

Joe Mitchell Overview Backup

While Iowans struggle with rising costs, Joe Mitchell has spent his career rigging the system for himself and his special interest donors.

While Iowans Struggle With Rising Costs, Joe Mitchell Has Spent His Career Rigging The System For Himself And His Special Interest Donors

Costs Were Rising In Iowa

JEC Minority: “The Average Household In Iowa Has Had To Spend \$3,700+ More On Goods And Services” Since January 2025. “As of August 2026, the average household in Iowa has had to pay an additional \$3,700+ for goods and services due to rising costs under President Trump. Despite his repeated pledges on the campaign trail that his administration would ‘end inflation’ and bring down costs for families, Trump and Republicans in Congress have instead caused costs to continue to rise significantly, including through Trump’s reckless tariffs and war in Iran.” [JEC Minority, Iowa Fact Sheet, [9/15/26](#)]

HEADLINE: “Working But Still Struggling: New Report Finds One In Three East Central Iowa Households Can’t Afford Basic Needs.” [KCRG, [6/16/26](#)]

2022: Mitchell Voted To Cut Taxes For Corporations Whose PACs Donated Thousands To His State Legislative Campaigns

February 2022: Mitchell Voted For HF 2317, Which Cut Corporate Taxes In Iowa

February 2022: Mitchell Voted For HF 2317. On February 24, 2022, Mitchell voted for: “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, amended by the Senate, and moved that the House concur in the Senate amendment H-8090.” The bill passed by a vote of 61-34. [Iowa House Journal Page 25, [HF 2317](#), voted [2/4/22](#)]

March 1, 2022: Governor Reynolds Signed HF 2317 Into Law. “On March 1, 2022, Governor Kim Reynolds signed HF 2317 into law. The new tax law will reduce individual and corporate income tax rates, provide exemptions from Iowa tax for certain forms of retirement income—including retired farmer rental income—and scale back certain tax credits. These changes have different effective dates, but most changes will begin phasing in during the 2023 tax year. This post summarizes key provisions of the new law.” [Iowa State University Center for Agricultural Law and Taxation, [3/3/22](#)]

- **HF 2317 Would Reduce “Corporate Income Tax Rates” In Iowa.** “On March 1, 2022, Governor Kim Reynolds signed HF 2317 into law. The new tax law will reduce individual and corporate income tax rates, provide exemptions from Iowa tax for certain forms of retirement income—including retired farmer rental income—and scale back certain tax credits. These changes have different effective dates, but most changes will begin phasing in during the 2023 tax year. This post summarizes key provisions of the new law.” [Iowa State University Center for Agricultural Law and Taxation, [3/3/22](#)]
- **Iowa Capital Dispatch: “Corporate Taxes Will Also Decrease Gradually” To 5.5% Because Of The Bill.** “Surrounded by dozens of Republican lawmakers, Gov. Kim Reynolds signed a major tax

cut into law Tuesday afternoon, securing a legislative priority hours before delivering a national address Tuesday night. Republicans reached a compromise on the package Thursday, passing a final deal through the House and Senate in a one-day sprint. The law will change Iowa's income tax rate to a flat 3.9%, reduce corporate taxes and eliminate the state tax on retirement income. Corporate taxes will also decrease gradually, based on the amount the state collects each year. Every year Iowa has more than \$700 million in net corporate income tax receipts, the top rate will decrease, working its way down to 5.5%." [Iowa Capital Dispatch, [3/1/22](#)]

Mitchell's State Legislative Campaigns Received Nearly \$10,000 From Corporate PACs

Mitchell Received \$9,950 In Contributions From Corporate PACs To His State Campaign Committee. [Iowa Campaign Contributions Search, accessed [4/22/26](#)]

