KFF, [10/9/25](#)]

**KFF Health System Tracker: Insurers That Participated In The ACA Marketplaces Raised Premiums On Average By 20% In 2026.** “For 2026, across 312 insurers participating in the ACA Marketplaces from the 50 states and the District of Columbia, this analysis shows a median proposed premium increase of 18%, which is about 11 percentage points higher than last year. This is the largest rate change insurers have requested since 2018, the last time that policy uncertainty contributed to sharp premium increases. On average, ACA Marketplace insurers are raising premiums by about 20% in 2026. Based on a more detailed analysis of available documents from insurers in 19 states and the District of Columbia, like in prior years, growth in health care prices stood out as a key factor driving costs in 2026. Insurers cite increasing cost and utilization of high-priced drugs as well as general market factors, such as increasing labor costs and inflation, as contributing to premium increases.” [KFF Health System Tracker, [8/6/25](#)]

**The One Big Beautiful Bill Did Not Extend Enhanced Premium Tax Credits For ACA Marketplace Plans.** “The OBBBA did not extend enhanced premium tax credits for ACA marketplace plans. As a result, when open enrollment begins on November 1, 2025, 20 million marketplace enrollees will see their premium costs spike.” [Center for American Progress, [7/29/25](#)]

- **The Majority Of Insurers Took Into Account The Potential Expiration Of Enhanced Premium Tax Credits For Their Rate Increases.** “In addition to rising healthcare costs, the majority of insurers are also taking into account the potential expiration of enhanced premium tax credits in their premium rate increases for the next year. The expiration of enhanced tax credits will lead to out-of-pocket premiums for ACA marketplace enrollees increasing by an average of more than 75%, with insurers expecting healthier enrollees to drop coverage. That, in turn, increases underlying premiums. Other federal policy changes, like the implementation of tariffs and the ACA Marketplace Integrity and Affordability rule were also discussed, though to a lesser extent.” [KFF Health System Tracker, [8/6/25](#)]

- **The Majority Of Insurers Assumed Enhanced Tax Credits Would Expire At The End Of 2025, Which Caused Them To Raise Their Rates By An Average Of 4%.** “Uncertainty over federal policy changes has forced insurers to make some assumptions when developing their rates for 2026. Commonly mentioned by insurers is the impact of the expiration of enhanced premium tax credits, which are scheduled to sunset at the end of 2025, unless extended by Congress. The majority of insurers have assumed that enhanced tax credits will expire at the end of this year, driving rates an average of 4 percentage points higher than they otherwise would be. These increased rates are due to insurers anticipating that some healthier members will leave the ACA Marketplaces when their subsidies decrease, creating an enrollee base that is less healthy and more expensive on average.” [KFF Health System Tracker, [8/6/25](#)]
- **The Expiration Of Enhanced Tax Credits Would Lead To Out-Of-Pocket Premiums For ACA Marketplace Enrollees Increasing By An Average Of Over 75%.** “In addition to rising healthcare costs, the majority of insurers are also taking into account the potential expiration of enhanced premium tax credits in their premium rate increases for the next year. The expiration of enhanced tax credits will lead to out-of-pocket premiums for ACA marketplace enrollees increasing by an average of more than 75%, with insurers expecting healthier enrollees to drop coverage. That, in turn, increases underlying premiums. Other federal policy changes, like the implementation of tariffs and the ACA Marketplace Integrity and Affordability rule were also discussed, though to a lesser extent.” [KFF Health System Tracker, [8/6/25](#)]

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**The One Big Beautiful Bill Enacted The Largest SNAP Cuts In History, Threatening Food Assistance For More Than 25,000 Households In IA-02**

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**Center For American Progress: The One Big Beautiful Bill Enacted The Largest SNAP Cut In The Program’s History**

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**Center For American Progress: “The Senate Has Released Its Version Of The One Big Beautiful Bill Act, Which Would Enact The Largest Cut To The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) In The Program’s History According To Center For American Progress Estimates.”** “The Senate has released its version of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, which would enact the largest cut to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in the program’s history according to Center for American Progress estimates. Despite the proposal cutting less than the House-passed version’s nearly \$300 billion in cuts, it is even more extreme than the House version in some key aspects. Moreover, this legislation comes at a time when food insecurity is rising across all 50 states, reaching levels not seen since 2014.” [Center for American Progress, [6/26/25](#)]

- **Axios: “The Bill Would Reduce Nutrition Funding, Which Includes SNAP, By Around \$186 Billion Between 2025 And 2034.”** “By the numbers: The bill would reduce nutrition funding, which includes SNAP, by around \$186 billion between 2025 and 2034. While analyst's projections have fluctuated as the legislation's provisions are tweaked, analysts have indicated millions of people could be cut from SNAP under the work requirement provisions.” [Axios, [7/3/25](#)]
- **HEADLINE: “House Reconciliation Bill Proposes Deepest SNAP Cut In History, Would Take Food Assistance Away From Millions of Low-Income Families.”** [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [5/28/25](#)]

**The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Cut SNAP By Around \$186 Billion.** President Trump's massive tax and spending bill, which is advancing through the House after surviving its Republican push through the Senate, would slash food benefits for thousands. The big picture: It would mark a historic cut to the social safety net that Republicans claim weeds out waste, fraud and abuse — but experts say the restructuring of assistance programs could leave more people hungry and uninsured. [...] By the numbers: The bill would reduce nutrition funding, which includes SNAP, by around \$186 billion between 2025 and 2034. [Axios, [7/3/25](#)]

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**The One Big Beautiful Bill Risked Food Assistance For More Than 25,000 Households In IA-02**

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**According To The U.S. Department Of Agriculture, 25,709 Households Participated In Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) In IA-02.** [USDA, accessed [4/30/26](#)]

SNAP provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budgets of low-income families so they can purchase healthy food.

In IA District 2, SNAP serves...

**25,709**

HOUSEHOLDS

[USDA, accessed [4/30/26](#)]

**The One Big Beautiful Bill Undercut The Medicare Program's Ability To Negotiate Drug Prices, An Estimated \$8.8 Billion Benefit For Pharmaceutical Companies At The Expense Of Seniors**

**The Congressional Budget Office Estimated The One Big Beautiful Bill's Delay And Exemption Of Certain Pharmaceutical Drugs From The Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program Would Cost \$8.8 Billion Over 10 Years.** "You have asked the Congressional Budget Office to provide a revised estimate of the budgetary effects of section 71203 of the 2025 reconciliation act. That section delays or exempts certain drugs from selection for the Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program, which directed the Department of Health and Human Services to negotiate with pharmaceutical manufacturers for the prices that Medicare will pay for certain drugs covered under Part B and Part D of the program. CBO's July 2025 estimate did not include the effects of the policy on price negotiation for several orphan drugs, including Darzalex (daratumumab) Keytruda (pembrolizumab), and Opdivo (nivolumab). [...] After accounting for the effect of the policy on those additional drugs, CBO now estimates the cost of section 71203 at \$8.8 billion for the 2025–2034 period, \$3.9 billion more than the original estimate." [Congressional Budget Office, Revised Estimate of Changes Under the 2025 Reconciliation Act for Exemptions From Medicare Price Negotiations for Orphan Drugs, [10/20/25](#)]

- **Congressional Budget Office: The Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program "Directed The Department Of Health And Human Services To Negotiate With Pharmaceutical Manufacturers For The Prices That Medicare Will Pay For Certain Drugs."** "You have asked the Congressional Budget Office to provide a revised estimate of the budgetary effects of section 71203 of the 2025 reconciliation act. That section delays or exempts certain drugs from selection for the Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program, which directed the Department of Health and Human Services to negotiate with pharmaceutical manufacturers for the prices that Medicare will pay for certain drugs covered under Part B and Part D of the program." [Congressional Budget Office, Revised Estimate of Changes Under the 2025 Reconciliation Act for Exemptions From Medicare Price Negotiations for Orphan Drugs, [10/20/25](#)]

**Office Of Congressman Frank Pallone Jr: "A New Report From The Congressional Budget Office Found A Provision Hidden Away In Trump's Signature Bill Will Give An Enormous \$8.8 Billion Sweetheart Deal To Big Pharma Companies At The Expense Of Seniors."** "The details of Trump's so-called 'Big Beautiful Bill' keep getting uglier. A new report from the Congressional Budget Office found a provision hidden away in Trump's signature bill will give an enormous \$8.8 billion sweetheart deal to Big Pharma companies at the expense of seniors. While Republicans were drafting the largest health care cut in history, they quietly tucked in language to weaken Medicare's ability to negotiate lower drug prices for seniors. This is a trojan horse policy that will undermine efforts to lower prescription drug prices for years to come. According to CBO, the provision will give a windfall to pharmaceutical companies by preventing Medicare from negotiating prices for certain drugs, including cancer treatments like Keytruda, Opdivo, and Darzalex that seniors rely on." [Office Of Congressman Frank Pallone Jr, Press Release, [10/20/25](#)]

**Mitchell Supported The One Big Beautiful Bill, Which Gave Billions In Tax Breaks To The Ultra-Wealthy At The Expense Of Working Families And In The Iowa State Legislature He Voted Twice To Cut Taxes For The State's Wealthiest Individuals**

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**2022: Mitchell Voted To Cut Taxes For Iowa’s Wealthiest Individuals And Said The State Should Not “Penalize People For Being Successful”**

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***2022: Mitchell Voted For H.F. 2317, A Bill Eliminating Iowa’s Four Tax Brackets To Phase In A Flat Tax***

**February 2022: Mitchell Voted For H.F. 2317.** In February 2022, Mitchell voted for H.F. 2317: “A bill for an act relating to state revenue and finance by modifying the individual income tax, making appropriations, and including effective date and applicability provisions.” The bill passed the House (61-34) and was signed into law by Governor Reynolds in March 2022. [Iowa Legislature, [H.F. 2317](#), [2/16/22](#)]

- **H.F. 2317 Created A Single Income Tax Bracket That Would Reduce Taxes Over Time To Reach A Flat 3.9% Rate By 2026.** “House File 2317 is the result of negotiations among Republicans in the House and Senate, as well as the governor’s office. It would create a single income tax bracket for all Iowans, lower the corporate tax rate, eliminate taxes on retirement income and reduce some corporate tax exemptions. [...] The most significant change is an income tax cut: Iowans, regardless of income, would pay the same 3.9% rate. [...] Under current law, Iowa would have four tax brackets in 2023, with the lowest earners paying 4.4%. The bill still divides Iowa into four tax brackets for 2023, the first step in a gradual process to a flat rate in 2026.” [Iowa Capital Dispatch, [2/24/22](#)]
- **One State Senator Who Opposed The Bill Presented Evidence That Iowans Making More Than \$1 Million Annually Would See A Higher Reduction In Their Taxes Than Earners Making \$68,000, The Median Household Income In Iowa.** “Most Democrats were opposed to the tax cut package, arguing the flat income tax rate and corporate cuts would unfairly prioritize the highest-earning Iowans. Sen. Zach Wahls presented data on the median household income in Iowa – earners who make \$68,000. He said those individuals would see their state taxes reduced by about \$563 under the plan. Meanwhile, Iowans who earn more than \$1 million annually would see a much higher reduction.” [Iowa Capital Dispatch, [2/24/22](#)]

***Iowa’s State Budget Was Expected To Suffer A \$1.9 Billion Hit, As The Tax Cuts Disproportionately Benefited The Wealthiest Iowans***

**According To The Nonpartisan Legislative Services Agency (LSA), Under H.F. 2317, Iowa’s State Budget Was Expected To Lose \$1.9 Billion Per Year.** “Iowans would pay a 3.9% income tax under a massive tax bill passed Thursday by the Iowa Legislature, part of what GOP leaders called the ‘largest tax cut in Iowa history.’ ‘This transformative legislation is the greatest act of social justice that we have done here in the six years that I have been here,’ said Rep. Jon Jacobsen, R-Council Bluffs, who delayed a trip to his daughter’s wedding to vote on the bill. House File 2317 is the result of negotiations among Republicans in the House and Senate, as well as the governor’s office. It would create a single income tax bracket for all Iowans, lower the corporate tax rate, eliminate taxes on retirement income and reduce some corporate tax exemptions. The nonpartisan Legislative Services Agency (LSA) estimates the bill would result in a reduction of \$1.9 billion per year in tax revenues going to the state’s general fund. It would mean a \$1.7 billion income tax cut for Iowans and a \$230 million reduction in the corporate tax rate when changes are fully implemented in fiscal year 2028.” [Iowa Capital Dispatch, [2/24/22](#)]

**2024: The Center On Budget And Policy Priorities: “Millionaires In Iowa Will See An Average Tax Cut Of \$23,471, While Households Earning Under \$20,000 Will Receive Just \$24 On Average — A Disparity Of Over 900 Times.”** “The 3.8 percent flat income tax structure benefits Iowa’s wealthiest residents far more than low- and middle-income families, who already pay a greater share of their income in state and local taxes than the wealthy. Recent estimates from the state’s Department of Revenue show that nearly half of the tax benefits go to the top 5 percent of taxpayers. Millionaires in Iowa will see an average tax cut of \$23,471, while households earning under \$20,000 will receive just \$24 on average — a disparity of over 900 times.” [Center On Budget And Policy Priorities, [11/11/24](#)]

**Estimates From The Iowa Department Of Revenue Showed Nearly Half Of The State’s Tax Benefits Were Going To The Top 5% Of Taxpayers.** “The 3.8 percent flat income tax structure benefits Iowa’s wealthiest

residents far more than low- and middle-income families, who already pay a greater share of their income in state and local taxes than the wealthy. Recent estimates from the state's Department of Revenue show that nearly half of the tax benefits go to the top 5 percent of taxpayers. Millionaires in Iowa will see an average tax cut of \$23,471, while households earning under \$20,000 will receive just \$24 on average — a disparity of over 900 times.” [Center On Budget And Policy Priorities, [11/11/24](#)]

**Center On Budget And Policy Priorities: “Iowa’s 2022 Tax Cut Experiment Is Already Showing The Strains On Public Resources, Limiting The State’s Ability To Invest In Critical Needs For Iowa Families And Communities.”** “Iowa’s 2022 tax cut experiment is already showing the strains on public resources, limiting the state’s ability to invest in critical needs for Iowa families and communities. The scale of revenue loss Iowa is already experiencing — an 11 percent reduction over two years — is comparable to Kansas’ disastrous tax cuts a decade ago.” [Center On Budget And Policy Priorities, [11/11/24](#)]

***Mitchell Touted The Passage Of Iowa’s Flat Tax Saying The State Should Not “Penalize People For Being Successful”***

**Mitchell Touted The Passage Of A Bill Eliminating Iowa’s Income Tax Brackets, Saying The State Should Not “Penalize People For Being Successful.”** “During his opening remarks, Mitchell touted the House’s recent passage of a bill to gradually adopt a flat income tax of 4 percent in the next four years. This would eliminate the state’s current tax brackets, of which there are nine ranging from less than 1 percent to 8.53 percent. The bill would also eliminate taxes on retirement income, give tax breaks to retired farmers and people who retire from employee-owned companies. Mitchell said he feels good about being able to ‘give money back to Iowans’ instead of finding new ways to spend the state’s \$1 billion surplus. ‘It’s not for us to go on a spending spree,’ he said. Keosauqua resident Tom O’Donnell asked the legislators why they favored a flat tax. [...] ‘To get more people, we need a competitive tax environment,’ Shipley said. Mitchell echoed Shipley’s comments, saying the state should not ‘penalize people for being successful.’ He also brought up how Iowa’s taxes compare to neighboring states. ‘Illinois has lower taxes than us. That’s crazy,’ Mitchell said.” [Southeast Iowa Union, [2/21/22](#)]

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## **2021: Mitchell Voted To Cut Taxes For The Highest Income Bracket And Phase Out Iowa’s Inheritance Taxes**

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**May 2021: Mitchell Voted For S.F. 619.** In May 2021, Mitchell voted for S.F. 619: “A bill for an act relating to state and local revenue and finance by modifying future tax contingencies, the state inheritance tax, the sales and use tax relating to food banks, the tax on promotional play receipts, the sales and use tax relating to food banks, the tax on promotional play receipts, mental health and disability services funding, school district funding, commercial and industrial property tax replacement payments, providing for housing incentives, providing for other properly related matters, making appropriations, and including effective date, applicability, and retroactive applicability provisions.” The bill passed the House (64-28) and was signed into law by Governor Reynolds in June 2021. [Iowa State Legislature, [S.F. 619](#), [5/18/21](#)]

- **S.F. 619 Reduced The Top Individual Income Tax Rate From 8.53% To 6.5%, Cut The Number Of Tax Brackets From Nine To Four, And Phased Out Iowa’s Inheritance Tax.** “In the final days of the session, the law, Senate File 619, passed the Senate with a 29-15 vote and passed the House 64-28. [...] The law will also ensure income tax cuts passed in a 2018 law take place as scheduled by eliminating a requirement that the state meet revenue growth goals before the cuts can take effect. More: Kim Reynolds wants more tax cuts, and she wants to do that by removing the ‘triggers.’ What does that mean? Iowans will now see the following tax changes go into effect Jan. 1, 2023: The top individual income tax rate will drop from 8.53% to 6.5%. The number of Iowa income tax brackets will fall from nine to four. The ability to deduct individual income taxes paid to the federal government will go away, which could add to some Iowans’ tax bills. The law will also phase out Iowa’s inheritance tax by Jan. 1, 2025.” [Des Moines Register, [6/16/21](#)]

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## **Institute On Taxation And Economic Policy: The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Give The Richest 1% Of Americans \$117 Billion In Net Tax Cuts In 2026**

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**Institute On Taxation And Economic Policy: The House-Passed Reconciliation Bill Would Give The Richest 1% Of Americans \$117 Billion In Net Tax Cuts In 2026.** “The House of Representatives today narrowly passed a massive tax and spending reconciliation bill that now heads to President Trump’s desk. Please see below for a statement from ITEP and our latest updated analysis of how the bill’s tax provisions will affect families at different income levels nationally and in every state. [...] The richest 1 percent of Americans would receive a total of \$117 billion in net tax cuts in 2026. The middle 20 percent of taxpayers on the income scale, a group that has 20 times the number of taxpayers as the richest 1 percent, would receive less than half that much, \$53 billion in net tax cuts that year.” [Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, [7/3/24](#)]

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## **The One Big Beautiful Bill’s Biggest Tax Cuts Benefited The Wealthiest Giving Them Tax Cuts Three Times Greater Than For Working Americans**

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**The One Big Beautiful Bill’s Biggest Tax Cuts Benefited The Wealthiest.** “The One Big Beautiful Bill includes the largest tax cuts in U.S. history. Whether it’s actually ‘beautiful’ is in the eye of the beholder. At every income level taxes should subside. That’s a big selling point from President Donald Trump and fellow Republicans who pushed the law through Congress with no Democratic support. It will benefit everyone. But the biggest cuts go to the wealthiest taxpayers – the ones who pay the lion’s share of taxes. For most families the savings will be miniscule in comparison, in raw dollars and as a share of income. And millions will lose subsidized health insurance and other benefits. Critics see a plan that widens income inequality and, worse, offsets tax cuts for the wealthy with draconian spending cuts that hit lower-income households.” [Cronkite News, [7/16/25](#)]

**The House-Passed Republican Reconciliation Bill Extended The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act Which Skewed In Favor Of The Wealthy By Providing Them Tax Cuts That Were Three Times Greater Than For Working Americans.** “The tax provisions of the House Republican reconciliation bill double down on the failures of the 2017 tax law, which was skewed in favor of the richest people in the country, further eroded the nation’s revenue base, and didn’t produce the promised economic gains for working people.[1] Instead of changing course and prioritizing people with low and moderate incomes as House Republicans’ rhetoric about supporting hard-pressed working families would suggest, the House Republican tax bill only offers more of the same. The bill is heavily skewed to the wealthy: Under the bill, the top 1 percent of people would receive tax cuts three times the size of those for people with incomes in the bottom 60 percent, measured as a share of after-tax income. (See Figure 1.) The top 0.6 percent of people — the 1.2 million people with annual incomes above \$1 million — would receive more total tax cuts than the 127 million people with incomes below \$100,000. [...] The bill extends and expands the 2017 tax law’s increase in the estate tax exemption, boosting the cut in estate taxes for the 1 in 1,000 wealthiest estates to \$6.3 million.[3] Next year a couple could pass on an estate worth up to \$30 million tax free, \$1.7 million more than under a simple extension of the 2017 law.” [CBPP, [5/22/25](#)]

**CBS: “Like Penn Wharton, Other Researchers Have Said The Republican Bill Is Likely To Benefit Wealthy Americans At The Expense Of People Lower Down The Ladder.”** “Like Penn Wharton, other researchers have said the Republican bill is likely to benefit wealthy Americans at the expense of people lower down the ladder. The measure would likely reduce the financial resources available to the lowest-earning 10% of U.S. households by \$1,600 per year, or almost 4% of their annual income, according to a report published earlier this month by the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office. White House officials have previously questioned the CBO’s scoring of the bill. But the highest-earning 10% of households would see a gain of \$12,000 per year in resources, while middle-income households would see a gain of \$500 to \$1,000, the CBO projected. Its analysis is based on the bill’s tax breaks, as well as reductions for federal programs and reductions in state funds for safety net programs such as Medicaid and food stamps. In considering the impact of higher U.S. debt on future generations, the cost would come in the form of lower wages and higher costs, such as more expensive mortgages, Smetters said.” [CBS News, [6/26/25](#)]

**The Hill: “The Republicans’ ‘Big, Beautiful Bill’ Will Make The Poorest Americans Even Poorer, While Padding The Wallets Of The Highest Earners The Most, According To An Analysis Released Monday By**

**Congress's Budget Arm.** "The Republicans' 'big, beautiful bill' will make the poorest Americans even poorer, while padding the wallets of the highest earners the most, according to an analysis released Monday by Congress's budget arm. The assessment, conducted by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) at the request of top Democrats, found that the top 10 percent of earners in the country will see an average boost of \$13,600 per year over the next decade as a direct result of provisions in the law, while the bottom 10 percent will see an average annual decrease of \$1,200. The report challenges the arguments made by President Trump and other Republicans that the massive domestic policy package would benefit workers at all levels of wealth and income. And it's given fuel to the attacks from Democrats that the legislation was, all along, designed to help the wealthiest people at the expense of the working poor." [The Hill, [8/11/25](#)]

- **The Hil Headline: "Budget Office Says GOP's 'Big, Beautiful Bill' Will Make Rich Richer, Poor Poorer."** [Hill, [8/11/25](#)]

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### **The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Add \$3.4 Trillion To The National Debt**

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### **The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Add \$3.4 Trillion To The National Debt Over The Next Decade**

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**The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Add \$3.4 Trillion To The National Debt Over The Next Ten Years.** "President Donald Trump's 'big, beautiful bill,' which he signed into law this month, will add \$3.4 trillion to the U.S. national debt over the next decade, according to a report the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office published Monday." [NBC News, [7/21/25](#)]