Recipient	Contributor	Aggregate Amount
Taxpayers for Mitchell	#6498 Wellmark, Inc. PAC or WellPAC	\$2,250
Taxpayers for Mitchell	#8548 ITC Holdings Corp PAC	\$1,500
Taxpayers for Mitchell	#6282 Hy-Vee, Inc. Employees' Political Action Committee	\$1,000
Taxpayers for Mitchell	#8108 Wells Fargo and Company Employee PAC	\$750
Taxpayers for Mitchell	#6027 Deere & Company PAC - Iowa (Deere PAC-Iowa)	\$750
Taxpayers for Mitchell	#8002 NextEra Energy, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$700
Taxpayers for Mitchell	#8431 Koch, Inc. Political Action Committee (KOCHPAC)	\$500
Taxpayers for Mitchell	#8201 Walmart Inc. PAC for Responsible Government	\$500
Taxpayers for Mitchell	#8140 Pfizer PAC	\$500
Taxpayers for Mitchell	#6485 Krause Group PAC, Inc.	\$500
Taxpayers for Mitchell	#6475 Casey's PAC	\$500
Taxpayers for Mitchell	#6082 MidAmerican Energy Company PAC	\$500
TOTAL:		\$9,950

Mitchell Voted To Benefit Landlords And Ran A Lobbying Firm Advocating For Real Estate Developers Like Himself

Joe Mitchell, A Real Estate Developer And Landlord, Ran A Lobbying Firm To Benefited Real Estate Developers And Companies

Joe Mitchell Was A Real Estate Developer And Self-Declared Landlord

Salon: Joe Mitchell Was A Real Estate Developer. "In June, Mitchell won the Republican primary for Iowa's Second District on a platform opposing corporate influence in elections and a campaign promising to represent Iowans who 'have been left behind by a broken political system that works for insiders and lobbyists.' The catch is that Mitchell, a state representative and real estate developer, has benefited from

and hired lobbyists to the tune of tens of thousands of dollars in the past, and even worked at a lobbying firm.” [Salon, [7/9/26](#)]

Daily Gate City: “Mitchell Said He Is A Landlord.” “The three were also asked about a Senate bill that prohibits cities and counties from passing an ordinance requiring landlords to accept applicants who may be using a federal housing choice voucher. Mitchell said that in Iowa City landlords were going to be required to take \$500 tenants, which make it difficult for the property owners to meet their expenses in that larger market. Mitchell said he is a landlord and empathize with their situation. ‘It’s our home and we need to be able to decide who it goes to,’ he said.” [Daily Gate City, [2/22/21](#)]

2023-2025: Mitchell Ran A Lobbying Firm Called The Iowa Real Estate Developers Association That Worked For “Real Estate Companies”

2023-2025: Mitchell Was The President Of “An Industry Group That Helps Real Estate Companies” Which “Spent Nearly \$75,000 On Lobbying Efforts.” “In 2023, J. Mitchell Real Estate, the company that Mitchell heads, was a founding member of the Iowa Real Estate Developers Association, an industry group that helps real estate companies ‘of all kinds to maximize profit and reduce liability.’ Mitchell was also named the president of the group, which was promising to ‘focus on policy areas like taxation, economic development incentives, deregulation and zoning at the state and local level.’ To accomplish this deregulation, the group spent nearly \$75,000 on lobbying efforts, according to their 2023, 2024 and 2025 state lobbying reports.” [Salon, [7/9/26](#)]

- **Mitchell’s Group, The Iowa Real Estate Developers Association, Lobbied For Real Estate Developers On “Taxation, Economic Development Incentives, Deregulation And Zoning At The State And Local Level.”** “In 2023, J. Mitchell Real Estate, the company that Mitchell heads, was a founding member of the Iowa Real Estate Developers Association, an industry group that helps real estate companies ‘of all kinds to maximize profit and reduce liability.’ Mitchell was also named the president of the group, which was promising to ‘focus on policy areas like taxation, economic development incentives, deregulation and zoning at the state and local level.’ To accomplish this deregulation, the group spent nearly \$75,000 on lobbying efforts, according to their 2023, 2024 and 2025 state lobbying reports.” [Salon, [7/9/26](#)]
- **Iowa Business Record: The Iowa Real Estate Developers Association’s Goal Was “Advocating For A Positive Environment For Economic Investment” For Real Estate Developers.** “Several Iowa developers have formed the Iowa Real Estate Developers Association, a group whose goals include advocating for a positive environment for economic investment and providing professional development opportunities to other developers, members announced. The group’s founding members want to use their collective voice to focus on issues important to property development in Iowa, they said in a news release.” [Iowa Business Record, [1/25/23](#)]

Joe Mitchell Voted To Pocket His Real Estate Company Over \$2.5 Million In Tax Breaks While Letting Landlords Like Himself Deny Housing To Iowa Veterans And People With Disabilities

Mitchell “Said He Is A Landlord”

Daily Gate City: “Mitchell Said He Is A Landlord.” “The three were also asked about a Senate bill that prohibits cities and counties from passing an ordinance requiring landlords to accept applicants who may be using a federal housing choice voucher. Mitchell said that in Iowa City landlords were going to be required to take \$500 tenants, which make it difficult for the property owners to meet their expenses in

that larger market. Mitchell said he is a landlord and empathize with their situation. ‘It’s our home and we need to be able to decide who it goes to,’ he said.” [Daily Gate City, [2/22/21](#)]

2021: Mitchell Voted For Senate File 619, Which Went On To Pocket Over \$2.5 Million In Tax Breaks For His Real Estate Empire

HEADLINE: “Joe Mitchell Voted To Grow A Tax Credit His Companies Later Cashed In On.”
[Iowa Starting Line, [8/31/26](#)]

2021: Mitchell “Voted For Senate File 619, Which Expanded Iowa’s Workforce Housing Tax Credit.” “In May 2021, then-state Rep. Mitchell voted for Senate File 619, which expanded Iowa’s Workforce Housing Tax Credit — a state program that allocates \$35 million annually through the Iowa Economic Development Authority.” [Iowa Starting Line, [8/31/26](#)]

Iowa Starting Line: Mitchell’s Real Estate Companies Went Onto Pocket “A Combined \$2,559,880” From The Expanded Tax Credit. “In May 2021, then-state Rep. Mitchell voted for Senate File 619, which expanded Iowa’s Workforce Housing Tax Credit — a state program that allocates \$35 million annually through the Iowa Economic Development Authority. As a developer, he’s been a partner at BAM Development, Monroe Street Landing, Emerald Cove LLC, Bousset & Mitchell Company, and J Mitchell Real Estate LLC, according to his House financial disclosure report. Both BAM Development LLC and Bousset & Mitchell Company went on to develop housing projects that applied for, and received, Workforce Housing Tax Credits: a 16-unit development in Grinnell, a 30-unit development in Clear Lake, and a 20-unit development in Dyersville. The three projects received a combined \$2,559,880 in credits.” [Iowa Starting Line, [8/31/26](#)]

2021: Mitchell Voted Against Amendments To Senate File 252 That Would Have Prevented Landlords From Discriminating Against Iowa Veterans And Iowans With Disabilities

2021: Mitchell Voted For Senate File 252 To “Preempt Local Governments From Adopting Laws To Require Landlords To Participate In The Section 8 Federal Housing Program.” “In March 2021, Mitchell voted for Senate File 252, legislation to preempt local governments from adopting laws to require landlords to participate in the Section 8 federal housing program, through which HUD offers vouchers to help low-income families, people with disabilities, and older Americans pay their rent. According to HUD data, more than 19,000 Iowa households use Section 8 housing vouchers. At a February 2021 legislative forum in Keokuk in southeast Iowa, Mitchell told audience members that he was a landlord, according to a report in the Daily Gate City, and that an Iowa City ordinance would force landlords to accept tenants paying just \$500 a month. ‘It’s our home and we need to be able to decide who it goes to,’ he said. During House consideration of the law, Democratic lawmakers proposed amendments to exempt localities with existing ordinances; prevent landlords from kicking out existing renters who use federal housing vouchers; and make exceptions for nonelderly people with disabilities, kids in foster care, and veterans who receive vouchers. Each of those amendments was rejected; Mitchell voted against all five.” [Iowa Independent, [9/1/26](#)]