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**As Mitchell Dismissed Financial Concerns For Rural Hospitals The One Big Beautiful Bill Cut Crucial Health And Nutrition Resources For Rural Americans, Led A Health Care Group To Close A Clinic And Lay Off Workers In IA-02, And Threatened The Closure Of Three Rural Hospitals In The State**

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### **The Reconciliation Bill's Cuts To Medicaid Would Particularly Impact Rural Communities**

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**NBC Headline: "Rural Communities Brace For Medicaid Cuts In Republicans' Big Bill."** [NBC, [6/25/25](#)]

**The Big Beautiful Bill Act Would Result In 1.8 Million Individuals In Rural Communities Losing Their Medicaid Coverage.** "Medicaid, which covers over 16 million people in rural communities, helps address barriers to health care and sustain rural hospitals. But many in Congress are considering Medicaid cuts that would have a devastating impact on rural hospitals and patients. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R. 1) would result in 1.8 million individuals in rural communities losing their Medicaid coverage by 2034. In addition, select Medicaid provisions in H.R. 1 would result in a \$50.4 billion reduction in federal Medicaid spending on rural hospitals over 10 years." [American Hospital Association, [6/16/25](#)]

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**MercyOne Clinics In IA-02 Announced The Closure Of Its Family Clinic In Traer And Dozens Of Layoffs In Mason City, Citing Revenue Reductions From Cuts To Medicaid**

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*MercyOne Clinics In IA-02 Faced Critical Funding Issues Due To Federal Cuts, Forcing The Closure Of A Clinic In Traer And Another In Mason City To Lay Off Dozens Of Staff*

**November 2025: MercyOne Announced It Would Close Its Family Medicine Branch In Traer, Stating They Were "Reducing Costs And Redistributing Resources."** "Another MercyOne clinic will soon be no more. 'On December 10, we will transition care from MercyOne Traer Family Medicine to MercyOne Reinbeck Family Medicine. This provides patients in Reinbeck, Traer and surrounding communities with a fuller, stronger care team with more sustainable operations for the future,' Todd Mizener, public relations for MercyOne, told the newspaper in an email on Friday, Nov. 21. [...] 'This decision aligns with a larger plan to address the economic realities of the fundamental shift in health care post-pandemic,' Mizener said as part of the Register's reporting. 'MercyOne is

reducing costs and redistributing resources to ensure we continue to fulfill our Mission and focus on providing high-quality patient care.” [Times Republican [12/1/25](#)]

**January 2026: 34 Employees At Mercy One North Iowa Medical Center In Mason City Were Notified They Were Losing Their Jobs Effective March 17.** “According to Iowa WARN, 34 people were notified on January 26 that they losing their jobs at Mercy One North Iowa Medical Center in Mason City. Those layoffs will be effective March 17. This is the third round of MercyOne layoffs in Iowa in the past few weeks.” [ABC, [2/2/26](#)]

**January 2026: Des Moines Register Headline: “MercyOne Des Moines Announces Layoffs, Cites Federal Cuts.”** [Des Moines Register, [1/29/26](#)]

- **Des Moines Register: “MercyOne’s Parent Company Is Facing An Annual Revenue Reduction Of \$1.5 Billion From Recent And Future Government Funding Policy Changes As Well As Reductions To Coverage, Payment And Access To Medicaid And Medicare.”** “The workforce reduction comes as Trinity Health, MercyOne’s parent company, is facing an annual revenue reduction of \$1.5 billion from recent and future government funding policy changes as well as reductions to coverage, payment and access to Medicaid and Medicare being considered by the federal government, according to a statement from MercyOne.” [Des Moines Register, [1/29/26](#)]

***The One Big Beautiful Bill’s Cuts To Medicaid Would Result In A \$50.4 Billion Reduction In Funding For Rural Hospitals***

**Rural Hospitals Would Collectively Lose More Than \$1.8 Billion In Funding, Which Would Be Equivalent To 21,000 Full-Time Hospital Employees’ Salaries.** “Hospitals in rural areas would collectively lose more than \$1.8 billion with a 15% cut to Medicaid. That loss in revenue is roughly equivalent to 21,000 full-time hospital employees’ salaries. Rural hospitals’ margins have been deteriorating for 10 to 15 years, said Michael Topchik, executive director for the Chartis Center for Rural Health, which analyzes and consults on rural hospital finances. Ten years ago, about one-third of rural hospitals were operating in the red. That’s closer to 50% now, he said.” [KFF, [6/12/25](#)]

- **KFF Headline: “‘One Big Beautiful Bill’ Would Batter Rural Hospital Finances, Researchers Say.”** [KFF, [6/12/25](#)]

**The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Result In \$50.4 Billion Reduction In Spending For Rural Hospitals Over The Next Ten Years.** “Medicaid, which covers over 16 million people in rural communities, helps address barriers to health care and sustain rural hospitals. But many in Congress are considering Medicaid cuts that would have a devastating impact on rural hospitals and patients. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R. 1) would result in 1.8 million individuals in rural communities losing their Medicaid coverage by 2034. In addition, select Medicaid provisions in H.R. 1 would result in a \$50.4 billion reduction in federal Medicaid spending on rural hospitals over 10 years.” [American Hospital Association, [6/16/25](#)]

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**The One Big Beautiful Bill Threatened More Than 300 Rural Hospital Closures, Including Three In Iowa**

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**May 2026: Des Moines Register Headline: “Medicaid Cuts Could Close 400 Rural Hospitals. 3 In Iowa Are At Risk.”** [Des Moines Register, [5/28/26](#)]

**May 2026: The One Big Beautiful Bill Put Three Rural Hospitals In Iowa, Ottumwa Regional Health Center, CHI Health Mercy – Council Bluffs, And MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center, At Risk Of Closing.** “When the One Big Beautiful Bill Act was signed, billions in Medicaid spending were cut from the federal budget over the next 10 years, leaving millions of citizens without Medicaid coverage, according to The Public Citizen. Iowa’s U.S. representatives and senators all voted in favor of The Big Beautiful Bill Act. The spending cuts also put 446 hospitals at risk of closing or reducing services, according to the consumer advocacy organization. Among those hospitals, 176 are in rural areas. Among the hospitals the report said were at risk of closing, three are located in Iowa. They are: Ottumwa Regional Health Center CHI Health Mercy – Council Bluffs MercyOne Oelwein

Medical Center ” [Des Moines Register, [5/28/26](#)]

**The Cuts To Medicaid And Other Federal Health Programs In President Trump’s Budget Plan Would “Rapidly Push” More Than 300 Financially Struggling Rural Hospitals Toward A Fiscal Cliff.** “Cuts to Medicaid and other federal health programs proposed in President Donald Trump’s budget plan would rapidly push more than 300 financially struggling rural hospitals toward a fiscal cliff, according to researchers who track the facilities’ finances. The hospitals would be at a disproportionate risk of closure, service reductions, or ending inpatient care, according to a report authored by experts from the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research following a request from Senate Democrats, who released the findings publicly Thursday. Many of those hospitals are in Kentucky, Louisiana, California, and Oklahoma, according to the analysis.” [KFF, [6/12/25](#)]

**2025: Iowa Had Two Rural Hospitals Listed As At-Risk Based On Financial Vulnerability.** “In order to understand in greater detail how rural communities could be impacted by health care cuts contained in the reconciliation package, we requested the attached data from the Sheps Center on the financial vulnerability of rural hospitals and potential impacts on their viability. These hospitals have been identified as at-risk hospitals based on financial data, including: whether the hospital has been unprofitable for the last three years; whether the hospital is at risk of financial distress relative to peer hospitals; and whether the hospital serves a disproportionately high share of Medicaid patients. The findings demonstrate that hundreds of rural hospitals across the country would feel pain from the House-passed reconciliation bill.” [Office of Senator Edward J. Markey, Letter on Rural Hospitals, [6/12/25](#)]

2025: At-Risk Rural Hospitals In Iowa			
Hospital	City	Top Medicaid Provider	Three Consecutive Years Of Negative Margins
MercyOne - Newton Medical Center	Newton	No	Yes
Newton Manning Regional Healthcare Center	Manning	Yes	No

[Office of Senator Edward J. Markey, At-Risk Rural Hospitals List, [6/12/25](#)]

**Rural Hospital Closures Would Lead To Increased Unemployment.** “Rural hospital closures often raise concerns about access to care and the local economy. When a rural hospital closes, patients may have to travel further to obtain services, which could lead some to forgo care altogether. Closures may be especially problematic for people who have difficulty traveling long distances and for people with time-sensitive conditions, such as heart attacks and childbirth. Research suggests that rural hospital closures lead to increased unemployment (including among non-healthcare industries), lower income levels, and slower economic growth.” [KFF, [4/16/25](#)]

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**2026: Mitchell Claimed Financial Pressures On Rural Hospitals Were Not New, Attributing Them To Population Loss In Small Towns Compounded By Policy Changes**

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**April 2026: Cedar Rapids Gazette: Mitchell “Argued Financial Pressures On Rural Hospitals Were Not New.”** “Asked about farmer concerns over tariffs, trade, input costs and fertilizer prices, Mitchell defended Trump’s trade approach and said growers want open markets, not government handouts. He also argued financial pressures on rural health care providers were not new and were driven in part by long-term population loss in small towns that now were being compounded by policy changes. Those challenges are expected to intensify as rural hospitals and clinics face mounting strain from changes to Medicaid, broader federal health care spending cuts and the expiration of pandemic-era enhanced premium tax credits.” [Cedar Rapids Gazette, [4/11/26](#)]

- **Cedar Rapids Gazette: Mitchell “Argued Financial Pressures On Rural Hospitals” Were “Driven In Part By Long-Term Population Loss In Small Towns That Now Were Being Compounded By Policy Changes.”** “Asked about farmer concerns over tariffs, trade, input costs and fertilizer prices, Mitchell defended Trump’s trade approach and said growers want open markets, not government handouts. He also argued financial pressures on rural health care providers were not new and were driven in part by long-term population

loss in small towns that now were being compounded by policy changes. Those challenges are expected to intensify as rural hospitals and clinics face mounting strain from changes to Medicaid, broader federal health care spending cuts and the expiration of pandemic-era enhanced premium tax credits.” [Cedar Rapids Gazette, [4/11/26](#)]

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## **The Reconciliation Bill’s Cuts To SNAP Would Disproportionately Impact Rural Communities**

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**Center For American Progress: “The Senate Has Released Its Version Of The One Big Beautiful Bill Act, Which Would Enact The Largest Cut To The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) In The Program’s History According To Center For American Progress Estimates.”** “The Senate has released its version of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, which would enact the largest cut to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in the program’s history according to Center for American Progress estimates. Despite the proposal cutting less than the House-passed version’s nearly \$300 billion in cuts, it is even more extreme than the House version in some key aspects. Moreover, this legislation comes at a time when food insecurity is rising across all 50 states, reaching levels not seen since 2014.” [Center for American Progress, [6/26/25](#)]

**NC Newline Headline: “GOP Cuts To Food Assistance Would Hit Rural America Especially Hard.”** [NC Newline, [6/5/25](#)]

**Mitchell Praised Reckless Republican Tariffs, Saying They Have “Actually Been A Good Thing” Even Though They Hit Iowa Farmers Hard, Caused The State To Lose Thousands Of Jobs, And Increased Costs For Iowa’s Working Families**

**2026: Mitchell Praised Republican Tariffs, Saying They Have “Actually Been A Good Thing”**

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**Mitchell Said Republican Tariffs Have “Actually Been A Good Thing” And Said He Would Not Reverse Them**

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**VIDEO: March 2026: Mitchell Said Republican Tariffs Have “Actually Been A Good Thing.”** MITCHELL: “And when I talk about the tax code being fair, I mean that, you know, we want to incentivize companies to grow and build jobs and restore jobs here in America, and we want to disincentivize companies from shipping jobs overseas. And so I think what the President has done with tariffs, ultimately, to try to bring jobs back home, has actually been a good thing. I want to reflect that in our tax policy as well, to make sure that we’re heavily incentivizing companies to bring good paying jobs back to America, and not offshoring our jobs like we’ve done for the last 25 years now.” [Family Leader Podcast, 08:08, [3/5/26](#)] (VIDEO)

- **April 2026: Mitchell Defended The Republican Tariff Approach.** “Both Republicans also are trying to position themselves for a general election taking shape around affordability, health care and the condition of rural communities. Asked about farmer concerns over tariffs, trade, input costs and fertilizer prices, Mitchell defended Trump’s trade approach and said growers want open markets, not government handouts.” [Cedar Rapids Gazette, [4/11/26](#)]
- **Mitchell Defended Republican Tariffs By Saying “Growers Want Open Markets, Not Government Handouts.”** “Both Republicans also are trying to position themselves for a general election taking shape around affordability, health care and the condition of rural communities. Asked about farmer concerns over tariffs, trade, input costs and fertilizer prices, Mitchell defended Trump’s trade approach and said growers want open markets, not government handouts.” [Cedar Rapids Gazette, [4/11/26](#)]

**AUDIO: May 2026: Mitchell Called It “Debatable” That The Rising Cost Of Gas And Everyday Goods Were “Largely Attributed To The Tariffs By The Presidential Administration” And Said He Would Not Reverse Them.** HOST: “Whether it’s gas prices or cost of everyday goods, the prices have gone up for both of those things. uh starting with the everyday prices that’s largely attributed to the tariffs by the presidential

administration. Um seeing those price increases – MITCHELL: “Debatable. Debatable. But Yeah.” HOST: “Anyways, seeing seeing that, should we reverse the tariffs or maybe have a different approach? MITCHELL: “No I think you know the American people have been ripped off uh for decades and especially since NAFTA and so um the president came in he reset the table.” [Iowa’s News Now, YouTube, 11:22-11:46, [5/24/26](#)] (AUDIO)

## **Republican Tariff Policies Sold Out Iowa Farmers Who Endured Major Financial Losses As American Soybean And Beef Markets Faced Extreme Volatility**

### **Wholesale Cattle Prices Plummeted And Soybean And Corn Farmers Struggled To Profit In Iowa, As Trump Announced Tariffs And Increased Imports Of Argentinian Beef**

*2025: The United States Committed \$40 Billion To Rescuing Argentina’s Flailing Economy, Days Later Trump Announced He Would Look To Increase Beef Imports From Argentina*

**October 16, 2025: The Trump Administration Announced Plans To Give A \$40 Billion Financial Lifeline To Argentina To Bolster President Javier Milei’s Government And Argentina’s Collapsing Currency.** “The Trump administration is looking to provide an additional \$20 billion in financing for Argentina through a mix of financing from sovereign funds and the private sector. That would come on top of the \$20 billion credit swap line that the U.S. Treasury pledged to Argentine President Javier Milei and his government this month to bolster the South American nation’s collapsing currency. ‘We are working on a \$20 billion facility that would complement our swap line, with private banks and sovereign funds that, I believe, would be more focused on the debt market,’ Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent told reporters Wednesday. He called it ‘a private-sector solution’ and said “many banks are interested in it and many sovereign funds have expressed interest.” [Associated Press, [10/16/25](#)]

- **October 20, 2025: Trump: “We Would Buy Some Beef From Argentina. If We Do That, That Would Bring Our Beef Prices Down.”** “With beef prices soaring, President Trump is considering an idea that is at odds with his usual mantra that nearly everything should be made in the United States. Mr. Trump, who has imposed tariffs on nearly everything that America imports, said that he was considering buying beef from Argentina to bolster supplies and curb rising prices. The idea contradicts Mr. Trump’s guiding economic philosophy of erecting import barriers to encourage domestic production. It also suggests that the president believes that in some cases, open markets can be an antidote to rising prices. ‘We would buy some beef from Argentina,’ Mr. Trump said to reporters aboard Air Force One on Sunday. ‘If we do that, that would bring our beef prices down.’” [New York Times, [10/20/25](#)]

**October 23, 2025: The Trump Administration Quadrupled U.S. Low-Tariff Imports Of Argentine Beef, Raising The Tariff Quota To 80,000 Metric Tons.** “U.S. President Donald Trump's administration is quadrupling the country's low-tariff imports of Argentine beef in his attempt to lower grocery store beef prices, a White House official said on Thursday, evoking fury from the nation's cattle ranchers. Raising the tariff rate quota on Argentine beef to 80,000 metric tons will let the country ship more of its beef to the U.S. at a lower rate of duty. U.S. beef prices have set records due to tight cattle supplies and strong consumer demand.” [Reuters, [10/23/25](#)]

*2026: U.S. Farmers Felt The Damaging Effects Of The Republican Tariff Deal With Argentina That Caused Wholesale Cattle Prices To Plummet*

**Reuters Headline: “Trump Plan To Import Argentine Beef Angers US Farmers.”** [Reuters, [10/20/25](#)]

**Reuters: “U.S. Farmers [...] Criticized President Donald Trump’s Suggestion That The Country May Import More Beef From Argentina, After They Recently Lost Out To The South American Nation On Soybean Sales To Top Buyer China.”** “U.S. farmers on Monday criticized President Donald Trump's suggestion that the country may import more beef from Argentina, after they recently lost out to the South American nation on soybean sales to top buyer China. Trump said on Sunday that he was considering imports to reduce U.S. beef prices that have climbed to record highs. His administration earlier extended a \$20 billion currency swap lifeline to Argentina, which the president considers an ally.” [Reuters, [10/20/25](#)]

**CBS: Trump “Sent Wholesale Cattle Prices Plummeting” When He “Announced He Wanted To Quadruple Beef Imports From Argentina, Claiming It Would ‘Bring Our Beef Prices Down.’”** “After several years of losing money on cattle, Burleen and Pete Wobeter thought this would finally be the year things turned around. Their Iowa farm also grows corn and soybeans — crops that have been hit hard by the trade war with China — but cattle had been a bright spot so far in 2025. ‘This year, it is the one thing that is going to make any money for us,’ Burleen said. That’s why they were astounded when President Trump announced he wanted to quadruple beef imports from Argentina, claiming it would ‘bring our beef prices down’ and help ‘a very good ally.’ His words sent wholesale cattle prices plummeting.” [CBS, [10/27/25](#)]

- **New York Times: “The Chief Executive Of The Iowa Cattlemen’s Association, Said Mr. Trump’s Comments Roiled Cattle Markets, And A Volatile Market ‘Provides Less Of An Opportunity For Our Producers — Cattlemen And Women Here In Iowa — To Make Decisions That Are Going To Help Keep Them Profitable And Viable.’”** “Iowa’s large beef industry then recoiled after Mr. Trump suggested he would try to lower the cost of beef by importing more from Argentina. Bryan Whaley, the chief executive of the Iowa Cattlemen’s Association, said Mr. Trump’s comments roiled cattle markets, and a volatile market ‘provides less of an opportunity for our producers — cattlemen and women here in Iowa — to make decisions that are going to help keep them profitable and viable.’” [New York Times, [10/27/25](#)]

**New York Times: “The Economic Pain Has Spread Beyond Agriculture To Truckers Who Transport Seeds And Grains, Agronomists Who Help Farmers Innovate, And The Main Street Restaurants Where Farmers Eat And Drink.”** “‘Our farms, and lots of farms, are having to assess if there’s real opportunity for years down the road,’ said Mr. Lehman, who serves as president of the Iowa Farmers Union. The economic pain has spread beyond agriculture to truckers who transport seeds and grains, agronomists who help farmers innovate, and the Main Street restaurants where farmers eat and drink.” [New York Times, [10/27/25](#)]

**2026: China Started Buying Soybeans From South America Instead Of U.S. Farmers Because Of Republican Tariffs**

**February 2026: China Started Purchasing Soybeans From South America Instead Of U.S. Farmers Because Of Republican Tariffs.** “Soybeans have been hit especially hard by Trump’s trade war. ‘Soybeans are a major commodity grown here in Kansas, and China has tended to be our major buyer for soybeans,’ Levendofsky said. ‘But now they have options, they can go elsewhere – and they have. They’ve invested their resources in South America, primarily Brazil and Argentina, and they’ve moved on from us. ‘Now, yes, they are purchasing some soybeans, but it’s not enough. And there isn’t another customer out there that consumes it the way China does.’ U.S. Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service data show a 76% drop in U.S. bulk soybean exports to China, from \$12.6 billion in 2024 to \$3.1 billion in 2025.” [USA Today, [2/25/26](#)]

**February 2026: USA Today Headline: “Farmers Struggle With Damage Done By Tariffs Hitting Soybean Markets.”** [USA Today, [2/25/26](#)]

**2026: Des Moines Register: “U.S. Farmers Are Facing A Fourth Year Of Expected Losses, A Downturn Exacerbated By The Tariffs Trump Has Levied On The Trade Partners Including China, Canada And Mexico, Some Of Largest Buyers Of U.S. Farm Goods.”** “U.S. farmers are facing a fourth year of expected losses, a downturn exacerbated by the tariffs Trump has levied on the trade partners including China, Canada and Mexico, some of largest buyers of U.S. farm goods.” [Des Moines Register, [2/19/26](#)]

**2025-2026: Iowa Corn And Soybean Farmers Lost Money On Nearly Every Bushel They Produced As China’s Retaliation To Republican Tariffs Disrupted Markets**

**New York Times: Iowa, “The Largest Producer Of Corn And Second-Largest Producer Of Soybeans” Took A Major Hit After “China Stopped Purchasing Soybeans From The United States To Retaliate Against Mr. Republican Tariffs.”** “For now, times are tough. Iowa is the country’s largest producer of corn and second-largest producer of soybeans. America exports as much as half its soybeans, and the vast majority of that had gone to

China — \$12.6 billion worth last year. But this year, China stopped purchasing soybeans from the United States to retaliate against Mr. Trump’s tariffs. American producers have spent decades working with people in China on how to use soy in animal feed, part of an effort to build up that growing market. Mr. Leeds said he has traveled to the country 25 times and used dollars paid by Iowa farmers to foster strong bonds with Chinese importers.” [New York Times, [10/27/25](#)]

- **2026: President Of The Iowa Farmers Union On Corn And Soybeans: “We’re Losing Money On Every Bushel We Produce On Our Two Main Things That We Grow.”** “After Mr. Trump hit China with tariffs, Beijing swiftly retaliated by halting purchases of American farm products, a move that cut off Iowa soybean exporters from their biggest buyer. That put the squeeze on the entire state’s economy. [...] ‘We’re losing money on every bushel we produce on our two main things that we grow,’ said Aaron Lehman, the president of the Iowa Farmers Union, referring to corn and soybeans.” [New York Times, [1/27/26](#)]
- **Chief Executive Of The Iowa Soybean Association: “It Is A Dire Time For American Farmers, Particularly The Midwest Soybean And Corn Farmers.”** “‘It is a dire time for American farmers, particularly the Midwest soybean and corn farmers,’ said Kirk Leeds, the chief executive of the Iowa Soybean Association. ‘The chaos, the uncertainty — right now we have so many unknowns that there’s not a lot of clarity about where we’re going.’” [New York Times, [1/27/26](#)]