Iowa Independent: Mitchell Voted Against Amendments To Senate File 252 That Would Prevent Landlords From Discriminating Against Veterans And Iowans With Disabilities. “In March 2021, Mitchell voted for Senate File 252, legislation to preempt local governments from adopting laws to require landlords to participate in the Section 8 federal housing program, through which HUD offers vouchers to help low-income families, people with disabilities, and older Americans pay their rent. According to HUD data, more than 19,000 Iowa households use Section 8 housing vouchers. At a February 2021 legislative forum in Keokuk in southeast Iowa, Mitchell told audience members that he was a landlord, according to a report in the Daily Gate City, and that an Iowa City ordinance would force

landlords to accept tenants paying just \$500 a month. ‘It’s our home and we need to be able to decide who it goes to,’ he said. During House consideration of the law, Democratic lawmakers proposed amendments to exempt localities with existing ordinances; prevent landlords from kicking out existing renters who use federal housing vouchers; and make exceptions for nonelderly people with disabilities, kids in foster care, and veterans who receive vouchers. Each of those amendments was rejected; Mitchell voted against all five.” [Iowa Independent, [9/1/26](#)]

Joe Mitchell Message #1 Backup

Mitchell time and again has backed cutting access to health care for average Iowans, jeopardizing their financial security and their health. That’s no surprise since Mitchell says he thinks it’s “debatable” whether costs are even increasing. He is deeply out of touch.

Mitchell Time And Again Has Backed Cutting Access To Health Care For Average Iowans, Jeopardizing Their Financial Security And Their Health

Mitchell Supported The One Big Beautiful Bill, Which Was Projected To Cut Access To Health Care For 25,100 Iowans In The Second District And Increase Premiums By Nearly 60%

Mitchell Supported The One Big Beautiful Bill

May 2026: Mitchell Praised The One Big Beautiful Bill As A “Huge Deal.” MITCHELL: “We’re also going to be making sure, you know, that Iowans’ are going to keep more of their hard earned tax dollars. So that’s why the working families tax cut was such a huge deal last year when they passed it on July 4th, and the president signed it.” [KAAL, 04:25, [5/29/26](#)] (VIDEO)

April 2026: Mitchell Said The One 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, Iowa Talking Points, 09:21, [5/12/26](#)] (VIDEO)

The One Big Beautiful Bill Cut Medicaid By Almost \$1 Trillion, Threatening To Kick 25,100 Iowans In The Second District Off Of Their Access To Care

KFF: The Big Beautiful Bill Cut Medicaid By Nearly \$1 Trillion. “On July 4, President Trump signed into law a budget reconciliation package once called the ‘One Big, Beautiful Bill’ that made major reductions in federal health care spending to offset part of the costs of extending expiring tax cuts. The Congressional Budget Office’s (CBO) latest cost estimate shows that the reconciliation package would reduce federal Medicaid spending over a decade by an estimated \$911 billion (after accounting for interactions that produce overlapping reductions across different provisions of the law) and increase the number of uninsured people by 10 million.” [KFF, [7/23/25](#)]

- **HEADLINE: “Senate Megabill Marks Biggest Medicaid Cuts In History.”** [The Hill, [7/1/25](#)]

Joint Economic Committee: 25,100 People In Iowa's 2nd Congressional District Were Projected To Lose Their Access To Health Care Because Of The Big Beautiful Bill. [Joint Economic Committee Minority, Page 6, [September 2025](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Failed To Extend The ACA Premium Tax Credits, Increasing Premiums By An Average Of 58%