**NBC Headline: “Iowa Soybean Farmers Face \$1.5B Blow As China Stops Imports.”** [NBC, [10/7/25](#)]

**October 2025: Iowa State University Estimated Tariffs On China And Other Nations Could Cost Iowa’s Soybean Industry Up To \$1.5 Billion.** “However, China is the world’s largest soybean buyer, making up 60 percent of the world’s exportable soybeans. The rest of the world combined doesn’t equal China’s demand. As a result, even though there are other countries Iowa farmers can sell to, without China’s demand, the price of soybeans remains low. A study published in July by Iowa State University estimates that reciprocal tariffs on China and other key partners could cost Iowa’s soybean industry up to \$1.5 billion, plus millions of dollars in additional losses to other state industries like corn, hog, and ethanol.” [NBC, [10/7/25](#)]

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**Iowa Had A Record Number Of Farm Bankruptcies In 2025 The State Had Not Seen Since 2020, As Farmers Were Squeezed And Running Out Of Options**

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**2026: Des Moines Register Headline: “Trump Tariffs Add Costs Amid ‘Growing Disaster,’ Some Iowa Farmers Say.”** [Des Moines Register, [2/19/26](#)]

**New York Times: “There Were 18 Farm Bankruptcies In The State Through Last October, The Highest Total Since 2020.”** “Crop receipts in Iowa were on track to fall 4 percent, or \$666 million, in 2025 from last year and they are projected to hold steady this year, according to a report published last October by the Rural & Farm Finance Policy Analysis Center. There were 18 farm bankruptcies in the state through last October, the highest total since 2020.” [New York Times, [1/27/26](#)]

**2025: President Of The Iowa Farmers Union: “Our Farms, And Lots Of Farms, Are Having To Assess If There’s Real Opportunity For Years Down The Road.”** “‘Our farms, and lots of farms, are having to assess if there’s real opportunity for years down the road,’ said Mr. Lehman, who serves as president of the Iowa Farmers Union. The economic pain has spread beyond agriculture to truckers who transport seeds and grains, agronomists who help farmers innovate, and the Main Street restaurants where farmers eat and drink.” [New York Times, [10/27/25](#)]

**Iowan Farmer Burleen Wobeter On Republican Tariffs: “It Feels Like Being A Pawn In A Game We’re Not Going To Win.”** “After several years of losing money on cattle, Burleen and Pete Wobeter thought this would finally be the year things turned around. Their Iowa farm also grows corn and soybeans — crops that have been hit hard by the trade war with China — but cattle had been a bright spot so far in 2025. [...] ‘I thought the whole point of tariffs was to bring production back home, and now he is trying to do something to destroy that production,’ Burleen said, adding, ‘It feels like being a pawn in a game we’re not going to win.’” [New York Times, [10/27/25](#)]

- **Wobeter Said Trump’s Often Repeated Declaration That “We Love Our Farmers” Was Meaningless And Said “We’re Not Feeling The Love.”** “Wobeter said Trump’s often repeated declaration that ‘we love our farmers’ is meaningless. ‘We’re not feeling the love, when beef imports from Argentina... cut into our profits,’ she added, ‘Because somehow, paying farmers a fair price for work to raise high-quality beef in a challenging environment is asking too much.’” [Des Moines Register, [2/19/26](#)]

## **Iowa’s Manufacturing Industry Suffered Immensely Under Reckless Republican Tariffs, Forcing Businesses To Carry Out Mass Layoffs**

### **Republican Tariffs Raised The Cost Of Steel And Aluminum, Impacting Iowa’s Manufacturing Industry Which Cut Over A Thousand Jobs In 2025**

**New York Times Headline: “In Trump-Friendly Iowa, The President’s Policies Have Hit Hard.”** [New York Times, [10/27/25](#)]

**New York Times: “Manufacturing, Which Drives 17 Percent Of Iowa’s Economic Output, Has Been Hit With Higher Production Costs In Part Because Of Steep Tariffs On Inputs Like Aluminum And Steel.”** “Manufacturing, which drives 17 percent of Iowa’s economic output, has been hit with higher production costs in part because of steep tariffs on inputs like aluminum and steel. Meatpacking plants, which help make Iowa the nation’s leading pork producer, rely heavily on foreign-born workers, hundreds of thousands of whom saw their legal status stripped away by the president. Mr. Trump’s war on renewable energy also threatens the wind industry that produces more than half of Iowa’s electricity.” [New York Times, [10/27/25](#)]

- **New York Times: “John Deere, A Leading Manufacturing Employer That Makes Agricultural Equipment, Has Laid Off Hundreds Of Workers From Its Iowa Factories This Year As Sales Decline And Tariffs On Steel And Aluminum Cost The Company More Than \$300 Million.”** “John Deere, a leading manufacturing employer that makes agricultural equipment, has laid off hundreds of workers from its Iowa factories this year as sales decline and tariffs on steel and aluminum cost the company more than \$300 million.” [New York Times, [10/27/25](#)]

**Iowa Lost 1,300 Manufacturing Jobs In 2025.** “John Deere, the agricultural machinery company, said last September that it would cut more than 140 jobs at two plants in Iowa because of decreased demand for equipment. Case New Holland, a construction equipment manufacturer, said this week that it was cutting about 200 jobs at a plant in Burlington. Overall, the state lost 1,300 manufacturing jobs in 2025.” [New York Times, [1/27/26](#)]

## **Mitchell Claimed The Cost Of Housing, Groceries, And Utilities Had Gone Down Despite Experts Identifying That Costs For Nearly Everything Were Going Up**

### **2026: Mitchell Claimed Grocery, Housing, And Utility Costs Had Gone Down Thanks To Trump, Calling His Work “Incredible”**

**AUDIO: January 2026: Mitchell Said Trump’s Work To Lower Prices Was “Actually Really Incredible.”** MITCHELL: “Well, I think people are always concerned about their wallet, their pocketbook, making sure that they can, you know, afford to pay their mortgage and rent their car payments, etc. And I think what you’re seeing, Doug, is actually really incredible. You know, you had four years of Biden where you had 25%, you know, inflation, you know, compounded inflation year after year. And then you have President Trump where you had the lowest gas prices we’ve ever seen. You know, you have grocery prices that are starting to stabilize and actually come down. You have eggs lower than the price they were in 2020. You know, I was at the grocery store on Tuesday night. You know, milk looks like it’s coming down, too. So, you have groceries coming down.” [Doug Wagner Show, 00:48, [1/8/26](#)] (AUDIO)

**AUDIO: January 2026: Mitchell Said Trump Had Brought Grocery And Housing Costs Down.** SIMON CONWAY: “What are you hearing from the voters when you are meeting them?” MITCHELL: “So we hear a variety of things. But you know, the Democrats talk about the affordability crisis and I think President Trump’s spot on, he’s like they created the affordability crisis. It’s because of Joe Biden and the Democrats that we had cash go up on gasoline and groceries and housing. And President Trump has brought those costs down. And so when I hear these people talk, it’s like, well, he’s brought gas down. You can’t argue with that. He’s brought grocery prices down. And they’ll say, well, ground beef is up. Well milk is down, eggs are down, bread is down.” [WHO, Simon Conway Show, 08:00, [1/30/26](#)] (AUDIO)

**VIDEO: March 2026: Mitchell Said Trump Had “Already” Brought Down “The Cost Of Groceries, Utilities, Housing.”** MITCHELL: “And so domestically, we have to continue to get prices down and raise wages. You know, the American people, for the last four years under Joe Biden, they got ripped off, and inflation went through the roof. Housing prices went through the roof. Their paychecks were stagnant or declined and went down. And President Trump had to come in and clear them with this mess. And so he’s starting to stabilize things, but he continues to need allies in Congress that will stand firm with him to make sure that we’re bringing down the cost of groceries, utilities, housing, which he’s already done, by the way,” [The Capitol Report, 02:28, [3/7/26](#)] (VIDEO)

**VIDEO: May 2026: Mitchell Said Multiple Costs Besides Beef And Gasoline “Have Come Down And Have Stabilized. You Don’t Have The Inflation That You Had The Previous Four Years.”** MITCHELL: “So I think you know the American people understand what he’s doing. They understand that he’s the best deal maker that we’ve had, you know, in the White House in a long time. And you know, you know, take out the price of ground beef and gasoline right now. Many other costs have come down and have stabilized. You don’t have the inflation that you had the previous four years under Joe Biden.” [KGAN, Beyond The Podium, 12:01, [5/24/26](#)] (VIDEO)

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**2026: The Joint Economic Committee Estimated That Tariffs Would Cost American Families More Than \$2,500 On Average**

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**Joint Economic Committee Minority: “American Families Will Pay More Than \$2,500 Each In Tariff Costs In 2026.”** “Even though the Supreme Court ruled that the bulk of President Trump’s tariff agenda was illegal, the administration moved immediately to enact new tariffs that Treasury Secretary Bessent claims will result in ‘virtually unchanged tariff revenue in 2026’. If Bessent’s estimates hold true, the Joint Economic Committee – Minority estimates that American families will pay more than \$2,500 each in tariff costs in 2026. Building on its previous tariff cost estimates, the Committee combined official data from the U.S. Treasury Department on the amount of tariff revenue collected since the start of 2025 with independent estimates from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office of the percent of each tariff dollar that is ultimately paid by American consumers. The Committee found that if tariff revenue stays at the level recorded in January 2026 for the rest of the year, American families would in total pay more than \$330 billion in tariff costs in 2026, an average of more than \$2,500 per household in tariff costs this year. This is substantially higher than the more than \$1,700 in average tariff costs that the JEC – Minority previously estimated that families paid during the first year of Trump’s second term.” [Joint Economic Committee Minority, Fact Sheet, [March 2026](#)]

**Joint Economic Committee Minority: Since Trump Took Office, The Average Iowa Household Paid \$1,928 In Higher Costs, Including \$265 More For Housing And \$281 More For Transportation.** [Joint Economic Committee Minority, Press Release [April 2026](#)]

<b>Iowa Families’ Household Costs Under Trump Inflation</b>			
<b>State</b>	<b>Overall Average Cost Increase</b>	<b>Average Cost Increase: Housing</b>	<b>Average Cost Increase: Transportation</b>
Iowa	\$1,928	\$265	\$281

[Joint Economic Committee Minority, Press Release [April 2026](#)]

**Joint Economic Committee Minority: With The Trump Administration’s Projected Tariff Policy, “American Families Would In Total Pay More Than \$300 Billion In Tariff Costs In 2026.”** “Even though the Supreme

Court ruled that the bulk of President Trump’s tariff agenda was illegal, the administration moved immediately to enact new tariffs that Treasury Secretary Bessent claims will result in ‘virtually unchanged tariff revenue in 2026’. If Bessent’s estimates hold true, the Joint Economic Committee – Minority estimates that American families will pay more than \$2,500 each in tariff costs in 2026. Building on its previous tariff cost estimates, the Committee combined official data from the U.S. Treasury Department on the amount of tariff revenue collected since the start of 2025 with independent estimates from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office of the percent of each tariff dollar that is ultimately paid by American consumers. The Committee found that if tariff revenue stays at the level recorded in January 2026 for the rest of the year, American families would in total pay more than \$330 billion in tariff costs in 2026, an average of more than \$2,500 per household in tariff costs this year. This is substantially higher than the more than \$1,700 in average tariff costs that the JEC – Minority previously estimated that families paid during the first year of Trump’s second term.” [Joint Economic Committee Minority, Fact Sheet, [March 2026](#)]

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**January 2025-February 2026: Republican Tariffs Cost Americans An Average Of More Than \$1,700 Per Family, Representing “The Largest U.S. Tax Increase As A Percent Of GDP Since 1993”**

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**January 2025-February 2026: Republican Tariffs Cost Americans An Average Of More Than \$1,700 Per Family.** “Following the Supreme Court’s decision today to overturn Trump’s tariffs, the Joint Economic Committee – Minority released an updated report estimating that American families have already paid more than \$1,700 each in tariff costs since President Trump took office. Combining Treasury Department data on the amount of tariff revenue collected across the first year of Trump’s term with independent estimates from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office of the percent of each tariff dollar that is paid by American consumers, the Committee found that they paid more than \$231 billion in total tariff costs between February 2025 and January 2026, an average of more than \$1,700 per family.” [Joint Economic Committee Minority, [2/26/26](#)]

- **The Tax Foundation, A Nonpartisan Organization, Described Republican Tariffs As “The Largest U.S. Tax Increase As A Percent Of GDP Since 1993.”** “President Donald Trump’s tariffs cost the average American household \$1,000 last year, according to new research from the nonpartisan Tax Foundation... The research called Trump’s tariffs ‘the largest U.S. tax increase as a percent of GDP since 1993.’ It suggests the president’s signature economic policy is exacerbating cost of living concerns at a time when many households are grappling with persistently high prices. According to the research think tank Tax Foundation, the federal government collected \$264 billion in total tariff revenues in 2025 -- far short of the trillions regularly touted by the White House. The research also finds the tariffs will offset most of the economic benefits of the new tax cuts from Trump’s signature tax law that took effect this year.” [ABC News, [2/9/26](#)]

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**Republican Tariffs Raised Costs On Everything From Groceries To Pharmaceuticals To Cars, Straining Iowans’ Pocketbooks**

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*Republican Tariffs Raised The Cost Of Groceries And Household Goods*

**New York Times Headline: “As Trump Promotes Economy In Iowa, Many Residents Feel Pain.”** [New York Times, [1/27/26](#)]

**September 2025: Axios Headline: “Grocery Inflation Highest Since 2022 As Trump Tariffs Pile Up.”** [Axios, [9/11/25](#)]

- **Republican Tariffs Contributed To Prices Rising For Groceries.** “President Donald Trump pledged to bring down grocery costs. But his administration’s policies are contributing to an acceleration in prices, food economists and companies say. Grocery prices last month rose at their fastest pace in three years, stoked by Trump’s tariffs, a crackdown on immigration, and extreme weather hurting food production. Prices jumped 0.6% in August from the month prior, according to the latest reading from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and they are up 2.7% from a year ago. Food prices are deeply personal to consumers, and weekly grocery bills shape their overall perceptions of the economy. More than half of Americans count grocery costs as a major stress in their lives. Low-income and middle-income Americans, hit the hardest by rising grocery costs, are

changing where they shop and what they buy. Companies are also taking extreme measures to appeal to shoppers strained by higher prices, such as bringing back paper coupons.” [CNN, [9/20/25](#)]

**CNN Headline: “The Maker Of Tide And Charmin Said It Will Raise Prices In Part Because Of Tariffs.”** [CNN, [7/29/25](#)]

**Proctor & Gamble, Maker Of Household Staples Including Detergent And Toilet Paper Raised Prices Because Of Donald Republican Tariffs.** “Procter & Gamble, the maker of several household staples including Tide detergent and Charmin toilet paper, is hiking prices because of President Donald Trump’s tariffs.” [CNN, [7/29/25](#)]

*September 2025: Republican Tariffs On Drug Imports Could Raise Prices For Americans*

**Republican Tariffs On Drug Product Imports Could Raise Prices For Americans.** “Analysts are already warning that U.S. consumers could see higher prices due to new tariffs President Donald Trump plans to impose on drug product imports as soon as next week. But a series of exemptions may blunt the ultimate impact. In a Truth Social post late Thursday, Trump said that any branded or patented pharmaceutical products brought into the U.S. would face a 100% tariff starting Oct. 1.” [NBC News, [9/26/25](#)]

*Republican Tariffs Spiked Car Prices*

**Kelley Blue Book: “President Trump Has Announced A 25% Tariff On All Cars Built Outside The United States And On Many Parts Used In Cars Built Here. [...] Shoppers Can Expect The Tariffs To Increase Car Prices By As Much As \$6,000 On Vehicles Priced Under \$40,000.”** “President Trump has announced a 25% tariff on all cars built outside the United States and on many parts used in cars built here. See our latest news updates below on where tariffs stand. Effective Dates: Imported Cars: Tariffs began on April 3. Car Parts: Tariffs began on May 3. These tariffs have started to increase car prices. To save money, consider locking in a new car deal before any potential price increases take effect. Can You Avoid a Car Tariff? No vehicle made at an assembly plant in the United States is 100% made here. Even Tesla sources its parts from other countries. This means that with tariffs, car prices will increase for American car buyers, though the timing remains unclear. You can potentially avoid paying a tariff on a new car by purchasing one that was imported to the U.S. before the tariffs took effect, or by buying a used car. How Will Tariffs Affect Car Buying? If new cars become too expensive, used cars will become more attractive. However, if demand spikes, used car prices may also increase. Here’s more information: New cars: Shoppers can expect the tariffs to increase car prices by as much as \$6,000 on vehicles priced under \$40,000. Higher car prices mean higher car taxes, financing, car insurance, and other ownership costs. This price pressure will make cars less affordable for consumers.” [Kelley Blue Book, [9/15/25](#)]

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**Republican Tariffs Worsened Inflation**

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**Reuters Headline: “Powell Says Tariffs Keeping Inflation Elevated, Fed Watching Energy Prices Closely.”** [Reuters, [3/18/26](#)]

**March 2026: Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell Estimated That “A Big Chunk Of” The Current High Inflation Rate “Is Actually Tariffs.”** “Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell on Wednesday described significant challenges in bringing inflation down, from persistent tariff-driven price hikes to Iran war-driven energy price hikes that the U.S. central bank may not be able to ‘look through’ as a transitory shock. Powell, speaking in a press conference after the end of the Fed's latest two-day policy meeting, said the central bank needs to see core inflation come down this year as the one-time impact of President Donald Trump's tariffs pass through the economy. Inflation, as measured by the Fed's preferred gauge, has remained well above the central bank's 2% target, at about 3%, and ‘some big chunk of that, between a half and three-quarters is actually tariffs, so we're looking for progress on that,’ Powell said.” [Reuters, [3/18/26](#)]

- **Reuters: “Inflation [...] Has Remained Well Above The Central Bank’s 2% Target, At About 3%, And ‘Some Big Chunk Of That, Between A Half And Three-Quarters Is Actually Tariffs’,” According To Fed**

**Chair Jerome Powell.** “Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell on Wednesday described significant challenges in bringing inflation down, from persistent tariff-driven price hikes to Iran war-driven energy price hikes that the U.S. central bank may not be able to ‘look through’ as a transitory shock. Powell, speaking in a press conference after the end of the Fed's latest two-day policy meeting, said the central bank needs to see core inflation come down this year as the one-time impact of President Donald Trump's tariffs pass through the economy. Inflation, as measured by the Fed's preferred gauge, has remained well above the central bank's 2% target, at about 3%, and ‘some big chunk of that, between a half and three-quarters is actually tariffs, so we're looking for progress on that,’ Powell said.” [Reuters, [3/18/26](#)]

**Associated Press Headline: “U.S. Producer Prices Surge In July As Trump Tariffs Push Costs Higher.”**  
[Associated Press, [8/14/25](#)]

**Associated Press Headline: “Key Inflation Gauge Sped Up In July As Companies Grappled With Tariffs.”**  
[New York Times, [8/12/25](#)]

**Mitchell Was An Aspiring Career Politician Who Ran For State House When He Was Still In College, Whose Parents Bankrolled His Campaign And Gave Him Jobs, And Who Only Passed A Single Resolution During Four Years In The State Legislature**

**Mitchell Ran For Office While Still In College And Had Just One Job Outside Of Politics, Working For His Parents’ Multi-Million Dollar Medical Device Company**

**Mitchell Was A Page And Clerk In The Iowa Capitol For Years, Then Interned For Governor Kim Reynolds And Senator Joni Ernst**

**After High School And Throughout College, Mitchell Worked As A Page And Clerk In The Iowa State Capitol Before Interning For Governor Kim Reynolds And Senator Joni Ernst.** “I graduated a semester early from high school, in December 2014, and went on to be a page at the Iowa State Capitol in January 2015. I had a high school teacher who knew I wanted to graduate early. I was looking at potential colleges to go to and start the second half of my senior year, and she recommended that I look at this thing called the Page Program, an internship for high school seniors. Ultimately, I applied for that program, got accepted to it, and started shortly after. As a page, I was responsible for doing a variety of tasks: helping draft bills, doing research projects, and getting coffees and that sort of thing for staff and for representatives. I really fell in love with it and understood the importance of being involved in our state politics and the difference that it can make — the impact it has on people’s lives. That was my first real introduction to politics. After that, I decided to go to Drake University, where I continued to work at the capitol, and was a clerk for several years. I worked in the state senate for two years, and then I went on and was an intern in Governor Kim Reynolds’ office for a future summer. In fact, that same summer, I worked for Senator Joni Ernst in D.C. for the latter half of the break.” [Harvard Political Review, [8/1/25](#)]

**Mitchell Ran For The Iowa State House When He Was 20 Years Old And Was Sworn In At The Age Of 21**

**2018: Mitchell Graduated From College In December 2018.** “I just wanted to carry through and make sure I gave it my all, which I did, and then ultimately won that primary, went on to the general election and won in November of 2018, graduated college in December of 2018, and then got sworn into the Iowa House as the youngest member ever in January 2019. Getting to the House was interesting for the first few weeks. I think it took a while for people to realize that I wasn’t still a clerk or a page and that I was an elected, duly elected member of the House with the rest of my Colleagues.” [Harvard Political Review, [8/1/25](#)]

**2019: Mitchell Began His First Term The Iowa House After Winning The November Election And Becoming The Youngest Legislator In State History.** “I just wanted to carry through and make sure I gave it my all, which I did, and then ultimately won that primary, went on to the general election and won in November of 2018, graduated college in December of 2018, and then got sworn into the Iowa House as the youngest member ever in January

2019. Getting to the House was interesting for the first few weeks. I think it took a while for people to realize that I wasn't still a clerk or a page and that I was an elected, duly elected member of the House with the rest of my Colleagues." [Harvard Political Review, [8/1/25](#)]

- **Mitchell Ran For Office At 20 Years Old And Was Sworn Into Office At 21.** "Mitchell first ran for office at 20 years old and was later sworn in at the age of 21 – making him the youngest state legislator in Iowa" [Harvard Institute Of Politics, accessed [5/21/25](#)]

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**Mitchell Joined His Parents' Medical Device Business As A "Director" And Then "Manager," Shortly Before The Company Was Acquired In A Multi-Million Dollar Deal**

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*Mitchell Worked For His Parents As A Public Relations Director And Later A Business Manager While Serving As A State Legislator*

**2019: Mitchell's State Legislator Profile Listed His Profession As "Public Relations Director At M.D. Orthopaedics.** [Iowa State Legislature, accessed [4/1/26](#)]

Redbook Snapshots - Iowa Official Register 2019-2020 (88GA)

Joe Mitchell – Mount Pleasant (R)  
District 84  
Term: Serving first term in House. Profession: Public relations director at MD Orthopaedics. Education: Bachelors in business administration from Drake University. Memberships and Activities: Commissioner on the Midwestern Higher Education Compact. Member of Harmony Bible Church. Skeet shooter. Birth and Residence: Born in 1997 in Mount Pleasant. Resides in Mount Pleasant.