CNBC: The One Big Beautiful Bill Failed To Extend The ACA Premium Tax Credits. “Republicans gave a roughly \$4 trillion tax cut to Americans in the so-called ‘big beautiful bill’ that President Donald Trump signed into law July 4, extending several tax provisions scheduled to expire in 2026. However, there was a notable omission, according to health policy experts: an extension of a tax break that lowered health insurance premiums for millions of people. The enhanced premium tax credits, in place since 2021, have lowered the cost of health insurance premiums for those who buy coverage through the Affordable Care Act marketplace. Enrollees can use these to lower their premium costs upfront or claim the credits at tax time, but the credits are scheduled to expire after 2025. More than 22 million people — about 92% of ACA enrollees — received a federal subsidy this year that reduced their insurance premiums, according to KFF, a nonpartisan health policy research group. Those recipients would see a ‘sharp premium increase’ on Jan. 1, Cynthia Cox, the group’s ACA program director, said during a webinar Wednesday.” [CNBC, [7/11/25](#)]

KFF: Premiums Had Increased By An Average Of 58% In 2026. “This analysis draws on data from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and state-based Marketplace (SBM) Open Enrollment reports, as well as KFF survey data and individual market enrollment estimates from Wakely Consulting Group, to examine early indicators of how the expiration of enhanced premium tax credits has affected effectuated enrollment levels (i.e., enrollment among people who have paid their premiums), plan selections, and out-of-pocket costs in 2026. [...] Premium payments from enrollees increased by an average of 58% from \$113 to \$178 per month. This is lower than the 114% increase KFF projected if everyone had stayed in the same plan because many people bought down to higher-deductible plans and because those just past the subsidy cliff with the steepest increases dropped ACA coverage at higher rates. Additionally, the 114% increase was among people receiving a tax credit whereas the 58% increase is among all consumers, including the most number who did not receive a tax credit in 2025.” [KFF, [5/19/26](#)]

- **KFF: 24,000 Iowans In The 2nd Congressional District Would See Their Premiums Skyrocket Because Of The ACA Premium Tax Credits Not Being Extended.** [KFF, [2/3/25](#)]

Mitchell Defended Privatized Medicaid, Which Increased Health Care Denials And Reduced Health Care Services For Iowans With Disabilities

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

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](#)]

2018-2019: Mitchell Repeatedly Defended Iowa's Medicaid Privatization System

2019: Mitchell Defended Iowa's Privatized Medicaid System, Saying It "Made An Impact" on Saving Iowa Money. "Mitchell referenced former state auditor Mary Mosiman's audit that estimated privatized Medicaid saved Iowa \$126 million by the end of fiscal year 2018. 'I do think it made an impact fiscally,' Mitchell said, adding that he does think additional oversight is needed to ensure MCOs are paying providers in a timely manner.'" [Southeast Iowa Union, [2/25/19](#)]

2018: Mitchell On Iowa's Privatization Of Medicaid: "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." "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 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](#)]

Iowa's Medicaid Privatization Produced "Barely Half" The Savings That Were Anticipated...

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](#)]

...While Causing "Reduced Services And Delayed Reimbursements" For Recipients And Providers

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](#)]

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

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](#)]

That’s No Surprise Since Mitchell Says He Thinks It’s “Debatable” Whether Costs Are Even Increasing. He Is Deeply Out Of Touch

May 2026: Mitchell Said It Was “Debatable” That Prices Had Gone Up Because Of Tariffs

May 2026: Mitchell Said It Was “Debatable” To Say That Prices Had Increased Because Of Tariffs. HOST: “Sticking with the economy, I want to talk about affordability a little bit, you know, whether it's gas prices or cost of everyday goods. The prices have gone up for both of those things, starting with the everyday prices, that's largely attributed to the tariffs by the presidential administration. Seeing those price increases-” MITCHELL: “Debate, debatable, but yeah.” [KGAN, Beyond The Podium, 11:19, [5/24/26](#)] (VIDEO)

Trump’s Tariffs Would Make Healthcare Infrastructure, Specifically Medical Devices, More Expensive