[Iowa State Legislature, accessed [4/1/26](#)]

**2021: Mitchell's State Legislator Profile Listed His Profession As "Business Manager" At M.D. Orthopedics.** [Iowa State Legislature, accessed [4/1/26](#)]



State Representative  
Republican

Bills & Committees  
**Occupation:** Business Manager MO Orthopedics  
**Home County:** Henry  
**General Assembly:** 89  
**Dates Served:** 01/11/2021 - 01/08/2023  
**District:** 84

**Term:** Serving second term in House. **Profession:** Currently self-employed with J. Mitchell Real Estate, L.L.C. J. Mitchell Real Estate, L.L.C. has rental properties and also does multi-family housing developments. **Education:** Graduated from WACO High School. Received bachelor's degree in business administration from Drake University. **Memberships and Activities:** Commissioner on the Midwestern Higher Education Compact. Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development (BILLD) Fellow. Founder of the non-profit "Run GenZ." **Birth and Residence:** Born in 1997 in Mount Pleasant. Resides in Mount Pleasant.

[Iowa State Legislature, accessed [4/1/26](#)]

**Mitchell's Father Owned M.D. Orthopedics In Wayland, Iowa.** "Joe Mitchell may have only graduated high school three years ago, but thinks he's ready to take over the seat left vacant in the 84th district of the House of Representatives as Rep. David Heaton (R-Mt. Pleasant) announced he will not be running this year. [...] In the short term, Mitchell hopes to accomplish a tax reform to help small businesses, an issue that is near to him. Mitchell's father is the owner of MD Orthopedics in Wayland. The business is very close to Mitchell's heart as he hopes to return one day and work for his father. The tax reform bill has been proposed and if passed, will be the

first reform bill Iowa has seen in over 20 years.” [Southeast Iowa Union, [9/30/18](#)]

- **“MD Orthopaedics Is A Profitable, Privately Held Orthopedic Device Company That Has Developed And Commercialized A Custom Fit Bracing System That Has Supported The Dissemination Of The Ponseti Technique - The Gold Standard Treatment For Clubfoot.”** “Founded in 2004 in Wayland, Iowa, MD Orthopaedics is a profitable, privately held orthopedic device company that has developed and commercialized a custom fit bracing system that has supported the dissemination of the Ponseti Technique - the gold standard treatment for clubfoot. [...] MD Orthopaedics unique technology is supported by intellectual property protection, including 14 issued patents and 7 patents being processed. MD Orthopaedics operates and sells specialty bracing systems in 90 countries worldwide.” [Orthopediatrics Corp. Press Release via Global Newswire, [4/4/22](#)]
- **Mitchell Worked For His Parents’ Company In High School.** “Joe Mitchell: I grew up in southeast Iowa, and I was born in a small town. Washington was the town where I was born, and I grew up in a little town called Wayland. There were about 1,000 people in my hometown, and I had 30 students in my graduating class. It was quite a small high school in rural Iowa. Growing up my parents were small business owners, they were entrepreneurs. They had a medical device company where they made orthopedic braces for babies with club feet, I worked at the factory in high school and did a variety of things that shaped my worldview to a certain extent.” [Harvard Political Review, [8/1/25](#)]

***Mitchell’s Parents’ Company, M.D. Orthopaedics, Along With Its Patented Technology, Were Acquired By A Massive Medical Device Company For Millions Of Dollars***

**Ortho Spine News: In 2022, OrthoPediatics Corp. Acquired M.D. Orthopaedics “And Their Bracing Product Lines And The Patented Mitchell Ponseti® Ankle-Foot Orthosis (AFO) System.”** “OrthoPediatics Corp. (‘OrthoPediatics’ or the ‘Company’) (Nasdaq: KIDS), a company focused exclusively on advancing the field of pediatric orthopedics, announced the launch of a new division, focused on non-surgical intervention for pediatric orthopedics. The OrthoPediatics Specialty Bracing division (‘OPSB’) will serve as a flagship house of brands and innovative products that expand the Company’s Total Addressable Market by approximately \$600 million. The Company first entered the non-operative space through the acquisition of MD Orthopaedics, Inc. (MDO) in 2022, and their bracing product lines and the patented Mitchell Ponseti® Ankle-Foot Orthosis (AFO) system for the treatment of clubfoot.” [Ortho Spine News, [12/6/23](#)]

**Business Record Headline: MD Orthopaedics Acquired By Orthopediatrics Corp. For \$17M.”** [Business Record, [4/11/22](#)]

**Orthopediatrics Corp. Acquired M.D. Orthopaedics In A Transaction Valued Up To \$19.6 Million.** “OrthoPediatics Corp. (‘OrthoPediatics’ or the ‘Company’) (Nasdaq: KIDS), a company focused exclusively on advancing the field of pediatric orthopedics, announced the acquisition of MD Orthopaedics, including its bracing product lines and the patented Mitchell Ponseti® Ankle-Foot Orthosis (AFO) system for the treatment of clubfoot. OrthoPediatics will acquire MD Orthopaedics in a transaction valued up to \$19.6 million. Under the terms of the agreement, OrthoPediatics will acquire MD Orthopaedics for an upfront cash payment of \$8.2 million and \$8.9 million in company stock, with an additional \$2.5 million in restricted stock which vest after three years.” [Orthopediatrics Corp. Press Release via Global Newswire, [4/4/22](#)]

**Mitchell’s Parents Contributed More Than \$33,000 To His Iowa House Campaigns While He Himself Contributed \$988**

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**2018-2021: Mitchell’s Parents Funded His Iowa House Campaigns, Contributing \$33,259**

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**2018-2021: According To The Iowa Ethics And Campaign Disclosure Board, Mitchell’s Campaign Committee Received \$33,259 From His Parents, John And Jean Mitchell.** [Iowa Ethics And Campaign Disclosure Board, accessed [4/23/26](#)]

<b>2018-2021: Mitchell Family Contributions To Mitchell's State House Campaign Committee</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Individual</b>	<b>Amount</b>
7/1/21	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	Jean Mitchell	\$1,000.00
10/21/20	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	Jean Mitchell	\$3,500.00
7/13/20	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	Jean Mitchell	\$5,000.00
10/4/19	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	John Mitchell	\$7,000.00
1/11/19	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	Jean Mitchell	\$550.00
10/10/18	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	John Mitchell	\$3,000.00
8/30/18	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	John Mitchell	\$170.00
6/11/18	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	John Mitchell	\$2,300.00
5/24/18	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	John Mitchell	\$3,000.00
5/18/18	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	John Mitchell	\$1,500.00
5/7/18	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	John Mitchell	\$800.00
4/9/18	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	John Mitchell	\$1,000.00
4/2/18	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	John Mitchell	\$2,750.00
7/28/19	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	Jean Mitchell	\$750.00
9/21/18	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	John Mitchell	\$200.00
9/15/18	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	John Mitchell	\$739.60
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$33,259.60</b>

[Iowa Ethics And Campaign Disclosure Board, accessed [4/23/26](#)]

### **2019-2020: Mitchell Contributed Just Under \$1,000 To His Iowa House Campaigns**

**2018-2021: According To The Iowa Ethics And Campaign Disclosure Board, Mitchell Contributed \$988 To His Campaign Committee.** [Iowa Ethics And Campaign Disclosure Board, accessed [4/23/26](#)]

<b>2019-2020: Mitchell Personal Contributions To Mitchell's State House Campaign Committee</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Amount</b>
6/30/20	Joseph Mitchell	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	\$150.00
1/21/20	Joseph Mitchell	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	\$80.50
12/30/19	Joseph Mitchell	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	\$157.50
6/20/19	Joseph Mitchell	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	\$200.00
3/27/19	Joseph Mitchell	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	\$400.00
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$988.00</b>

[Iowa Ethics And Campaign Disclosure Board, accessed [4/23/26](#)]

### **2019-2023: Mitchell Sponsored 48 Bills During His Time In The Iowa State Legislature, And Only One Was Adopted—A Simple Resolution Approved In One Chamber Of The Legislature**

**2021-2023: Mitchell Sponsored 27 Bills In Iowa's 89<sup>th</sup> General Assembly With Just One Passing, A Simple Resolution Only Requiring A Simple Majority Vote To Adopt In The House Chamber**

**According To The Iowa Legislature, Only One Of The 27 Bills Mitchell Sponsored In The 89<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Passed.** [Iowa State Legislature, accessed [4/21/26](#)]

- **March 2022: Mitchell Introduced H.R. 108, A Resolution Affirming Support For Sovereignty In Ukraine, Which Was Ultimately Adopted.** In March 2022, Mitchell adopted H.R. 108: "A resolution recognizing and affirming support for Ukrainian sovereignty and firmly stating that the people of Iowa stand on the side of freedom and individual self-determination and self-governance." The motion to adopt the resolution prevailed. [Iowa State Legislature, [H.R. 108, 3/8/22](#)]

- **According To The Iowa General Assembly, House Resolutions Or “Simple Resolutions” Only Required A Simple Majority Vote For Approval From Members In The House And Would Usually “Express Appreciation, Congratulations Or Sympathy.”** “SENATE OR HOUSE RESOLUTIONS--Also known as simple resolutions, these proposals are filed for consideration only by their chamber of origin. Resolutions usually express appreciation, congratulations or sympathy. Resolutions are also used for the appointment of special chamber committees and, perhaps most importantly, are used for the adoption of chamber rules. Resolutions require a simple majority vote for adoption and are called either Senate Resolutions (prefaced SR) or House Resolutions (prefaced HR).” [Iowa General Assembly Legislative Handbook, accessed [4/22/26](#)]

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**2019-2021: Mitchell Sponsored 21 Bills In Iowa’s 88<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, And Not One Passed**

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**2019-2021: According To The Iowa Legislature, None Of The 21 Bills Mitchell Sponsored In The 88<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Passed.** According to the Iowa Legislature, the bills sponsored by Joe Mitchell in the 88<sup>th</sup> general assembly did not pass the House. [Iowa State Legislature, accessed [4/21/26](#)]

**2025: Mitchell Claimed He “Fired [...] The CEO Of Freddie Mac And Chairman Of Fannie Mae” At The Federal Housing Finance Agency Where He Held A Chief Of Staff Position**

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**March 2025: Mitchell Had A Fellowship At The Harvard Institute Of Politics**

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**March 2025: Mitchell Was A Resident Fellow At The Harvard Institute Of Politics.** [Harvard Kennedy School Institute of Politics, accessed [6/2/26](#)]

## Joe Mitchell

| Spring 2025 Resident Fellow



[Harvard Kennedy School Institute of Politics, accessed [6/2/26](#)]

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**March 2025: Mitchell Claimed He “Fired [...] The CEO Of Freddie Mac And Chairman Of Fannie Mae,” Which Occurred While He Was Chief Of Staff At The Federal Housing Finance Agency**

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**VIDEO: Mitchell Claimed He Fired The Head Of Freddie Mac And Chairman Of Fannie Mae.** “At the Federal Housing Finance Agency, I fired the liberal CEO of Freddy Mack and the chairman of Fanny Mae and we fought for America first housing policies.” [Joe Mitchell, YouTube, [9/23/25](#)] (VIDEO)

**March 2025: Mitchell Was Appointed Chief of Staff At The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA).** [Joseph Mitchell 2025 Executive Branch Personal Financial Disclosure, Page 3, signed [3/17/25](#)]

Report Type: New Entrant Report  
Year (Annual Report only):  
Date of Appointment: 03/2025  
Date of Termination:  
Appointment Type: Non-Career

## Executive Branch Personnel Public Financial Disclosure Report (OGE Form 278e)

### Filer's Information

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Mitchell, Joseph

Chief of Staff, Federal Housing Finance Agency

Date of Appointment: 03/14/2025

[Joseph Mitchell 2025 Executive Branch Personal Financial Disclosure, Page 3, signed [3/17/25](#)]

**March 2025: The Director Of FHFA Fired Top Officials At Freddie Mac And Fannie Mac And Named Himself The Chairman Of Both Boards.** “On the heels of the major shakeup at Fannie Mae in recent days, top officials at Freddie Mac, including CEO Diana Reid, were fired on Thursday, according to news reports. No reasons were given for the firings. Reid, who took over as CEO last September, was fired by Bill Pulte, director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA), according to the Washington Post. This new round of leadership changes include other top officials at Freddie Mac and at Pulte’s FHFA. Recently, Pulte discharged 14 members of the boards of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and named himself chairman of both the boards.” [Scotsman Guide, [3/20/25](#)]

**July 2025: Mitchell Was Announced As A Regional Administrator For The Department Of Housing And Urban Development.** “Former Iowa state Rep. Joe Mitchell has been hired as a regional administrator for the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development. Mitchell, a Republican, served two terms in the Iowa House from 2019 to 2023, representing Henry County and parts of Lee, Jefferson and Washington counties. He later founded Run Gen Z, a group that aims to elect young conservatives to office, and served on President Donald Trump's transition team. Joe Mitchell Mitchell will lead HUD's field operations for Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska, the agency announced in a news release on Wednesday, July 23.” [Des Moines Register, [7/24/25](#)]

**Mitchell Appeared To Take An Illegal Homestead Credit For One Property While Living In Another, Neither Of Which Were Located In Iowa’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District, And Moved To The District Less Than A Week Before Launching His Campaign**

**Mitchell Did Not Live In Or Near Iowa’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District Until Less Than A Week Before Launching His Campaign**

**2025: Mitchell Updated His Voter Registration From Des Moines To Clear Lake “Shortly Before Launching His Congressional Campaign”**

**The Gazette: Mitchell Continued To Live In Des Moines Shortly Before Launching His Campaign For Iowa’s Second Congressional District.** “Mitchell grew up in southeast Iowa and represented the Mount Pleasant area in the Iowa Legislature before moving to Des Moines and changed his voter registration to a Clear Lake residence shortly before launching his congressional campaign.” [Cedar Rapids Gazette, [1/27/26](#)]

- **The Gazette: After Serving In The State Legislature, Mitchell Moved To Des Moines.** “Mitchell grew up in southeast Iowa and represented the Mount Pleasant area in the Iowa Legislature before moving to Des Moines and changed his voter registration to a Clear Lake residence shortly before launching his congressional campaign.” [Cedar Rapids Gazette, [1/27/26](#)]
- **The Gazette: Mitchell “Changed His Voter Registration To A Clear Lake Residence Shortly Before Launching His Congressional Campaign.”** “Mitchell grew up in southeast Iowa and represented the Mount Pleasant area in the Iowa Legislature before moving to Des Moines and changed his voter registration to a Clear Lake residence shortly before launching his congressional campaign.” [Cedar Rapids Gazette, [1/27/26](#)]

**September 8, 2025: Mitchell Launched His Campaign For Iowa’s 2nd District.** “Joe Mitchell, the youngest person to ever be elected to the Iowa legislature, has announced he’s running for Iowa’s 2nd Congressional District.” [KCRG, [9/8/25](#)]

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**Iowa Statehouse Reporter Laura Belin Called Out Mitchell For Having “Never Lived In The Second Congressional District” And Only Moving There Less Than A Week Before Launching His Campaign**

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*Laura Belin Was An Iowa Statehouse Reporter For KHOI Radio And Was A Publisher, Editor And Reporter For A “Community Website Focused On Iowa Politics”*

**Iowa Capital Dispatch: Laura Belin Was A Statehouse Reporter For KHOI Radio In Ames, Iowa.** “Laura Belin is the publisher, editor, and primary reporter for Bleeding Heartland, a community website focused on Iowa politics. She is also the Statehouse reporter for KHOI Radio in Ames and co-host of the station's ‘Capitol Week’ program, as well as a member of the Iowa Writers' Collaborative.” [Iowa Capital Dispatch, Laura Belin, accessed [3/2/26](#)]

**Belin Was “The Publisher, Editor And Primary Reporter For Bleeding Heartland, A Community Website Focused On Iowa Politics.”** “Laura Belin is the publisher, editor, and primary reporter for Bleeding Heartland, a community website focused on Iowa politics. She is also the Statehouse reporter for KHOI Radio in Ames and co-host of the station's ‘Capitol Week’ program, as well as a member of the Iowa Writers' Collaborative.” [Iowa Capital Dispatch, Laura Belin, accessed [3/2/26](#)]

*September 2025: Belin Called Out Mitchell For Not Being From The District, And Only Living There For “Literally Less Than A Week” Before Running For Congress*

**Laura Belin On Joe Mitchell: “He’s Actually From Southeast Iowa. He’s Never Lived In The Second Congressional District.”** GEORGE KIRK: “Now, Ashley Hinson's decision to run for the Senate means there's going to be no incumbent in Iowa's Second Congressional District up there in the northeastern part of the state. Two Republicans have already announced that they're running. So start us off with Joe Mitchell.” LAURA BELIN: “Joe Mitchell is a former two, two term Iowa legislator. He's from, he's actually from southeast Iowa. He's never lived in the second congressional district. This is the district in northeast Iowa. He's from southeast Iowa.” [KHOI, Capitol Week, 10:00, [9/8/25](#)] (AUDIO)

**Belin: Mitchell “Just Moved” Into Iowa’s Second Congressional District Only Days Before He Launched His Campaign.** LAURA BELIN: “It'll definitely be an issue in the primary that he just moved to the district. I was able to confirm that, literally, last Thursday, he changed his voter registration from, he was living in Des Moines and registered to vote here in Polk County, and then he moved to an address in Clear Lake. So just literally less than a week of, as being an official resident of the second congressional district.” [KHOI, Capitol Week, 11:36, [9/8/25](#)] (AUDIO)

**Belin: Mitchell Launched His Campaign “Literally Less Than A Week Of, As Being An Official Resident Of The Second Congressional District.”** LAURA BELIN: “It'll definitely be an issue in the primary that he just moved to the district. I was able to confirm that, literally, last Thursday, he changed his voter registration from, he was living in Des Moines and registered to vote here in Polk County, and then he moved to an address in Clear

Lake. So just literally less than a week of, as being an official resident of the second congressional district.” [KHOI, Capitol Week, 11:36, [9/8/25](#)] (AUDIO)

- **Belin Said She Confirmed That Mitchell Changed His Voter Registration Address To Clear Lake The Thursday Before He Launched His Campaign.** LAURA BELIN: “It’ll definitely be an issue in the primary that he just moved to the district. I was able to confirm that, literally, last Thursday, he changed his voter registration from, he was living in Des Moines and registered to vote here in Polk County, and then he moved to an address in Clear Lake. So just literally less than a week of, as being an official resident of the second congressional district.” [KHOI, Capitol Week, 11:36, [9/8/25](#)] (AUDIO)
  - **September 8, 2025: Mitchell Launched His Campaign For Iowa’s 2nd District.** “Joe Mitchell, the youngest person to ever be elected to the Iowa legislature, has announced he’s running for Iowa’s 2nd Congressional District.” [KCRG, [9/8/25](#)]

### **Mitchell Primarily Resided In Des Moines While Appearing To Illegally Receive A Homestead Credit On A Property He Owned In Mount Pleasant, Iowa, Both Of Which Were Not In IA-02**

#### **2022-2023: Mitchell Moved To Des Moines, Iowa After Purchasing An Apartment Downtown**

*2019-2022: During His Tenure In The Iowa State Legislature, Mitchell Lived In Mount Pleasant, Iowa*

- **2019-2020: During His First Term In The Iowa House Of Representatives, Mitchell Resided In Mount Pleasant, Iowa.** “Birth and Residence: Born in 1997 in Mount Pleasant. Resides in Mount Pleasant.” [2019-2020 Iowa Official Register, Joe Mitchell, Page 80, accessed [2/12/26](#)]
- **2021-2022: During His Second Term In The Iowa House Of Representatives, Mitchell Resided In Mount Pleasant, Iowa.** “Birth and Residence: Born in 1997 in Mount Pleasant. Resides in Mount Pleasant.” [2021-2022 Iowa Official Register, Joe Mitchell, Page 82, accessed [2/12/26](#)]
  - **Iowa’s 84th House District Included “Henry County And Parts Of Lee, Jefferson And Washington Counties.”** “Former Iowa state Rep. Joe Mitchell has been hired as a regional administrator for the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development. Mitchell, a Republican, served two terms in the Iowa House from 2019 to 2023, representing Henry County and parts of Lee, Jefferson and Washington counties.” [Des Moines Register, [7/24/25](#)]

*June 2022: After Serving In The Iowa Legislature, Mitchell Moved To Des Moines, Iowa And Purchased A \$205,000 Apartment In The City*

**The Gazette: After Serving In The State Legislature, Mitchell Moved To Des Moines.** “Mitchell grew up in southeast Iowa and represented the Mount Pleasant area in the Iowa Legislature before moving to Des Moines and changed his voter registration to a Clear Lake residence shortly before launching his congressional campaign.” [The Gazette, [1/27/26](#)]

**June 2022: Mitchell Purchased An Apartment In Des Moines, Iowa For \$205,000.** [Polk County Recorder, Warranty Deed, File No. 2022-00048906, signed 6/10/22, recorded [6/15/22](#)]

- **Mitchell’s Condo Was In A “25-Story High-Rise” In Downtown Des Moines That “Provides Residents With East Access To The Vibrant Cultural Scene, Dining Options, And Recreational Activities That Define Iowa’s Capital City.”** “The Plaza, a 25-story high-rise completed in 1985, stands as a prominent fixture in downtown Des Moines. With 183 condominium units, this residential tower offers a blend of city living and modern convenience. Located at the intersection of 3rd and Walnut Streets, The Plaza provides residents with easy access to the vibrant cultural scene, dining options, and recreational activities that define Iowa's capital city.” [Homes.com, accessed [12/28/25](#)]

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## **Mitchell Appeared To Illegally Take A Homestead Credit On A Property In Mount Pleasant, Iowa, Which Was Not In CD2**

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*While He Was Primarily Residing In Des Moines, Mitchell Appeared To Illegally Take A Homestead Credit On A House In Mount Pleasant, Iowa*

**HEADLINE: “Joe Mitchell Took A Homestead Tax Credit In Mount Pleasant While Living In Des Moines, Records Show.”** [Iowa Starting Line, [4/30/26](#)]

**2023-2024: Mitchell Received A Homestead Credit On His House In Mount Pleasant, Iowa While “Public Records Indicate He Was Primarily Living In Des Moines.”** “A Republican congressional candidate received a homestead tax credit on a Mount Pleasant property while a review of public records indicates he was primarily living in Des Moines. Joe Mitchell, who is running in the Republican primary for Iowa’s 2nd Congressional District, took a homestead tax credit on a property he owns in Mount Pleasant, according to the Henry County Recorder’s records. To qualify for the credit, Iowa law requires a homeowner to occupy the property for at least six months every year. It is illegal to claim a homestead tax credit where you do not live. But multiple public records suggest Mitchell was not living there during the 2023-2024 period when he received the credit.” [Iowa Starting Line, [4/30/26](#)]

**Iowa Starting Line: “Multiple Public Records Suggest Mitchell Was Not Living” In Mount Pleasant “During The 2023-2024 Period When He Received The Credit.”** “A Republican congressional candidate received a homestead tax credit on a Mount Pleasant property while a review of public records indicates he was primarily living in Des Moines. Joe Mitchell, who is running in the Republican primary for Iowa’s 2nd Congressional District, took a homestead tax credit on a property he owns in Mount Pleasant, according to the Henry County Recorder’s records. To qualify for the credit, Iowa law requires a homeowner to occupy the property for at least six months every year. It is illegal to claim a homestead tax credit where you do not live. But multiple public records suggest Mitchell was not living there during the 2023-2024 period when he received the credit.” [Iowa Starting Line, [4/30/26](#)]

- **2022: IRS Filings For A “Conservative Organization Mitchell Founded” Listed His Personal Address At An Apartment In Des Moines.** “Mitchell’s A Republican congressional candidate received a homestead tax credit on a Mount Pleasant property while a review of public records indicates he was primarily living in Des Moines. Joe Mitchell, who is running in the Republican primary for Iowa’s 2nd Congressional District, took a homestead tax credit on a property he owns in Mount Pleasant, according to the Henry County Recorder’s records. To qualify for the credit, Iowa law requires a homeowner to occupy the property for at least six months every year. It is illegal to claim a homestead tax credit where you do not live. But multiple public records suggest Mitchell was not living there during the 2023-2024 period when he received the credit. In June 2022, the former state representative purchased a condominium at a 25-story high-rise condominium called The Plaza in downtown Des Moines for \$205,000. IRS filings for a conservative political organization Mitchell founded listed his personal address at the Des Moines apartment beginning in 2022. In 2023, his real estate LLC’s registered address also changed to the Des Moines condo. Voter registration records obtained by Iowa Starting Line also show Mitchell was registered to vote at the Des Moines apartment from October 2023 through September 2, 2025—just six days before he announced his congressional campaign.” [Iowa Starting Line, [4/30/26](#)]
- **2023: Mitchell’s “Real Estate LLC’s Registered Address Also Changed To The Des Moines Condo.”** “Mitchell’s A Republican congressional candidate received a homestead tax credit on a Mount Pleasant property while a review of public records indicates he was primarily living in Des Moines. Joe Mitchell, who is running in the Republican primary for Iowa’s 2nd Congressional District, took a homestead tax credit on a property he owns in Mount Pleasant, according to the Henry County Recorder’s records. To qualify for the credit, Iowa law requires a homeowner to occupy the property for at least six months every year.

It is illegal to claim a homestead tax credit where you do not live. But multiple public records suggest Mitchell was not living there during the 2023-2024 period when he received the credit. In June 2022, the former state representative purchased a condominium at a 25-story high-rise condominium called The Plaza in downtown Des Moines for \$205,000. IRS filings for a conservative political organization Mitchell founded listed his personal address at the Des Moines apartment beginning in 2022. In 2023, his real estate LLC's registered address also changed to the Des Moines condo. Voter registration records obtained by Iowa Starting Line also show Mitchell was registered to vote at the Des Moines apartment from October 2023 through September 2, 2025—just six days before he announced his congressional campaign.” [Iowa Starting Line, [4/30/26](#)]

- **October 2023–September 2025: Mitchell Was Registered To Vote At His Des Moines Condo.** “Mitchell’s A Republican congressional candidate received a homestead tax credit on a Mount Pleasant property while a review of public records indicates he was primarily living in Des Moines. Joe Mitchell, who is running in the Republican primary for Iowa’s 2nd Congressional District, took a homestead tax credit on a property he owns in Mount Pleasant, according to the Henry County Recorder’s records. To qualify for the credit, Iowa law requires a homeowner to occupy the property for at least six months every year. It is illegal to claim a homestead tax credit where you do not live. But multiple public records suggest Mitchell was not living there during the 2023-2024 period when he received the credit. In June 2022, the former state representative purchased a condominium at a 25-story high-rise condominium called The Plaza in downtown Des Moines for \$205,000. IRS filings for a conservative political organization Mitchell founded listed his personal address at the Des Moines apartment beginning in 2022. In 2023, his real estate LLC’s registered address also changed to the Des Moines condo. Voter registration records obtained by Iowa Starting Line also show Mitchell was registered to vote at the Des Moines apartment from October 2023 through September 2, 2025—just six days before he announced his congressional campaign.” [Iowa Starting Line, [4/30/26](#)]

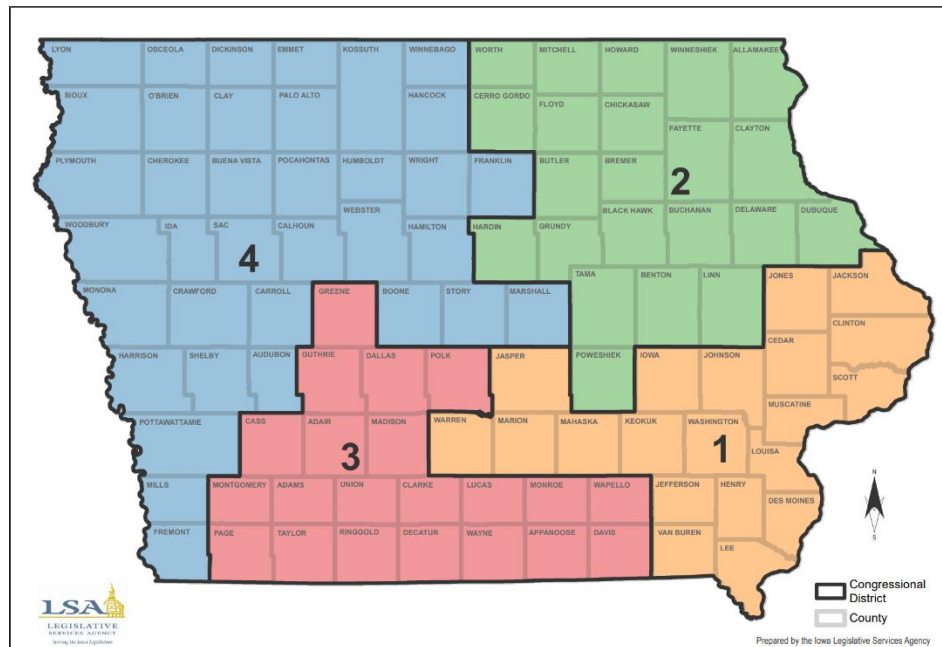
**Iowa Starting Line: “It Is Illegal To Claim A Homestead Credit Where You Do Not Live.”** “A Republican congressional candidate received a homestead tax credit on a Mount Pleasant property while a review of public records indicates he was primarily living in Des Moines. Joe Mitchell, who is running in the Republican primary for Iowa’s 2nd Congressional District, took a homestead tax credit on a property he owns in Mount Pleasant, according to the Henry County Recorder’s records. To qualify for the credit, Iowa law requires a homeowner to occupy the property for at least six months every year. It is illegal to claim a homestead tax credit where you do not live. But multiple public records suggest Mitchell was not living there during the 2023-2024 period when he received the credit.” [Iowa Starting Line, [4/30/26](#)]

- **Mitchell Could Be “Found Guilty Of A Fraudulent Practice And Required To Repay The Credit Plus A Penalty Of 25% Plus Interest, Under Iowa Law.”** “A person who fraudulently claims a homestead credit can be found guilty of a fraudulent practice and required to repay the credit plus a penalty of 25% plus interest, under Iowa law. In response to Iowa Starting Line’s questions about Mitchell’s homestead tax credit claim, his campaign manager Drew Johns said, ‘Joe will call the assessor’s office and look into this.’” [Iowa Starting Line, [4/30/26](#)]

### ***Mount Pleasant Was In Southeast Iowa And Not Located In IA-02***

**Mount Pleasant, Iowa Was In Henry County.** “The Mount Pleasant Area Chamber Alliance welcomes you to charming Henry County, Iowa. Communities that are steeped in progressive historical achievements that continue to define our vibrant culture and small-town values that can famously be found only in the great state of Iowa. Don’t let our small size fool you – we are home to a four-year regional university, a hub of manufacturing and industry in the heart of the Midwest, a unique and lively retail district, and a perennial summer destination for tens of thousands of visitors. Most importantly, we are a great place to call home!” [Mount Pleasant Chamber of Commerce, accessed [6/18/26](#)]

**Henry County Was Located In IA-01** [Iowa Legislative Services Agency, accessed [5/27/26](#)]



**Mitchell Was An Anti-Abortion Extremist Who Voted To Amend Iowa’s Constitution To State That Iowa Did Not Recognize Any Right To Abortion, Voted To Deny Funding For Organizations Offering Abortion Care, And Supported Legislation That Forced The Closure Of A Cedar Rapids Planned Parenthood Clinic**

**2022: Mitchell Voted For A State Budget Providing Grant Money To Nonprofits Counseling Against Abortion**

May 2022: Mitchell Voted For H.F 2578, The FY2023 Health And Human Services Appropriations Bill. In May 2022, “A bill for an act relating to appropriations for health and human services and veterans and including other related provisions and appropriations, providing penalties, and including effective date and retroactive and other applicability date provisions, amended by the Senate amendment.” The bill passed the House (52-32) and was signed into law by Governor Reynolds in June 2022. [Iowa State Legislature, [H.F. 2578](#), [5/23/22](#)]

- **Des Moines Register: The FY2023 Iowa Health And Human Services Budget Provided “Grants To Nonprofit Organizations With A ‘Primary Mission Of Promoting Healthy Pregnancies And Childbirth Instead Of Abortion.’”** “Health and Human Services General Fund: \$2.069 billion (\$20.7 million increase) Other funds: \$424 million (\$540,000 decrease) What it funds: This budget funds the Iowa Department of Public Health, the Department of Human Rights and agencies responsible for the care of veterans and elderly people. Grants to nonprofits that counsel against abortion: Lawmakers allocated \$500,000 to a new program to fund alternatives to abortion. The Department of Human Services will run the ‘More Options for Maternal Support’ program, providing grants to nonprofit organizations with a ‘primary mission of promoting healthy pregnancies and childbirth instead of abortion.’ Services could include prenatal care, adoption planning, infant supplies or medical information.” [Des Moines Register, [6/22/22](#)]

**2021: Mitchell Voted To Amend Iowa’s State Constitution To State That Iowa Did Not Recognize Any Right To Abortion**

**2020-2021: Mitchell Voted To Amend Iowa’s State Constitution To State That Iowa Did Not Recognize Any Right To Abortion, And Defended The Amendment Language, Arguing “It’s Not Banning Abortion”**

***2021: Mitchell Voted To Amend Iowa's State Constitution To State That Iowa Did Not Recognize Any Right To Abortion***

**May 2021: Mitchell Voted For H.J.R. 5, Amending Iowa's Constitution To State That Iowa "Does Not Recognize, Grant, Or Secure A Right To Abortion Or Require The Public Funding Of Abortion."** In May 2021, Mitchell voted for House Joint Resolution 5: "A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Iowa that the Constitution of the State of Iowa does not recognize, grant, or secure a right to abortion or require the public funding of abortion." The resolution passed the House (54-38) and was sent to the Secretary of State. [Iowa State Legislature, [H.J.R. 5, 5/18/21](#)]

***2020: Mitchell Defended Efforts To Amend Iowa's Constitution With Language That The State Did Not Recognize Any Right To Abortion, Saying "It's Not Banning Abortion"***

**Mitchell On The Constitutional Amendment: "It's Not Banning Abortion. It Is Just Undoing The Court Decision That Ruled It Was A Constitutional Right."** "An amendment to the Iowa Constitution regarding women's rights and abortion survived funnel week in the Iowa legislature and prompted one local resident to quiz the area's state representatives about it at a legislative forum Friday at River Rocks Bar & Grill in Fort Madison. The proposal, backed by nearly all Iowa Senate Republicans, adds language to the Iowa Constitution to say the state does not secure or protect a right to abortion." Mitchell said the amendment is not banning abortion, but it is nullifying the Iowa Supreme Court ruling that declared the state's fetal heartbeat unconstitutional. 'It's not banning abortion. It is just undoing the court decision that ruled it was a constitutional right,' Mitchell told the full house at Friday's forum." [Daily Democrat, [2/24/20](#)]

- **Iowa Public Radio Headline: "Republican Senators Want Iowa Constitution To Say It Does Not Protect Abortion Rights."** [Iowa Public Radio, [1/16/20](#)]
- **2020: Iowa Republicans Proposed A Constitutional Amendment That Would Change Wording In The State's Constitution To Weaken Abortion Rights, Which At The Time Were More Strongly Protected In Iowa Than At The National Level.** "The constitutional amendment would mean that for any abortion restriction challenged in Iowa courts, judges would use U.S. Supreme Court precedent to evaluate its constitutionality, instead of Iowa Supreme Court precedent. For now, the Iowa Supreme Court's 2018 ruling means abortion rights have stronger protections in Iowa than at the national level. And abortion rights opponents are expecting the U.S. Supreme Court to chip away at national abortion rights protections. This constitutional amendment would make it possible for that to affect Iowa." [Iowa Public Radio, [1/16/20](#)]
- **Iowa Public Radio: "The Constitutional Amendment Would Mean That For Any Abortion Restriction Challenged In Iowa Courts, Judges Would Use U.S. Supreme Court Precedent To Evaluate Its Constitutionality, Instead Of Iowa Supreme Court Precedent."** The constitutional amendment would mean that for any abortion restriction challenged in Iowa courts, judges would use U.S. Supreme Court precedent to evaluate its constitutionality, instead of Iowa Supreme Court precedent. For now, the Iowa Supreme Court's 2018 ruling means abortion rights have stronger protections in Iowa than at the national level. And abortion rights opponents are expecting the U.S. Supreme Court to chip away at national abortion rights protections. This constitutional amendment would make it possible for that to affect Iowa." [Iowa Public Radio, [1/16/20](#)]

**2020: Mitchell Voted To Restrict Patients From Receiving Abortions During Their Initial Appointments And Require A 24-Hour Waiting Period**

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**2020: Mitchell Voted For A 24-Hour Waiting Period For Abortions**

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**June 2020: Mitchell Voted For H.F. 594.** In June 2020, Mitchell voted for H.F. 594: "A bill for an act relating to limitations regarding the withdrawal of a life-sustaining procedure from a minor child." The bill passed the House (53-42) and was signed into law by Governor Reynolds in June 2020. [Iowa State Legislature, [H.F. 594, 6/13/20](#)]

- **ABC: “HF594, Would Implement The Waiting Period, Meaning A Woman Could Not Have The Procedure Done During Her Initial Appointment.”** “A controversial bill requiring a 24-hour waiting period before a woman can receive an abortion was signed into law by Gov. Kim Reynolds on Monday. The bill, HF594, would implement the waiting period, meaning a woman could not have the procedure done during her initial appointment.” [ABC, [6/29/20](#)]
- **The Law Required Women Be Provided The Opportunity To View Information About Abortion And Alternatives, Including Adoption At The Initial Appointment.** “Gov. Kim Reynolds signed into law Monday afternoon a requirement that women wait 24 hours before having abortions, even as an Iowa judge heard arguments from Planned Parenthood urging him not to let the law take effect. [...] The law says a woman cannot have an abortion for at least 24 hours after an initial appointment. At that appointment, the woman must be given the opportunity to view an ultrasound scan of the fetus and information about abortion and other options, including adoption.” [Des Moines Register, [6/29/20](#)]

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**Waiting Periods Could Push Women Past The Window Of Being Able To Have A Medication-Induced Abortion, Cause Delays in Scheduling New Appointments, And Cause Patients To Have To Travel Long Distances For The Procedure**

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**According To Planned Parenthood, The Waiting Period Could “Push Women Past The Window In Their Pregnancies When They Can Have A Medication-Induced Abortion,” In Some Cases.** “Alice Clapman, a lawyer for Planned Parenthood, said the group's Iowa affiliate has already scheduled more than 100 patients for abortions on or after Wednesday, when the law is set to take effect. [...] In some cases, the wait could push women past the window in their pregnancies when they can have a medication-induced abortion and may have to have a procedure instead, Clapman said.” [Des Moines Register, [6/29/20](#)]

- **Planned Parenthood: The Waiting Period Could Cause The Patient To Wait Longer Than 24 Hours Because Of Having To Schedule A New Appointment.** “Alice Clapman, a lawyer for Planned Parenthood, said the group's Iowa affiliate has already scheduled more than 100 patients for abortions on or after Wednesday, when the law is set to take effect. She said requiring an additional visit after the woman's initial appointment could cause the patient to wait longer than 24 hours because she would have to schedule a new appointment.” [Des Moines Register, [6/29/20](#)]
- **Planned Parenthood: The Waiting Period Could Cause Iowa Patients To Have To Travel Longer Distances For Abortions.** “Alice Clapman, a lawyer for Planned Parenthood, said the group's Iowa affiliate has already scheduled more than 100 patients for abortions on or after Wednesday, when the law is set to take effect. She said requiring an additional visit after the woman's initial appointment could cause the patient to wait longer than 24 hours because she would have to schedule a new appointment. It could also require patients to travel long distances because Iowa only has six clinics where women can have medication-induced abortions and only two where a medical procedure can be performed.” [Des Moines Register, [6/29/20](#)]

**2019: Mitchell Voted To Prohibit Planned Parenthood From Receiving Grant Funding**

**April 2019: Mitchell Voted For H.F. 766, The FY2020 Iowa Health And Human Services Appropriations Bill.** In April 2019, Mitchell Voted For H.F. 766: “A bill for an act relating to appropriations for health and human services and veterans and including other related provisions and appropriations, providing penalties, and including effective date and retroactive and other applicability date provisions.” The bill passed the House (52-47) and was signed into law by Governor Reynolds in May 2019. [Iowa State Legislature, [H.F. 766, 4/27/19](#)]

- **H.F. 766 Prohibited Grant Funding For Planned Parenthood And Banned Medicaid From Covering Gender-Affirming Health Care In Iowa.** “On Saturday, the Iowa House passed HF 766 (the Health and Human Services budget bill). The bill bans Medicaid and all other insurance coverage funded by public dollars from paying for transition-related medical services for transgender Iowans. The bill also prevents Planned Parenthood and other entities that provide abortion services from engaging in competitive bidding for certain

sexual education federal grants. The Iowa Senate passed the bill less than 24 hours earlier.” [WHO 13 Des Moines, [4/27/19](#)]

- **H.F. 766 Prohibited Grant Funding For Any Sex Education Program Administered By An Organization That “Performs Or Promotes Abortions.”** “Any contract entered into on or after July 1, 2019, by the department of public health to administer the personal responsibility education program as specified in 42 U.S.C. §713 or to administer the sexual risk avoidance education grant program authorized pursuant to section 510 of Tit. v of the federal Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. §710, as amended by section 50502 of the federal Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, Pub. L. No. 115-123, and as further amended by division S, Title VII, section 701 of the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018, Pub. L. No. 115-141, shall exclude as an eligible applicant, any applicant entity that performs abortions, promotes abortions, maintains or operates a facility where abortions are performed or promoted, contracts or subcontracts with an entity that performs or promotes abortions, becomes or continues to be an affiliate of any entity that performs or promotes abortions, or regularly makes referrals to an entity that provides or promotes abortions or maintains or operates a facility where abortions are performed.” [Iowa State Legislature, H.F. 766 Sec. 99-100, [4/27/19](#)]
- **H.F. 766 Specifically Targeted Planned Parenthood, Blocking It From Receiving Federal Money To Teach Sex Education.** “Another piece of the bill targets Planned Parenthood by prohibiting the health care nonprofit group from getting federal grant money specifically for sexual education programs. ‘By defunding Planned Parenthood, you remove one of the most significant providers of sex education from the system,’ said Erin Davison-Rippey, state director of Planned Parenthood of the Heartland. ‘If we want to prevent abortion and unintended pregnancy, ensuring young people in this state have access to Sex Ed and can make those decisions is key.’ The language targets organizations that perform abortions, but carved out an exception for providers that are affiliated with hospitals and primary care clinics. Davison-Rippey says this, in effect, bans only Planned Parenthood from receiving the grant money. ‘The young people who Planned Parenthood is providing these programs to will not have access to these programs. So that burden is put back potentially on teachers, on schools, who now have provide this education,’ Davison-Rippey said. Democrats during floor debated condemned the provision, calling it a specific target against Planned Parenthood.” [CBS 2 Iowa, [4/26/19](#)]

### **Mitchell Supported The One Big Beautiful Bill, Which Restricted Abortion And Reproductive Health Care Services For Iowans And Sought To Defund Planned Parenthood**

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#### **Mitchell Praised The One Big Beautiful Bill, Calling It “Important”**

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**April 2026: Mitchell Said The Big Beautiful Bill Was “Important.”** MITCHELL: “This is where you the big, beautiful bill is so important because you've seen tax cuts go to working class people. And so you had no tax on tips, no tax on overtime, no tax on Social Security. So you had, you know, tax cuts that, you know, uh, you know, by, you know, the Democrats definition. Was it for, you know, just business owners and wealthy people is for working class people. And so I think that's important because that's who we need to be helping out. As you know, your everyday person here in Cedar Falls or elsewhere around the district. And that's what we're focused on and that's the policies that we're going to champion in Congress.” [KXEL, YouTube, 9:22, [4/28/26](#)] (AUDIO )

- **January 2026: Mitchell: “We’ve Got To Talk About The Big Beautiful Bill.”** MITCHELL: “Again, the Democrats want to talk about this affordability crisis, but they caused it! And we have to remind voters of that, you know, going into the midterms, because that's how we win. We’ve got to talk about the Big Beautiful Bill, we’ve got to talk about everything the president's done to help bring down costs, which he's absolutely done.” [Doug Wagner Show, 04:00, [1/27/26](#)] (AUDIO)

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### **The One Big Beautiful Bill Cut Medicaid Funds To Organizations That Provide Abortions And Sought To “Defund” Planned Parenthood**

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**The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Cut Medicaid Funds To Organizations That Provide Abortions.** “While most Americans were still sleeping in the early morning hours of May 22, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 1 in a slim 215-214 vote, electing to push forward President Donald Trump’s sweeping 1,000-page legislative package. The bill includes billions of dollars in cuts to Medicaid, which would lead to reduced access for millions of people to reproductive health care. The bill, called the “One Big Beautiful Bill Act,” includes provisions that would cut Medicaid funds to organizations that provide abortions, including Planned Parenthood.” [Pennsylvania Independent, [5/27/25](#)]

**The One Big Beautiful Bill Would “Defund” Planned Parenthood.** “The bill would ‘defund’ Planned Parenthood, decimating access to basic reproductive care for more than 1.1 million people, including for birth control, wellness exams, STI tests and treatment, and lifesaving cancer screenings. People who rely on Medicaid to get these services often have no other alternative provider and wouldn’t be able to afford to access health care.” [Planned Parenthood Action, [6/6/25](#)]

- **A Federal Judge Found That A Provision In Trump’s One Big Beautiful Bill Forced Planned Parenthood To Choose Between Continuing To Offer Abortion Services, Or Face A “Catastrophic Loss Of Revenue.”** “A federal judge on Monday indefinitely blocked the Trump administration from enforcing a policy that would prevent many Planned Parenthood clinics from receiving federal Medicaid reimbursements if they continue to offer abortion services. The order, issued by Judge Indira Talwani in Federal District Court in Massachusetts, extended a temporary block she had placed on the government earlier this month. She found that the policy retaliated against Planned Parenthood in violation of its First Amendment rights and could amount to an unconstitutional ‘legislative punishment.’ The lawsuit, filed earlier this month, came in response to a provision introduced in the sprawling policy bill that President Trump signed into law early this month. The bill imposed a one-year ban on state Medicaid payments to any health care nonprofit that offers abortions and received more than \$800,000 in Medicaid funding in 2023. Many clinics affiliated with Planned Parenthood, which provide a range of services unrelated to abortion, immediately faced a choice between altering their operations and retaining millions of dollars in funding, or facing a potentially catastrophic loss of revenue. Because almost no other nonprofits or national networks meet the \$800,000 threshold set in the bill, Judge Talwani found it was “easily ascertainable” that the provision was targeted and intended to force Planned Parenthood’s hand.” [New York Times, [7/28/25](#)]

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### **Planned Parenthood Shut Down A Clinic In IA-02 In Part Due To Anticipated Funding Cuts Under Trump’s One Big Beautiful Bill**

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**March 2025: Planned Parenthood Announced It Was Permanently Closing Four Clinics In Iowa, In Ames, Cedar Rapids, Sioux City, And Urbandale.** “Planned Parenthood North Central States announced it plans to close four clinics in Iowa amid financial challenges. The organization said it will close its clinics in Ames, Cedar Rapids, Sioux City and Urbandale in addition to four of its clinics in Minnesota in the coming year. It will also layoff 66 staff members and offer 37 others reassignments. Planned Parenthood said in a press release that the decision to restructure and close the clinics ‘comes as patient needs and preferences have changed, the broken aspects of our health care system have intensified, the organization’s Minnesota Title X funds have been frozen, and the U.S. House voted to advance a reconciliation package that defunds Planned Parenthood.’” [Iowa Public Radio, [3/24/25](#)]

- **Planned Parenthood’s Cedar Rapids Health Center Was Located At 3425 First Ave Se, Suite 100 Cedar Rapids, IA 52402.** [Planned Parenthood via Wayback Machine, archived [11/3/24](#), accessed 4/30/26]

[Planned Parenthood via Wayback Machine, archived [11/3/24](#), accessed 4/30/26]

- **According To The U.S. House Of Representatives Mapping Tool, The Zip Code 52402 Was In Iowa’s 2<sup>nd</sup> District.** [U.S. House of Representatives, accessed [4/30/26](#)]

[U.S. House of Representatives, accessed [4/30/26](#)]

**Planned Parenthood Said The Decision To Close The Clinics Was In Part Because “The U.S. House Voted To Advance A Reconciliation Package That Defunds Planned Parenthood.”** “Planned Parenthood said in a press release that the decision to restructure and close the clinics ‘comes as patient needs and preferences have changed, the broken aspects of our health care system have intensified, the organization’s Minnesota Title X funds have been frozen, and the U.S. House voted to advance a reconciliation package that defunds Planned Parenthood.’” [Iowa Public Radio, [3/24/25](#)]

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## **The One Big Beautiful Bill Could Shut Down A “Huge” Percentage Of Planned Parenthood Clinics By Barring Them From Accepting Medicaid Patients For Non-Abortion Services**

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**The One Big Beautiful Bill Could Shut Down A “Huge” Percentage Of Planned Parenthood Clinics By Barring Them From Accepting Medicaid Patients For Non-Abortion Services.** “The U.S. Senate is expected to vote this week on the so-called ‘big beautiful bill’—a federal government funding bill that has already passed the House and would wreak havoc on reproductive healthcare throughout the country. The bill could shut down a huge percentage of Planned Parenthood clinics by barring them from accepting Medicaid patients for non-abortion services such as STI testing, cervical cancer screenings, and contraception.” [Center for Reproductive Rights, [6/23/25](#)]

- **200 Planned Parenthood Health Centers Could Close.** “If Planned Parenthood is ‘defunded,’ it could force as many as 200 Planned Parenthood health centers to close. More than 90% of Planned Parenthood health centers at risk of closure are in states where abortion is still legal, and the number of health centers in abortion access states could be cut in half. That means it could be much harder to get an abortion — everywhere. Anti-abortion lawmakers know how unpopular it is to ban abortion outright, so they’re trying to shut down Planned Parenthood health centers to implement a backdoor ban.” [Planned Parenthood Action, [6/6/25](#)]

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## **The One Big Beautiful Bill Incentivized Insurers For Affordable Care Act Plans To Drop Abortion Coverage**

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**Vox: “President Donald Trump’s ‘Big, Beautiful Bill’ Would Not Only Directly Threaten Reproductive Care By Defunding Planned Parenthood And Other Abortion Providers, It Would Also Incentivize Insurers For Affordable Care Act Plans In Some States To Drop Abortion Coverage Or Make It Significantly More Expensive.”** “Three years after the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, Republicans in Congress are poised to further erode access to abortion and reproductive care. President Donald Trump’s ‘big, beautiful bill’ would not only directly threaten reproductive care by defunding Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers, it would also incentivize insurers for Affordable Care Act plans in some states to drop abortion coverage or make it significantly more expensive. And it would slash Medicaid coverage, impacting Americans’ ability to access medical care of all sorts. Though Medicaid funds cannot fund abortions except under very narrow circumstances, the cuts would threaten access to non-abortion reproductive care. Many abortion providers, including Planned Parenthood, also offer health care in the form of contraceptives, treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, and cervical cancer screenings.” [Vox, [6/30/25](#)]

- **Vox Headline: “The Republican Spending Bill Is A Disaster For Reproductive Rights.”** [Vox, [6/30/25](#)]

**Mitchell Consulted Hospital CEOs On Legislation, Opposed A \$50 Cap On Insulin Co-Pays, And Downplayed Iowa’s Disastrous Privatization Of Medicaid That Led To Iowans Being Denied Critical Health Care And Facing Delayed Reimbursements**

**2020: Mitchell Voted Against Considering An Amendment That Proposed Capping Insulin Cost-Sharing At \$50**

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**March 2020: Mitchell Voted Against Considering An Amendment That Proposed Capping Insulin Cost-Sharing At \$50, Rather Than \$100**

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**March 2020: Mitchell Voted Against Amendment H-8115.** In March 2020, Mitchell voted against “On the question ‘Shall the rules be suspended to consider amendment H–8115, to amendment H–8016?’ (H.F. 2138).” The motion failed by a vote of 46-53. [Iowa State Legislature, [H-8115](#) to H-8016 (H.F. 2138), [3/9/20](#)]

- **Amendment H-8115 Proposed Adding Language To Amendment H-8016 That Would Strike \$100 And Replace It With \$50 In H.F. 2138.** [Iowa State Legislature, [H-8115](#) to H-8016 (H.F. 2138), introduced 3/9/20]

H-8115

- 1 Amend the amendment, H-8016, to House File 2138 as follows:
- 2 1. Page 1, after line 3 by inserting:
- 3 <\_\_\_. Page 1, line 26, by **striking <one hundred> and**
- 4 **inserting <fifty>>**
- 5 2. By renumbering as necessary.

- **H.F. 2138 Included Terms For A \$100 Cap On Cost-Sharing For A 30-Day Supply Of Insulin.** [Iowa State Legislature, Amendment [H-8016 to H.F. 2138, 3/9/20](#)]

- 21 2. Notwithstanding the uniformity of treatment requirements
- 22 of section 514C.6, a policy, contract, or plan providing
- 23 for third-party payment or prepayment of health or medical
- 24 expenses that provides coverage for prescription drugs shall
- 25 cap the total amount of cost-sharing that a covered person is
- 26 required to pay to an amount **not to exceed one hundred dollars**
- 27 for a thirty-day supply of at least one type of each of the
- 28 following:
- 29 a. Rapid-acting prescription insulin drugs.
- 30 b. Short-acting prescription insulin drugs.
- 31 c. Intermediate-acting prescription insulin drugs.
- 32 d. Long-acting prescription insulin drugs.

[Iowa State Legislature, Amendment [H-8016 to H.F. 2138, 3/9/20](#)]

**Mitchell Downplayed The Failures Of Iowa’s Privatization Of Medicaid Saying There Were Some “Bumps In The Road”; A Year Later, Private Medicaid Firms Serving Iowans Were Investigated By The Federal Government For Unfairly Denying Services**

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**2016: Iowa Privatized Its Near \$4 Billion Medicaid Program Which Served About 600,000 Residents**

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**Associated Press: “Iowa Privatized Its Roughly \$4 Billion Medicaid Program, Which Serves About 600,000 Residents, In 2016.”** Iowa privatized its roughly \$4 billion Medicaid program, which serves about 600,000 residents, in 2016. At the time, former Gov. Terry Branstad argued the new setup would be more efficient and save the state money. Since then, health care providers and Medicaid recipients have filed complaints about reduced services and delayed reimbursements. Data on costs also shows the state hasn’t reached its intended goal on savings. [Associated Press, [2/11/18](#)]

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**2018: Mitchell Said The Iowa Legislature “Has Tried To Make Sure They Are Giving The Quality Care To Our Citizens They Deserve” With Oversight Bills He Believed Would “Smooth Bumps In The Road”**

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**Mitchell On Iowa’s Privatization Of Medicaid: “What The Legislature Has Tried To Do ... Is Put Oversight Bills On These Manage Care Operations To Make Sure They Are Giving The Quality Care To Our Citizens They Deserve.”** “Former Republican Gov. Terry Branstad ordered Iowa follow other states in hiring national companies to administrate its Medicaid program in 2015. Since then, controversy over whether taxpayers are saving money by the privatization of Medicaid has persisted. [...] Mitchell: ‘What the Legislature has tried to do ... is put oversight bills on these manage care operations to make sure they are giving the quality care to our citizens they deserve. The oversight bill we passed this last legislative is going to try to smooth the bumps in the road, but I’m all for putting more government oversight on the managed care operations to make sure that they’re putting people over profits.’” [Southeast Iowa Union, [10/19/18](#)]

**Mitchell Said The Oversight Bill Passed In The Previous Session Was “Going To Try To Smooth The Bumps**

**In The Road.** “Former Republican Gov. Terry Branstad ordered Iowa follow other states in hiring national companies to administrate its Medicaid program in 2015. Since then, controversy over whether taxpayers are saving money by the privatization of Medicaid has persisted. [...] ‘What the Legislature has tried to do ... is put oversight bills on these managed care operations to make sure they are giving the quality care to our citizens they deserve. The oversight bill we passed this last legislative is going to try to smooth the bumps in the road, but I’m all for putting more government oversight on the managed care operations to make sure that they’re putting people over profits.’” [Southeast Iowa Union, [10/19/18](#)]

**Mitchell On The Iowa’s Challenges With Medicaid: “It’s No Secret The Medicaid Program Was Implemented Poorly, But Last Session The Legislature Put In An Oversight Provision.”** “The privatization of Medicaid has been surrounded by controversy and conflicting data since then-Gov. Terry Branstad ordered the shift in 2015. His successor, Gov. Kim Reynolds, has continued to support the move. But hospitals and nursing homes officials say Medicaid costs continue to increase while reimbursements to the facilities fail to cover the costs of Medicaid patients. ‘It’s no secret the Medicaid program was implemented poorly, but last session the legislature put in an oversight provision,’ Mitchell said.” [Daily Democrat, [2/18/19](#)]

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### **Iowa’s Medicaid Privatization Produced “Barely Half” The Savings That Were Anticipated...**

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**2018: Republican State Auditor Found Medicaid Privatization Saved The State “Barely Half” Of What Gov. Branstad Projected When The Change Was Instituted Two Years Earlier.** “Iowa saved \$126 million this year from privatizing its Medicaid system, barely half what former Gov. Terry Branstad projected when he forced the change in 2016, according to an audit released Monday. The report by Auditor Mary Mosiman also found officials and lawmakers have failed to file quarterly financial reports as required by state law. She said they ‘should have worked together to establish a method to estimate the program cost savings’ when moving from state-managed Medicaid to a system managed by for-profit health care companies.” [Associated Press, [11/26/18](#)]

**Democrats And Some Health Care Providers Questioned Whether Privatization Produced Any Savings At All, Noting State Had Poured Money Into Medicaid To Offset Losses Sustained By Insurers.** “Democratic critics and some health care providers have questioned whether the Medicaid change really is producing any savings. DHS has poured more money into Medicaid because insurance providers claimed they were sustaining losses. Iowa officials said in August they were giving Amerigroup and UnitedHealthcare, the two companies that manage the program, an additional \$103 million over last year’s funding.” [Associated Press, [11/26/18](#)]

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### **...While Causing “Reduced Services And Delayed Reimbursements” For Recipients And Providers**

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**Iowa’s Medicaid Privatization Effort Resulted In “Reduced Services And Delayed Reimbursements.”** “Iowa privatized its roughly \$4 billion Medicaid program, which serves about 600,000 residents, in 2016. At the time, former Gov. Terry Branstad argued the new setup would be more efficient and save the state money. Since then, health care providers and Medicaid recipients have filed complaints about reduced services and delayed reimbursements. Data on costs also shows the state hasn’t reached its intended goal on savings. Gov. Kim Reynolds, a Republican who is seeking her first four-year term as governor, has acknowledged there have been mistakes in the program’s transition. [...] Disability Rights Iowa helped file a lawsuit against the state that claimed the privatized system has cut services for disabled patients, but the suit was dismissed.” [Associated Press, [2/11/18](#)]

**Medicaid Recipients Reported Being Denied Necessary Health Care And Providers Complained They Received “Low Reimbursement.”** “Despite that, criticism of the program has not stopped. Complaints from providers about low reimbursement are reminiscent of the same complaints voiced four and five years ago. Advocates say Medicaid members, particularly those who require long-term supports, struggle to obtain the care they need. ‘Iowans were made more vulnerable by privatization,’ said Jenn Wolff, a disability advocate behind the #UpgradeMedicaid initiative. [...] Early on, Iowans claimed they were denied necessary health care and providers complained they failed to receive full or partial reimbursement for their services. At one stage, the Iowa Ombudsman’s Office assigned a full-time staff member to respond to Iowans’ complaints about the managed-care program, Ombudsman Kristie Hirschman said in 2017.” [The Gazette, [5/11/21](#)]

**Some Iowans Said They Were “Denied Necessary Health Care” When Medicaid Was Privatized.** “But the abrupt exits of those previous insurers resulted in upheavals for Medicaid member services, patients and advocates say. Early on, Iowans claimed they were denied necessary health care and providers complained they failed to receive full or partial reimbursement for their services. At one stage, the Iowa Ombudsman’s Office assigned a full-time staff member to respond to Iowans’ complaints about the managed-care program, Ombudsman Kristie Hirschman said in 2017.” [The Gazette, [5/11/21](#)]

- **The Gazette Reported That “Challenges Plagued [Iowa’s Managed-Care Medicaid] Program Since Day One” And Continued When The Program Switched Management.** “This year marks the fifth anniversary since Iowa overhauled its Medicaid program, moving it from a state-run system to a managed-care model that handed the reins over to private, out-of-state insurance companies. [...] Challenges plagued program since day one. The switch to managed care didn’t happen without what one state official at the time described as bumps in the road. Even before the switch, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention stepped in to delay the transition over concerns about the state’s readiness. Federal health officials gave their approval in early 2016, and the program switched management on April 1 of that year. Challenges continued to plague the program. Managed-care organizations left the program due to what they described as chronic underfunding, starting with the exit of AmeriHealth Caritas in late 2017 and followed by UnitedHealthcare of the River Valley in 2019. Two managed-care organizations, Amerigroup and Iowa Total Care, currently manage the program. State officials say a third insurer may be brought into the program as they approach contract negotiations for Amerigroup, whose current contract is scheduled to expire in mid-2023. But the abrupt exits of those previous insurers resulted in upheavals for Medicaid member services, patients and advocates say” [The Gazette, [5/11/21](#)]

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### **Medicaid Recipients, Including People With Disabilities, Saw Their Services Severely Reduced, While Some Were “Trapped In Endless Appeals”**

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**Private Insurers Failing To Comply With Their Contracts Meant Recipients Were “Going Without Services, Such As Bathing And Wound Care.”** “Sand also reported that the two companies managing the Medicaid program, Amerigroup and Centene Corp., operating as Iowa Total Care, violated provisions of the contract established with the DHS. He said Amerigroup failed to comply with one provision of the contract, and ITC failed to comply with numerous provisions. For example, in multiple documented instances, both companies failed to comply with the contract clause requiring Home and Community Based Services providers to continue providing services to a member switching from one provider to another. ‘This has resulted in members going without services, such as bathing and wound care, thus violating the contract, and state and federal law, while the company still receives payment for their care,’ Sand said in the report.” [ABC News, [10/20/21](#)]

**One Complaint To The Iowa Office Of Ombudsman Said That A Man Who Was Quadriplegic And Receiving At-Home Care Had His Services Reduced “By More Than 70 Percent.”** “The Iowa Office of Ombudsman said in its annual report that it received more than 225 complaints last year related to the private health insurance companies that run the state’s Medicaid program for the poor and disabled. [...] One involved a quadriplegic receiving at-home care whose monthly services were reduced by more than 70 percent, even though his private insurance company had not cited any evidence that his condition had improved.” [Associated Press, [4/2/18](#)]

**Another Medicaid Recipient, A Man With A Severe Brain Injury Induced By A Crash, Sued The State After His Home Help Budget Was Reduced By 50% Due To Medicaid Privatization.** “Iowa is one of 38 states that radically changed the way it runs Medicaid over the past few years. The state moved about 600,000 people on the government-run health program into care that is managed by for-profit insurance companies. The idea is that the private companies would save the state money, but it has been a rocky transition in Iowa, especially for people like Neal Siegel. Siegel is one of six disabled Iowans suing the state, alleging that Medicaid managed care, as it is known, deprives thousands of Iowans with disabilities the right to live safely in their homes. [...] Then last year, Wargo says, they got a letter in the mail from AmeriHealth Caritas, the company that manages his care. Siegel's budget for home help had been slashed by 50 percent, Wargo says.” [NPR, [10/7/17](#)]

**Des Moines Register: Many Disabled Iowans Complained About Privatized Medicaid MCOs Repeatedly Trying To Cut Their Care, Leaving Them “Trapped In Endless Appeals.”** “Campbell is among scores of disabled Iowans who have complained about Medicaid managed-care companies trying to save money by cutting the assistance they receive at home. Some, like Campbell, have won on appeal - only to see those same Medicaid managers later try to cut their care again. They find themselves trapped in endless appeals, according to a quarterly report by Iowa's Long-term Care Ombudsman [...] Campbell was one of the first disabled Iowans the Des Moines Register featured last year in its reporting on how for-profit companies were running Iowa's \$5 billion Medicaid program, which serves roughly 600,000 clients. Since then, many other Iowans have come forward to recount similar struggles. He suspects the managed-care companies hope Iowans like him will become discouraged and stop appealing such cuts.” [Des Moines Register, [7/6/18](#)]

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**2019: The U.S. Office Of Inspector General Investigated Medicaid Firms For Allegedly Denying Iowans Health Care**

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**April 2019: Denial Of Health Care Claims Under Privatized Medicaid Prompted Federal Investigation By The U.S. Office Of Inspector General.** “Federal officials have launched an investigation into the insurance companies that contract with several states across the country to oversee Medicaid managed-care programs, including Iowa's. On Wednesday, the U.S. Office of Inspector General announced a review of medical and dental services and drug prescription denials by the managed-care organizations that oversee Medicaid members' care. In Medicaid contract agreements, financial risk for the cost of Medicaid services is shifted from state and federal governments to the managed-care organizations, the Inspector General's Office wrote in a news release. This shift ‘can create an incentive to deny beneficiaries' access to covered services.’ The Inspector General added that state Medicaid agencies and the federal government are responsible for the financial risk associated with Medicaid services and that managed-care organizations must ensure beneficiaries receive covered services.” [The Gazette, [4/17/19](#)]

**April 2019: Des Moines Register Headline: “Feds To Investigate Whether Medicaid Firms Are Unfairly Denying Care To Disabled People.”** [Des Moines Register, [4/17/19](#)]

**April 2019: Des Moines Register: “Federal Investigators Will Look Into Whether Private Medicaid Management Companies, Including Those Covering More Than 600,000 Poor Or Disabled Iowans, Are Unfairly Denying Services.”** “Federal investigators will look into whether private Medicaid management companies, including those covering more than 600,000 poor or disabled Iowans, are unfairly denying services. [...] The federal agency’s Office of Inspector General agreed to look into the matter. A listing on its website says a report could be expected in 2020.” [Des Moines Register, [4/17/19](#)]

**Mitchell Suggested Medicaid Cuts To Supplement Education Funding, Asking His Fellow Legislators “Where Do You Want The Money To Come From?”**

**When Concerns Were Raised About Underfunding Education, Mitchell Blamed Medicaid And Said “So Where Do You Want The Money To Come From?”** “A bill setting allowable growth funding for Iowa schools at 2.06 percent was passed in the House, which was lower than the governor's proposed 2.3 percent and much lower than the Democrat's push for 3 percent. Taylor said education once accounted for 60 percent of the state's annual budget, but that now it is 53 percent. ‘We just keep under-funding education and then question why people are leaving the state,’ he said. Mitchell said 55 percent of the budget goes to education, but that it's clear why the amount is less than in previous years. He showed charts showing how Medicaid costs increased over the years and require a larger portion of the state's funds. ‘So where do you want the money to come from?’ he asked his fellow lawmakers.” [Daily Democrat, [2/18/19](#)]

**2020: Mitchell Voted To Make It More Difficult For Iowans Suffering From Asbestos Or Silica-Related Health Issues To Seek Damages For Exposure**

**March 2020: Mitchell Voted For S.F. 2337.** In February 2020, Mitchell voted for S.F. 2337: “A bill for an

act relating to civil actions involving asbestos and silica, and including applicability provisions.” The bill passed the House (54-46) and was signed into law by Governor Reynolds in June 2020. [Iowa State Legislature, S.F. 2337, [3/10/20](#)]

- **Under S.F. 2337, Iowans Would Have To Name A History Of Employers And Products Associated With Asbestos Or Silica Exposure In A Sworn Affidavit Detailing Evidence Of Their Claims Against Defendants.** “Iowans who claim sickness from asbestos exposure may soon have to provide more detailed information in order to sue for damages. As a result of the over-naming of defendants in asbestos and silica lawsuits, the Iowa House and Senate passed Senate File 2337 (“SF2337”). Governor Kim Reynolds is expected to sign it into law. [...] SF2337 provides new rules for asbestos-related lawsuits. Plaintiffs suing companies over claimed exposure to asbestos and silica would have to establish a basis for the allegation against specific defendants. The File requires anyone filing an asbestos or silica lawsuit to include a sworn affidavit detailing the evidence against each named defendant in the initial pleading, along with other responsible parties—including bankrupt entities—and a full list of current and former employers. Iowa plaintiffs would have to identify each current and past work site, as well as the frequency of their exposure to asbestos. The affidavit would have to list each product to which exposure to asbestos or silica is claimed, and identify each manufacturer, distributor, and seller of that product. SF2337 calls for the dismissal of any defendant for which the plaintiff fails to provide this information”. [Chicago Bar Association, @theBar Blog, [5/18/20](#)]

### **Mitchell Supported A Bill Limiting Non-Economic Damages For Medical Malpractice Cases Because Of Concerns Hospital CEOs Had Voiced To Him**

**Mitchell Supported A Bill That Would Limit “Non-Economic” Damages For Medical Malpractice Or In Cases Against The Owner Or Operator Of A Commercial Motor Vehicle.** “The bill would limit ‘non-economic’ damages for medical malpractice or in cases against the owner or operator of a commercial motor vehicle. Cornell said he's representing a family whose father, an employee of the Iowa Department of Transportation, was killed while working along the side of the road when he was struck by a vehicle. He said the cap in this bill would limit the family of five to receiving \$1 million, which he thought was wrong. Mitchell said he did not believe the bill was a violation of the Seventh Amendment, and reiterated that the cap applied only to non-economic damages. He said that the high cost of medical malpractice lawsuits has forced small hospitals to close, and that this issue is the No. 1 concern of hospital CEOs he's talked to.” [Southeast Iowa Union, [3/14/22](#)]

**Mitchell Explained His Support For The Bill Was Due To The Concerns Hospital CEOs Had Shared With Him.** “The bill would limit ‘non-economic’ damages for medical malpractice or in cases against the owner or operator of a commercial motor vehicle. Cornell said he's representing a family whose father, an employee of the Iowa Department of Transportation, was killed while working along the side of the road when he was struck by a vehicle. He said the cap in this bill would limit the family of five to receiving \$1 million, which he thought was wrong. Mitchell said he did not believe the bill was a violation of the Seventh Amendment, and reiterated that the cap applied only to non-economic damages. He said that the high cost of medical malpractice lawsuits has forced small hospitals to close, and that this issue is the No. 1 concern of hospital CEOs he's talked to.” [Southeast Iowa Union, [3/14/22](#)]

- **Justia: “Non-Economic Damages Refer To Compensation For A Wide Array Of Non-Monetary Losses” Or “Intangible Suffering.”** “This intangible suffering is the basis for non-economic damages. While they don't come with a price tag, the law recognizes that these losses are just as real as financial costs. [...] Non-economic damages refer to compensation for a wide array of non-monetary losses. These can include: Pain and Suffering: This encompasses the physical pain and discomfort you endure as a result of the injury. Emotional Distress: This includes anxiety, depression, fear, insomnia, PTSD, and other psychological impacts stemming from the trauma of the injury. Loss of Enjoyment of Life: This compensates for the inability to partake in hobbies, recreational activities, and other life pleasures that were possible before the injury. Disfigurement and Physical Impairment: This addresses scarring, physical alterations, and permanent limitations that can have a profound impact on a person's life and self-esteem. Loss of Consortium: This is a claim that can sometimes be

brought by a spouse or family member for the loss of companionship, support, and intimacy resulting from your injuries.” [Justia, accessed [5/21/26](#)]

**2020: Mitchell’s Iowa House Campaign Committee Took Money From Pharmaceutical And Health Insurance Giants Pfizer And Anthem**

**2020: According To The Iowa Ethics And Campaign Disclosure Board, Mitchell’s State House Campaign Accepted Contributions From Pharmaceutical And Health Insurance Corporations Pfizer And Elevance Health.** [Iowa Ethics And Campaign Disclosure Board, accessed [4/23/26](#)]

Mitchell Pharma Contributions			
Date	Recipient	Contributor	Amount
10/21/20	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	#8140 Pfizer PAC	\$250
7/24/20	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	#8140 Pfizer PAC	\$250
7/31/19	#2453 Taxpayers for Mitchell	#8720 Elevance Health, Inc Political Action Committee	\$100
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$750</b>

[Iowa Ethics And Campaign Disclosure Board, accessed [4/23/26](#)]

- **2021: The CEO Of Anthem, Inc. Announced The Company Was Rebranding To Elevance Health.** “Our intent to change our name to Elevance Health marks an important milestone in our journey to become a lifetime, trusted health partner and conveys our evolution and our ambition to work toward a healthcare system that better serves the needs of our consumers, care providers, communities, partners, and associates. Bringing together the ideas of ‘elevate and advance,’ Elevance Health reflects our position as a health leader – committed to elevating the importance of whole health and advancing health beyond healthcare for our consumers, their families, and our communities. [...] Gail K. Boudreaux President and CEO, Anthem, Inc.” [Anthem, Whole Health 2021 Impact Report, [2021](#)]

**Mitchell Supported Governor Reynolds’ “School Choice” Plan To Fund Students’ Private School Enrollment Using Public Dollars While Taking Money From Public Schools And Voted To Allow Charter Schools To Be Established Without Approval From Local School Boards**

**2021: Mitchell Voted For A Bill Removing Restrictions On Open Enrollment Which Cost One School District Thousands Of Dollars After More Than 150 Students Left**

**2021: Mitchell Voted For A Bill That Caused Schools To Lose Students To Lax Open-Enrollment Requirements, One School District Losing 152 Students**

**April 2021: Mitchell Voted For H.F. 228.** In April 2021, Mitchell voted for H.F. 228: “A bill for an act relating to voluntary diversity plans under the state’s open enrollment law.” The bill passed the House (56-35) and was signed into law by Governor Reynolds in May 2021. [Iowa State Legislature, [H.F. 228](#), [4/20/21](#)]

- **H.F. 228 Removed Restrictions On Open Enrollment That Were Intended To Encourage District Racial Diversity.** “In May, Gov. Kim Reynolds signed legislation ending Voluntary Diversity Plans in the state which placed limits on open enrollment in an attempt to encourage racial diversity within a district. Davenport, Des Moines, Postville, Waterloo, and West Liberty were the only districts in the state with Voluntary Diversity Plans. Prior to H.F. 228, a plan was allowed if: The percentage of minority students in the school district exceeded the percentage of minority students in the state by at least 20 points, or the percentage of minority students at one school exceeded the percentage of minority students in the district as a whole by at least 20 points.” [NBC, [9/16/21](#)]

- **Davenport Community School District: Open Enrollment Allowed “A Parent Or Guardian Residing In A School District [To] Enroll Their Child In A Public School In Another School District Without Paying Tuition, Provided They Comply With Filing Deadlines And Procedures.”** “What is open enrollment between districts? In the state of Iowa, a parent or guardian residing in a school district may enroll their child in a public school in another school district without paying tuition, provided they comply with filing deadlines and procedures.” [Davenport Community School District, accessed [5/21/26](#)]
- **H.F. 228 Resulted In 157 Students Leaving Davenport Community School District.** “An additional 157 students have left the Davenport Community School District since an open enrollment law took effect in Iowa. In May, Gov. Kim Reynolds signed legislation ending Voluntary Diversity Plans in the state which placed limits on open enrollment in an attempt to encourage racial diversity within a district. Davenport, Des Moines, Postville, Waterloo, and West Liberty were the only districts in the state with Voluntary Diversity Plans. Prior to H.F. 228, a plan was allowed if: The percentage of minority students in the school district exceeded the percentage of minority students in the state by at least 20 points, or the percentage of minority students at one school exceeded the percentage of minority students in the district as a whole by at least 20 points.” [NBC, [9/16/21](#)]
- **Davenport Community School District Specialist Martin Schilz: “It’s Roughly 7500 Dollars Give Or Take That Those Students, When They Leave They Take That Money With Them Out Of The District.”** “In May, Gov. Kim Reynolds signed legislation ending Voluntary Diversity Plans in the state which placed limits on open enrollment in an attempt to encourage racial diversity within a district. Davenport, Des Moines, Postville, Waterloo, and West Liberty were the only districts in the state with Voluntary Diversity Plans. Prior to H.F. 228, a plan was allowed if: The percentage of minority students in the school district exceeded the percentage of minority students in the state by at least 20 points, or the percentage of minority students at one school exceeded the percentage of minority students in the district as a whole by at least 20 points. ‘Under that system, requests to open enroll would be denied if they lead to a greater imbalance in the demographic balance of the district,’ Davenport Community School District Specialist Martin Schilz said during a presentation to the school board on Monday. According to the district, 157 students who would not have been allowed to leave the district prior to the law change, have open enrolled elsewhere. ‘It’s roughly 7500 dollars give or take that those students, when they leave they take that money with them out of the district,’ Schilz said.” [NBC, [9/16/21](#)]

**2021: Mitchell Voted For A Bill Undermining Local School Boards’ Authority, Allowing Charter Schools To Seek Approval From The State And Operate Independently**

**2021: Mitchell Voted To Allow Charter Schools To Bypass Local School Board Approval And Operate Independently Once Approved By The State**

**March 2021: Mitchell Voted For H.F. 813.** In March 2021, Mitchell voted for H.F. 813: “A bill for an act modifying and establishing charter school programs.” The bill passed the House (55-40) and was signed into law by Governor Reynolds in June 2021. [Iowa State Legislature, [H.F. 813, 3/4/21](#)]

- **Under H.F. 813, Iowa Charter Schools Could Be Under The Purview Of “Founding Groups” Operating Independently From Local School Boards.** “Under the bill, (HF 813) the State Board of Education would have authority to approve charter school applications from local school boards and from so-called ‘founding groups’ that could operate a school independent from the local school board.” [Iowa Public Radio, [3/25/21](#)]

**Des Moines Register: The Bill Created An Alternative To Local School Boards Weighing In On Charter School Applications, Permitting A “Founding Group — Such As A Group Of Private Citizens Or A University — To Instead Go Directly To The State Board For Approval.”** “The new rules follow a state law that created the new legal pathway for the opening of charter schools. Previously, charter schools could only be established after receiving permission from local school boards. A bill passed this year by state lawmakers and signed into law by Gov. Kim Reynolds, however, allows a founding group — such as a group of private citizens or

a university — to instead go directly to the state board for approval.” [Des Moines Register, [11/18/21](#)]

**2022: Mitchell Defended Governor Reynolds’ “School Choice” Bill That Would Give 70% Of Students Per Pupil Funding To Private Schools, Saying It Would Keep Schools Accountable And Later Praised Himself For Helping To Pass It**

**2022: Mitchell Defended Governor Reynolds’ So-Called “School Choice” Bill As An Accountability Measure**

**Mitchell On Governor Reynolds’ “School Choice” Bill: “There Are Certain Districts That Are Not Doing Their Job, And This Will Keep Them Accountable.”** “Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds' school choice bill was approved by the Senate Education Committee last week, and would allow qualifying students to use 70 percent of their per-pupil funding to attend a private school. The remaining 30 percent of a student's per-pupil funding would go to small school districts. [...] Mitchell said he foresees the vast majority of kids in Iowa will continue to attend public schools, most of which are doing a ‘great job.’ ‘There are certain districts that are not doing their job, and this will keep them accountable,’ Mitchell said of the bill.” [Southeast Iowa Union, [2/21/22](#)]

- **Governor Reynolds’ “School Choice” Bill Would Allow Qualifying Students To Use 70% Of Their Funding To Attend Private School And Leave Just 30% For Small School Districts.** “Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds' school choice bill was approved by the Senate Education Committee last week, and would allow qualifying students to use 70 percent of their per-pupil funding to attend a private school. The remaining 30 percent of a student's per-pupil funding would go to small school districts.” [Southeast Iowa Union, [2/21/22](#)]
- **Mitchell Said Governor Reynolds’ “School Choice” Bill Was Akin To The Iowa Tuition Grant Giving Students Money To Attend In-State Private Colleges.** “Henry County’s two state legislators answered questions from the public during the Mount Pleasant Area Chamber Alliance’s legislative breakfast Saturday at the Masonic Lodge. State Sen. Jeff Reichman and State Rep. Joe Mitchell, both Republicans, gave their take on Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds’ ‘school choice’ bill. The bill would allow qualifying students to use 70 percent of their per-pupil funding to attend a private school. The remaining 30 percent of a student’s per-pupil funding would go to small school districts. Reichman and Mitchell said the bill was designed to help students in urban areas who are stuck in schools not following state guidelines. They said it was not targeted at schools in Southeast Iowa. [...] Mitchell said the program is akin to the Iowa Tuition Grant that gives students money to attend one of the state’s private colleges..” [Southeast Iowa Union, [3/14/22](#)]
- **A Mt. Pleasant Resident Challenged Mitchell Equating The Bill With Iowa’s Tuition Grant, Pointing Out That Unlike The Grant Funding, The “School Choice” Bill Took Money From Public Schools Who Lost Students.** The bill would allow qualifying students to use 70 percent of their per-pupil funding to attend a private school. The remaining 30 percent of a student’s per-pupil funding would go to small school districts. Reichman and Mitchell said the bill was designed to help students in urban areas who are stuck in schools not following state guidelines. They said it was not targeted at schools in Southeast Iowa. [...] Mitchell said the program is akin to the Iowa Tuition Grant that gives students money to attend one of the state’s private colleges. Resident David File disagreed with that analogy, because school choice takes money away from public school districts that lose students. Mitchell said the analogy was apt because the Iowa Tuition Grant directs state money toward private colleges that could have gone to a state institution, had the student chosen to attend one.” [Southeast Iowa Union, [3/14/22](#)]
- **Mitchell After He Was Challenged On His Comments About Governor Reynolds’ Education Plan: “Some Legislators Want To Give A Zero Percent Increase To Schools.”** “Mitchell said the program is akin to the Iowa Tuition Grant that gives students money to attend one of the state’s private colleges. Resident David File disagreed with that analogy, because school choice takes money away from public school districts that lose students. Mitchell said the analogy was apt because the Iowa Tuition Grant directs state money toward private colleges that could have gone to a state institution, had the student chosen to attend one. ‘I’m not anti-public school at all,’ Mitchell said. ‘Some legislators want to give a zero percent increase to schools, and I’ll fight that till the day I die.’” [Southeast Iowa Union, [3/14/22](#)]

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## **2025: Mitchell Praised Himself For Helping Pass So-Called “School Choice” Reform In The Iowa Legislature**

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**AUDIO: December 2025: Mitchell Praised His Work In The State Legislature To Pass “School Choice” Reform In Iowa.** MITCHELL: “Here's the thing, Simon. When I was in the legislature, there was so many pieces of legislation, whether it be school choice or collective bargaining, you know, a number of different issues that there was not to be a prayer they're going to get done, tort reform being one of them. And we got it done because you put the pressure on and you have to build coalitions of people to get these things done.” [WHO, Simon Conway Show, 08:58, [12/1/25](#)] (AUDIO)

## **2022: Mitchell Voted For A \$16.4 Million Per Year Program Requiring School Districts To Publish Information On Their Curricula And Allow Parents To Opt Their Children Out From Certain Learning**

**March 2022: Mitchell Voted For H.F. 2577.** In March 2022, Mitchell voted for H.F. 2577: “A bill for an act relating to education, including requiring the boards of directors of school districts and the governing boards of charter schools to publish certain specified information, modifying provisions related to required social studies instruction, and providing civil penalties.” The bill passed the House (60-36) and stalled in the Senate Appropriations Committee in April 2022. [Iowa State Legislature, [H.F. 2577](#), [3/29/22](#)]

- **H.F. 2577 Would Have Required School Districts To Adopt A “Transparency” Policy Allowing Parents To Review Instructional Materials Used In Classrooms, And Opt Their Children Out Of Receiving Certain Materials.** “According to the bill, a school district has to adopt a policy for parents of enrolled students to review instructional materials in the classroom, which is something most districts already have in place. This policy now includes charter schools, which were previously exempt, but still does not include private schools. The bill also allows parents to opt their students out of receiving certain instructional materials. The district’s ‘transparency’ policy will need to be prominently displayed on its website and the school board should provide district parents with either an electronic or written version of the policy annually. Districts would need to have available electronic or printed textbooks, a course syllabus or written summary of the material that will be taught in the class, an explanation on how the class meets or exceeds state educational standards, and a ‘list of all instructional materials that will be used in the student’s class.’” [Iowa Starting Line, [3/29/22](#)]
- **Iowa Starting Line: “Districts Would Need To Have Available Electronic Or Printed Textbooks, A Course Syllabus Or Written Summary Of The Material That Will Be Taught In The Class, An Explanation On How The Class Meets Or Exceeds State Educational Standards, And A ‘List Of All Instructional Materials That Will Be Used In The Student’s Class.’”** “The district’s ‘transparency’ policy will need to be prominently displayed on its website and the school board should provide district parents with either an electronic or written version of the policy annually. Districts would need to have available electronic or printed textbooks, a course syllabus or written summary of the material that will be taught in the class, an explanation on how the class meets or exceeds state educational standards, and a ‘list of all instructional materials that will be used in the student’s class.’” [Iowa Starting Line, [3/29/22](#)]

**Mitchell Argued The Requirements For Teachers To Put Their Learning Materials Online Was A Reasonable Request.** “Henry County’s two state legislators answered questions from the public during the Mount Pleasant Area Chamber Alliance’s legislative breakfast Saturday at the Masonic Lodge. [...] Other audience members questioned Mitchell on efforts in the Legislature to require teachers to put their learning materials online so parents can see them. Mitchell said it was a reasonable request designed to increase transparency.” [Southeast Iowa Union, [3/14/22](#)]

- **According To The Nonpartisan Iowa Legislative Services Agency (LSA), Implementing The Required “Transparency” Policies Under H.F. 2577 Was Estimated To Cost \$16.4 Million Annually.** “A modified

version of the Republican-led teacher curriculum-review bill is being debate on the Iowa House floor this evening. The new version of the bill, House File 2577, trimmed the estimated cost of implementing the new ‘transparency’ policies from \$27.4 million annually for school districts to \$16.4 million annually, according to the nonpartisan Iowa Legislative Services Agency (LSA). The LSA’s estimate is based on school districts finding enough substitute teachers to cover the full-time teachers’ classrooms while they compile all the materials for inspection. Iowa is in the midst of a substitute teacher shortage in addition to its full-time teacher shortage.” [Iowa Starting Line, [3/29/22](#)]

- **The Linn-Mar Community District Board Of Education Said H.F. 2577 “Would Put An Undue Burden On Our Teachers” And “Put Additional Financial Strain On Districts Across The State In Updating Our Technology Systems To Meet New Transparency Requirements.”** “The Linn-Mar Community School District Board of Education is writing today asking you to vote NO on HF 2577. The impact of this legislation, if passed, would drastically limit the ability of educators to adapt and meet the individualized needs of their students. It would also put additional financial strain on districts across the state in updating our technology systems to meet new transparency requirements. [...] This legislation would put undue burden on our teachers and further entrenches the growing problem of teacher retention and recruitment. Our teachers are comprehensively trained to recognize the needs of our students and have devoted their lives to the most important work a society can undertake – the education of its children.” [Linn-Mar Community District Board Of Education, [3/28/22](#)]

## **Mitchell Was Bad For Iowa Workers And Families, Voting To Reduce Workers’ Protections, And Cut Funding For Workforce Development**

### **2022: Mitchell Voted For An Economic Development Budget That Cut \$2.7 Million In Funding For Economic Development And Workforce-Related Departments, Including Iowa Workforce Development**

**May 2022: Mitchell Voted For H.F. 2564, The FY2023 Economic Development Appropriations Bill** . In May 2022, Mitchell voted for H.F. 2564: “A bill for an act making appropriations to the department of cultural affairs, the economic development authority, the Iowa finance authority, the public employment relations board, the department of workforce development, the state board of regents and certain regents institutions, providing for properly related matters, and including applicability provisions.” The bill passed the House (56-33) and was signed into law by Governor Reynolds in June 2022. [Iowa State Legislature, [H.F. 2564, 5/24/22](#)]

- **The FY2023 Economic Development Budget Appropriated \$2.7 Million Less In Funding For Economic Development From The State General Fund.** “Economic development General Fund: \$45.3 million (\$2.7 million decrease) Other funds: \$28.1 million (maintains current level) What it funds: This budget funds several economic development and workforce-related departments, including the Iowa Economic Development Authority, Iowa Finance Authority and Iowa Workforce Development. Shifting tax credits to promote child care: Iowa’s High Quality Jobs Program awards incentives to businesses locating, expanding or upgrading their facilities in the state. This budget would reduce that program by \$2 million, using the funding instead for a child care tax credit for businesses that provide child care benefits.” [Des Moines Register, [6/22/22](#)]
- **Iowa’s Economic Development Budget Provided Funding For “Economic Development And Workforce-Related Departments, Including The Iowa Economic Development Authority, Iowa Finance Authority And Iowa Workforce Development.”** “General Fund: \$45.3 million (\$2.7 million decrease) Other funds: \$28.1 million (maintains current level) What it funds: This budget funds several economic development and workforce-related departments, including the Iowa Economic Development Authority, Iowa Finance Authority and Iowa Workforce Development.” [Des Moines Register, [6/22/22](#)]

### **2019: Mitchell Voted To Disqualify Certain Accidents From Workers’ Compensation**

**April 2019: Mitchell Voted For S.F. 507.** In April 2019, Mitchell voted for S.F. 507: “A bill for an act relating to the definition of personal injuries arising out of and in the course of the employment for the purposes of compensable acts for workers’ compensation.” The bill passed the House (55-44) and was signed into law by Governor Reynolds in April 2019. [Iowa State Legislature, [S.F. 507, 4/9/19](#)]

- **SF 507 Disqualified All Injuries Resulting From Unexplained Falls On A Level Surface From Workers’ Compensation.** “Personal injuries due to idiopathic or unexplained falls from a level surface onto the same level surface do not arise out of and in the course of employment and are not compensable under this chapter.” [Iowa State Legislature, SF 507, [3/19/19](#)]

## **Mitchell Was Too Extreme For Iowa, Supporting Legislation That Could Enact “Potentially Deep Cuts” To Social Security And Medicare And Founded An Organization That Merged With An Extreme Right-Wing Group**

**2026: Mitchell Supported A Balanced Budget Amendment, Which Could Subject Social Security And Medicare To “Potentially Deep Cuts,” Putting Benefits At Risk For More Than 150,000 People In Iowa’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District**

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### **2026: Mitchell Said “We Need To Pass A Balanced Budget Constitutional Amendment”**

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**VIDEO: Mitchell: “We Need To Pass A Balanced Budget Constitutional Amendment In My Opinion And That’ll Be One Of My Big Priorities When I Go To Congress.”** MITCHELL: “And so you have \$39 trillion of debt right now and you know that's a humongous issue and that has to get figured out. This is something that you know I've been um interested in since I was a you know kid, um you know we had you know \$10, \$15 million of or trillion dollars of debt and now it's up to \$39 trillion this not continue to happen and so we need to pass a balanced budget constitutional amendment in my opinion and that'll be one of my big priorities when I go to Congress to get that done and um you know we have to make sure that we're um saving this country for the next generation.” [Iowa’s News Now, YouTube, 3:59, [5/24/26](#)] (VIDEO)

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### **A Balanced Budget Amendment Would Threaten Americans’ Social Security And Medicare, Subjecting Both Programs To “Potentially Deep Cuts”**

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**Center for American Progress Headline: “The Balanced-Budget Amendment Threatens Americans’ Health Care, Social Security, and Jobs.”** [Center for American Progress, [4/11/18](#)]

**AARP Opposed A Balanced Budget Amendment Because It Would “Likely Harm Social Security And Medicare, Subjecting Both Programs To Potentially Deep Cuts.”** “AARP is writing to express our opposition to a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States. [...] A balanced budget amendment would likely harm Social Security and Medicare, subjecting both programs to potentially deep cuts without regard to the impact on the health and financial security of individuals. It would also likely diminish the resources available for programs assisting Americans who are least able to provide for themselves – services such as meals or heating for those who are too poor or physically unable to take care of their basic needs without some support.” [AARP, Letter, [4/9/18](#)]

**Under A Balanced Budget Amendment, Medicare Part A Would Not Be Able To Pay For Hospitalization Costs, Because It Was Funded Through A Fund Of Saved Treasury Securities.** “Medicare Part A — the Hospital Insurance trust fund — has the same structure as Social Security. That trust fund currently holds about \$200 billion in Treasury securities, but under a balanced budget amendment, it would be unconstitutional for Medicare to draw down those savings to pay hospitalization costs because all federal expenditures — which includes Medicare payments — would have to be covered by taxes collected in the same year.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [3/16/18](#)]

**Center On Budget And Policy Priorities: Under A Balanced Budget Amendment, The Military And Federal Employee Civil Service Retirement Systems Would Not Be Able To Pay Retirees, Because They Were Funded Through Funds Of Saved Treasury Securities.** “As a result, the \$700 billion in Treasury securities held by the military retirement trust fund and the \$900 billion in Treasury securities held by the civil service retirement trust fund would be unavailable to pay promised retirement pensions.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [3/16/18](#)]

**Center On Budget And Policy Priorities: Under A Balanced Budget Amendment, “Programs Such As Social Security, Medicare, National Defense, And Veterans’ Benefits Could Be Cut By An Average Of One-Fifth.”** “Programs such as Social Security, Medicare, national defense, and veterans’ benefits could be cut by an average of one-fifth under a constitutional amendment before the House this week to require a balanced budget in every year. If policymakers chose to protect some programs from cuts, the cuts in other programs would be even deeper. If they protected Social Security and Medicare, for example, all other programs would be cut by two-fifths.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [4/11/18](#)]

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**More Than 154,000 People In Iowa’s 2nd Congressional District Relied On Social Security Benefits**

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**December 2024: 154,281 People In Iowa’s 2nd Congressional District Received Social Security Benefits.** [Social Security Administration, Congressional Statistics, [December 2024](#)]

**Table 1.**  
Number of OASDI beneficiaries in current-payment status and total monthly benefits, December 2024

Congressional district	Number of beneficiaries						Total monthly benefits (thousands of dollars)			Number of beneficiaries aged 65 or older
	Total	Retired workers	Disabled workers	Widow(er)s and parents	Spouses <sup>a</sup>	Children <sup>b</sup>	All beneficiaries	Retired workers	Widow(er)s and parents	
Iowa	701,239	547,590	71,406	34,761	11,805	35,677	1,308,091	1,090,836	64,555	572,259
1	177,341	138,680	18,091	8,528	3,004	9,038	332,521	277,666	15,981	144,004
2	187,890	147,364	18,584	9,399	3,294	9,249	349,680	292,538	17,522	<b>154,281</b>
3	157,328	121,917	17,013	7,479	2,505	8,414	299,305	248,927	13,943	126,935
4	178,680	139,629	17,718	9,355	3,002	8,976	326,585	271,705	17,109	147,039
All areas <sup>c</sup>	68,455,973	51,772,651	7,231,147	3,734,707	1,947,761	3,769,707	125,577,970	102,268,471	6,617,163	55,120,239

[Social Security Administration, Congressional Statistics, [December 2024](#)]

**Mitchell Founded An Organization To Recruit Young Conservatives To Run For Office, Then Celebrated Its Merger With ALEC Action, The Advocacy Arm Of The American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), A “Bill Mill” For Pushing Extreme Right-Wing Model Legislation**

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**Mitchell Founded Run Gen Z, A Conservative Candidate Recruitment Organization Targeting Gen Z**

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**2020: Mitchell Co-Founded Run Gen Z In 2020, Using It To “Recruit, Mentor And Train Young Conservatives Running For Office In Down-Ballot Races.”** “She, along with a number of other young conservatives, are working with Run Gen Z, an organization co-founded in 2020 by Iowa state Rep. Joe Mitchell to recruit, mentor and train young conservatives running for office in down-ballot races. [...] Mitchell, a Republican first elected to the state legislature in 2018 at age 21, said he aims to recruit a bench of young conservative leaders who are more reflective of the areas they are looking to represent.” [CNN, [12/27/21](#)]

- **Run Gen Z’s Advisory Board Was Convened By Former Iowa Governor Terry Branstad.** “Run Gen Z has an advisory board of that is chaired by former Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad and includes former Govs. Chris Christie of New Jersey, Rick Perry of Texas, John Sununu of New Hampshire and Bill Owens of Colorado, all Republicans. The board was convened by Branstad, who met Mitchell through Iowa politics.” [CNN, [12/27/21](#)]

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**Mitchell Celebrated Run Gen Z’s Merger With ALEC Action, The Advocacy Arm Of The American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**

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**2024: ALEC Action And Run Gen Z Announced In A Press Release The Organizations Were Forming A “Strategic Partnership,” Which They Also Referred To As A “Merger.”** “ALEC Action and Run Gen Z (RGZ) are pleased to announce a new strategic partnership that will enhance the impact of both organizations. Together, ALEC Action and RGZ will advance trusted policy solutions at all levels of government while educating young candidates for state and local offices across the nation. ALEC Action is the advocacy partner of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), committed to the principles of limited government, free markets, and federalism. [...] Joe Mitchell, founder of RGZ on the merger: “State lawmakers across the country recognize ALEC Action as a powerful voice for trusted and principled policy solutions. ALEC Action CEO Lisa B. Nelson is one of the nation’s most admired and respected leaders, and we are proud to become members of her team.” [ALEC Action, Press Release, [1/5/24](#)]

- **Mitchell On The Merger: “State Lawmakers Across The Country Recognize ALEC Action As A Powerful Voice For Trusted And Principled Policy Solutions.”** Joe Mitchell, founder of RGZ on the merger: “State lawmakers across the country recognize ALEC Action as a powerful voice for trusted and principled policy solutions. ALEC Action CEO Lisa B. Nelson is one of the nation’s most admired and respected leaders, and we are proud to become members of her team.” [ALEC Action, Press Release, [1/5/24](#)]
- **Center For Media & Democracy: ALEC Action Was ALEC’s “Advocacy Arm.”** “Now the ostensibly ‘nonpartisan’ American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) has teamed up with a new Gen Z political group to try to shift the balance among young voters in favor of the GOP. The right-wing and corporate bill mill’s advocacy arm, ALEC Action, has joined forces with Iowa-based Run Gen Z to recruit and train young ‘conservatives’ to run for state and local office.” [Center for Media and Democracy, [1/31/24](#)]

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#### **As Of April 2026, Run Gen Z Did Not Have An Active Business Registration In The State Of Iowa**

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**2026: According To The Iowa Secretary Of State, As Of April 2026, Run Gen Z Did Not Have An Active Business Registration In The State Of Iowa.** [Iowa Secretary of State, Business Entities Search, accessed [3/27/26](#)]

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#### **ALEC Was A Nonprofit “Bill Mill” Whose Members “Draft And Promulgate Model State Legislation And Legislative Policies Designed To Advance Corporate Interests”**

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**Britannica: ALEC “Members Draft And Promulgate Model State Legislation And Legislative Policies Designed To Advance Corporate Interests And To Promote Conservative Positions.”** American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), American nonprofit organization whose members draft and promulgate model state legislation and legislative policies designed to advance corporate interests and to promote conservative positions on a range of political, economic, and social issues. [Encyclopedia Britannica, accessed [1/5/26](#)]

- **Every Single Member Of ALEC’s Board Of Directors Was A Republican, Despite The Organization’s Self-Assigned Nonpartisan Status.** “Although ALEC bills itself as nonpartisan, it describes its principles as ‘limited government, free markets and federalism.’ Every single member of its board of directors is a Republican, among them Ohio state Rep. Bill Seitz, R-Cincinnati.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [9/6/23](#)]
- **Ohio Capital Journal: “ALEC, Is A Kind Of ‘Bill Mill,’ Drafting And Disseminating Proposals State Lawmakers Can Try Out Back Home.”** “The American Legislative Exchange Council unveiled 23 new pieces of model legislation this summer — potentially offering a sneak peek at upcoming agenda items in Ohio. The organization, commonly known as ALEC, is a kind of ‘bill mill,’ drafting and disseminating proposals state lawmakers can try out back home. Among the organization’s ideas? Prohibitions on ranked choice voting and state pension programs aimed at environmental or social investment goals. They also want to discourage regulations on artificial intelligence or social media.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [9/6/23](#)]

**The Arizona Republic Characterized Model Legislation As Beneficial To Lawmakers Who Found “An Easy Way To Get Fully Formed Bills To Put Their Names On, While Building Relationships With Lobbyists And**

**Other Potential Campaign Donors” And To Special Interests Who Could Remain Under The Radar And Spread Their Agendas.** “For lawmakers, copying model legislation is an easy way to get fully formed bills to put their names on, while building relationships with lobbyists and other potential campaign donors. For special interests seeking to stay under the radar, model legislation also offers distinct advantages. Copycat bills don’t appear on expense reports, or campaign finance forms. They don’t require someone to register as a lobbyist or sign in at committee hearings. But once injected into the lawmaking process, they can go viral, spreading state to state, executing an agenda to the letter.” [Arizona Republic, [4/3/19](#)]

## **ALEC Action Supported Repealing The ACA And Medicaid Expansion And Encouraged State Legislators To Oppose Capping Prescription Drug Prices**

### **ALEC Action Implored Congress To Repeal The ACA And Repeal Medicaid Expansion**

**ALEC Action: “ALEC Action Encourages Congress To Continue Working Toward A Compromise To Determine Public Policies That Will Repeal And Replace The Affordable Care Act (ACA).”** “Since Obamacare was signed into law, Americans have experienced higher cost-sharing, double-digit premium increases and fewer choices in healthcare products and services. Because of this, ALEC Action encourages Congress to continue working toward a compromise to determine public policies that will repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Here are some principles we advocate be a part of this historic legislation: [...] Repeal the ACA’s harmful mandates, taxes and fees that have driven up the cost of healthcare. Through the use of stabilization and state innovation funding, a repeal and replace bill should also allow states the authority to create a safety net for their health insurance markets, and provide care for their sickest individuals.” [ALEC Action, accessed [5/27/26](#)]

**ALEC Action Supported Repealing Medicaid Expansion.** “ALEC Action supports the repeal of Medicaid Expansion, and further, phasing out the disproportionate federal match rate for the Medicaid Expansion population.” [ALEC Action, accessed [5/27/26](#)]

### **ALEC Action Advocated For Eliminating Price Controls On The Pharmaceutical Industry And Several Other Government Measures To Assist Cost Negotiations With Drug Companies**

**ALEC Action Headline: “State Legislators: Oppose Anti-Free Market Pharmaceutical Price Control Proposals.”** [ALEC Action, accessed [5/27/26](#)]

**ALEC Action Opposed Plans To Tie Medication Prices In The U.S. To Other Countries’ Price Ceilings And To Employ International Reference Pricing.** “ALEC Action is pleased to present the undersigned members of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) who oppose plans and legislation that seek to control and limit pharmaceutical prices artificially. [...] The current International Pricing Index (IPI) proposal being advanced by HHS would tie prices for medicines in the U.S. to other countries’ price ceilings. Other proposals from Congress would use international reference pricing to accomplish similar goals. An additional idea under consideration would permit prescription drug importation if drugs from foreign countries could be procured at substantial discounts. [...] These ideas are well-meaning but misguided attempts to address a real problem.” [ALEC Action, accessed [5/27/26](#)]

- **Brookings: “International Reference Pricing’ (IRP) Is A Method For Aggregating Information About What Other Countries Pay For Drugs To Inform Pricing Choices Within One’s Own Country.”** “Around the world, prices for prescription drugs vary. ‘International reference pricing’ (IRP) is a method for aggregating information about what other countries pay for drugs to inform pricing choices within one’s own country. The use of IRP is quite common.” [Brookings, [7/9/25](#)]
- **Brookings: Nearly All EU Member Countries Uses IRP “In The Context Of Negotiations With Pharmaceutical Manufacturers And Not As Direct Price Setting Mechanisms.”** “Nearly all member countries of the European Union and most Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries look to some sort of IRP, generally in the context of negotiations with pharmaceutical manufacturers and not as direct price setting mechanisms.” [Brookings, [7/9/25](#)]

**ALEC Action Opposed Importing Drugs From Other Countries, Even If They Could Be Obtained At Discounted Rates.** “ALEC Action is pleased to present the undersigned members of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) who oppose plans and legislation that seek to control and limit pharmaceutical prices artificially. [...] The current International Pricing Index (IPI) proposal being advanced by HHS would tie prices for medicines in the U.S. to other countries’ price ceilings. Other proposals from Congress would use international reference pricing to accomplish similar goals. An additional idea under consideration would permit prescription drug importation if drugs from foreign countries could be procured at substantial discounts. [...] These ideas are well-meaning but misguided attempts to address a real problem.” [ALEC Action, accessed [5/27/26](#)]

**ALEC Action Supported ALEC Model Policy Mandating The Elimination Of Price Controls And Reference Pricing On The Pharmaceutical Industry.** “The 2015 Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act, for which ALEC has supporting model policy here, mandates the negotiation of trade frameworks that ‘achieve the elimination of government measures such as price controls and reference pricing which deny full market access for United States products.’ Prioritizing the negotiation of trade agreements that make the lifting of pharmaceutical price controls would be a good place to start.” [ALEC Action, accessed [5/27/26](#)]

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**ALEC Celebrated The Dobbs Decision For Returning Abortion “To The People” And Partnered With Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America To Train Legislators On Anti-Abortion Talking Points**

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**2022: ALEC Celebrated The Dobbs Decision For Returning Abortion “To The People”**

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**2022: ALEC’s CEO Said The Dobbs Decision Returned The Authority To Regulate Abortion “To The People And Their Elected Representatives.”** “The American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) CEO Lisa B. Nelson today issued the following statement in reaction the Supreme Court decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization which overturns Roe v. Wade: ‘As Justice Alito wrote in the Dobbs decision, ‘The Constitution does not confer a right to abortion...and the authority to regulate abortion is returned to the people and their elected representatives.’ As such the Court has properly empowered the duly elected members of each states legislature with the authority to decide what is best for the citizens of their state.’ – Lisa B. Nelson, ALEC CEO.” [ALEC, Press Release, [6/24/22](#)]

**2022: ALEC’s CEO Said The Dobbs Decision “Properly Empowered The Duly Elected Members Of Each States Legislature With The Authority To Decide What Is Best For The Citizens Of Their State.”** “The American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) CEO Lisa B. Nelson today issued the following statement in reaction the Supreme Court decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization which overturns Roe v. Wade: ‘As Justice Alito wrote in the Dobbs decision, ‘The Constitution does not confer a right to abortion...and the authority to regulate abortion is returned to the people and their elected representatives.’ As such the Court has properly empowered the duly elected members of each states legislature with the authority to decide what is best for the citizens of their state.’ – Lisa B. Nelson, ALEC CEO.” [ALEC, Press Release, [6/24/22](#)]

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**ALEC Partnered With Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America To Train Legislators On Anti-Abortion Talking Points**

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**ALEC Partnered With Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America, An Extremist Group, To Train Legislators On Anti-Abortion Messaging.** “Prior to the ruling, ALEC had teamed up with Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America (SBA), an extremist group that advocates for a nationwide ban on abortion, to train ALEC legislators about how to talk about the abortion issue during elections, complete with a messaging guide and a mock interview video. ALEC has partnered with SBA for years, but before Roe was overturned its events at ALEC conventions had been left off the public agenda. [...] And this summer, ALEC kicked off its annual meeting with a reception for its legislators and SBA to discuss the ‘post-Dobbs policy environment and state jurisdiction to protect the right to life.’ Attendees at that meeting were fed a constant diet of anti-abortion arguments and misinformation from SBA and the National Right to Life Committee.” [American Prospect, [10/4/23](#)]

**Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America Said Their Mission Was “To End Abortion By Electing National Leaders And Advocating For Laws That Save Lives, With A Special Calling To Promote Pro-Life Women Leaders.”** “About SBA Pro-Life America. Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America’s mission is to end abortion by electing national leaders and advocating for laws that save lives, with a special calling to promote pro-life women leaders.” [Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America, accessed [4/21/26](#)]

## About SBA Pro-Life America

Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America's mission is to end abortion by electing national leaders and advocating for laws that save lives, with a special calling to promote pro-life women leaders.

[Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America, accessed [4/21/26](#)]

### **In The Legislature, Mitchell Voted To Cut Millions In Funding For Iowa Agriculture While Defending Operations That Hurt Small Iowa Farmers And Contributed To Iowa’s Skyrocketing Cancer Rates**

#### **2022: Mitchell Voted For A State Budget That Cut \$6.9 Million In Funding For Agriculture & Natural Resources**

**May 2022: Mitchell Voted For H.F. 2560, The FY2023 Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget.** In March 2022, Mitchell voted for H.F. 2560: “A bill for an act relating to and making appropriations involving state government entities involved with agriculture, natural resources, and environmental protection, and making related statutory changes, and including effective date provisions.” The bill passed the House (52-31) and was signed into law by Governor Reynolds in June 2022. [Iowa State Legislature, [H.F. 2560](#), [5/23/22](#)]

- **The FY2023 Agriculture And Natural Resources Budget Was Cut By \$6.9 Million.** “Agriculture and Natural Resources General Fund: \$41.9 million (\$6.9 million decrease) Other funds: \$94.1 million (maintains current level) What it funds: The Agriculture budget funds the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Agriculture and some research through Iowa's universities.” [Des Moines Register, [6/22/22](#)]

#### **2022: Mitchell Opposed A Moratorium On Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs), Which Contributed To Iowa’s Water Pollution Issues**

#### **2022: Mitchell Opposed A Moratorium On Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs)**

**Mitchell Said He Was Not In Favor Of A Moratorium On Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs).** “Resident David Ballou asked a question on behalf of JFAN Executive Director Diane Rosenberg about whether the legislators would support a moratorium on confined animal feeding operations. [...] Mitchell said he was not in favor of a moratorium on CAFOs since it would infringe on property rights. Ballou said the problem with CAFOs is that their pollution seeps onto other properties.” [Southeast Iowa Union, [5/21/22](#)]

- **CAFO’s Were “Large Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations.”** “The number of large concentrated animal feeding operations, or large CAFOs, in Iowa increased nearly fivefold in the past two decades, a new study from Environmental Working Group reveals, with almost all of the growth from big hog-feeding operations. EWG found that in 1990, Iowa had 789 large CAFOs – those housing 1,000 or more animal units – swelling to 3,963 in 2019.1 The findings are supported by the federal Census of Agriculture, which reported that Iowa, the top hog-producing state, housed more than 22.7 million hogs in 2017, an increase of 8.5 million since 1992.” [EWG, [1/21/20](#)]
- **CAFO’s Were “Enclosed Barns That House Thousands Of Animals At A Time.”** “Concentrated animal

feeding operations, or CAFOs, are enclosed barns that house thousands of animals at a time. The EPA issues permits to CAFOs that reach certain size thresholds and discharge pollutants into federally-regulated waters.” [Investigate Midwest, [6/8/23](#)]

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## **CAFOs Polluted Iowan’s Local Water Supply, Contributing To The State’s Skyrocketing Cancer Rates**

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**Iowa Environmental Council: “The Growth In CAFOs Has Exponentially Increased The Animal Manure, Urine, And Wastewater In The State, Which Is Contributing To Iowa’s Water Pollution Issues.”** “Farms with livestock operations have dotted Iowa’s landscape for more than a century, but the number of livestock reared in Iowa has exploded in the last 30 years. Most of the growth has been in the form of large concentrated animal feeding operations, (CAFOs), especially large hog and hen confinements. [...] The growth in CAFOs has exponentially increased the animal manure, urine, and wastewater in the state, which is contributing to Iowa’s water pollution issues.” [Iowa Environmental Council, [November 2023](#)]

**2026: CAFO’s Were Found To Potentially Cause “Higher Rates Of Cancer” In Iowa.** “People living near concentrated animal feeding operations, or CAFOs, in California, Texas and Iowa suffer from higher rates of cancer, suggesting that the air and water pollution from the massive farms may be playing a role, according to a new study. The study, published in the journal Environmental Research, comes just weeks after a years-long report in Iowa found the state’s agricultural chemicals and CAFO pollution are, in part, behind its rising cancer rate.” [The New Lede, [4/2/26](#)]

- **2026: Iowa Had The “Second Highest Rate Of Cancer In The Country.”** “Iowa continues to have the second-highest rate of cancer in the country and is one of a few states that has rising rates of cancer, according to an annual report by the Iowa Cancer Registry.” [Iowa Public Radio, [3/13/26](#)]
- **2026: Iowa Was One Of Only “A Few States That Has Rising Rates Of Cancer.”** “Iowa continues to have the second-highest rate of cancer in the country and is one of a few states that has rising rates of cancer, according to an annual report by the Iowa Cancer Registry.” [Iowa Public Radio, [3/13/26](#)]

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## **CAFO’s Contributed To The Collapse Of Small Family Farms In Iowa**

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**The Guardian: The Collapse Of Small Family Farms In Iowa “Has In Good Part Been Driven By The Rise Of Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations, Or Cafo’s.”** “His words would come as no surprise to Rosemary Partridge, who farms in Sac County, western Iowa. She grew up on an Iowa family farm and then moved with her husband in the late 1970s to raise pigs and grow crops. ‘In the past 20 years, where I am, independent hog farming just silently disappeared as the corporates came in,’ says Partridge. ‘I live on a hilltop. I can see seven farm families, people my kids went to school with. They’re all gone now. My county has 11 small towns, and it’s almost like I could look back in slow motion and just see the businesses change and disappear. We’ve become poorer. Our communities are basically shattered and in more than just an economic way – in a social way too.’ This collapse has in good part been driven by the rise of concentrated animal feeding operations, or Cafos.” [The Guardian, [3/9/19](#)]