HEADLINE: “Tariffs Are A Hidden Tax On Healthcare.” [American Consumer Institute, [6/2/26](#)]

Forbes: “Globally, 81% Of Insurers Expect Tariffs To Increase Healthcare Costs Over The Next Three Years. The Top Concern Is Supply-Chain Disruptions And Their Impact On Hospital And Provider Costs.” “Globally, 81% of insurers expect tariffs to increase healthcare costs over the next three years. The top concern is supply-chain disruptions and their impact on hospital and provider costs. Hospitals and healthcare providers anticipate further increases in their expenses for medical supplies and pharmaceuticals because of increased trade barriers, which also could increase insurance premiums.” [Forbes, [11/25/25](#)]

- **American Consumer Institute: “Medical Equipment Is Currently Subject To A Range Of Cost-Increasing Tariffs.”** “Medical equipment is currently subject to a range of cost-increasing tariffs. Essential tools such as facemasks, medical gloves, syringes, and needles made in China face a minimum 25 percent import duty. Tariffs on the steel and aluminum used to produce medical equipment are up to 50 percent, with an additional 10 percent tariff layered on top—except for a temporary carveout for pharmaceuticals and pharmaceutical ingredients—expected to last through most of July 2026. When the cost of a syringe or MRI machine rises by 25 percent at the border, that increase does not disappear. It is passed through distributors and providers, ultimately reaching insurers which raise premiums to cover higher costs.” [American Consumer Institute, [6/2/26](#)]

Joe Mitchell Message #2 Backup

Mitchell voted against lowering the cost of insulin, a life-saving drug for hundreds of thousands of Iowans.

Mitchell Voted Against Lowering The Cost Of Insulin, A Life-Saving Drug For Hundreds of Thousands Of Iowans

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

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

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]

House File 2138

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](#)]

NIH: Insulin Was A Life-Saving Drug. “In this review, we bring our personal experiences to showcase insulin from its breakthrough discovery as a life-saving drug 100 years ago to its uncovering as the autoantigen and potential cause of type 1 diabetes and eventually as an opportunity to prevent autoimmune diabetes. The work covers the birth of insulin to treat patients, which is now 100 years ago, the development of human insulin, insulin analogues, devices, and the way into automated insulin delivery, the realization that insulin is the primary autoimmune target of type 1 diabetes in children, novel approaches of immunotherapy using insulin for immune tolerance induction, the possible limitations of insulin immunotherapy, and an outlook how modern vaccines could remove the need for another 100 years of insulin therapy.” [NIH, published [9/15/21](#)]

Hundreds Of Thousands Of Iowans Were Diabetic

2017: There Were Approximately 231,984 Adult Iowans With Diabetes. “In 2017, there were approximately 231,984 adult Iowans with diabetes. Across the U.S., more than 30 million adults have diabetes, and one in four of them don't know they have it. \$245 billion is the total costs for people diagnosed with diabetes. Annually, a person with diabetes acquires medical costs of about \$13,700.” [Iowa Department of Health And Human Services, Accessed [9/29/26](#)]

Joe Mitchell Message #3 Backup

Mitchell supports increasing health insurance premiums up to 233% while supporting cuts to Medicaid that will further burden Iowa families.

Mitchell Supports Increasing Health Insurance Premiums By Up To 233%...

Mitchell Supported The One Big Beautiful Bill, Which Was Projected To Increase Premiums By An Average Of 233% For A Family Of Four In IA-02

Mitchell Supported The One Big Beautiful Bill

May 2026: Mitchell Praised The One Big Beautiful Bill As A “Huge Deal.” MITCHELL: “We’re also going to be making sure, you know, that Iowans’ are going to keep more of their hard earned tax dollars.

So that's why the working families tax cut was such a huge deal last year when they passed it on July 4th, and the president signed it." [KAAL, 04:25, [5/29/26](#)] (VIDEO)

April 2026: Mitchell Said The One 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, Iowa Talking Points, 09:21, [5/12/26](#)] (VIDEO)

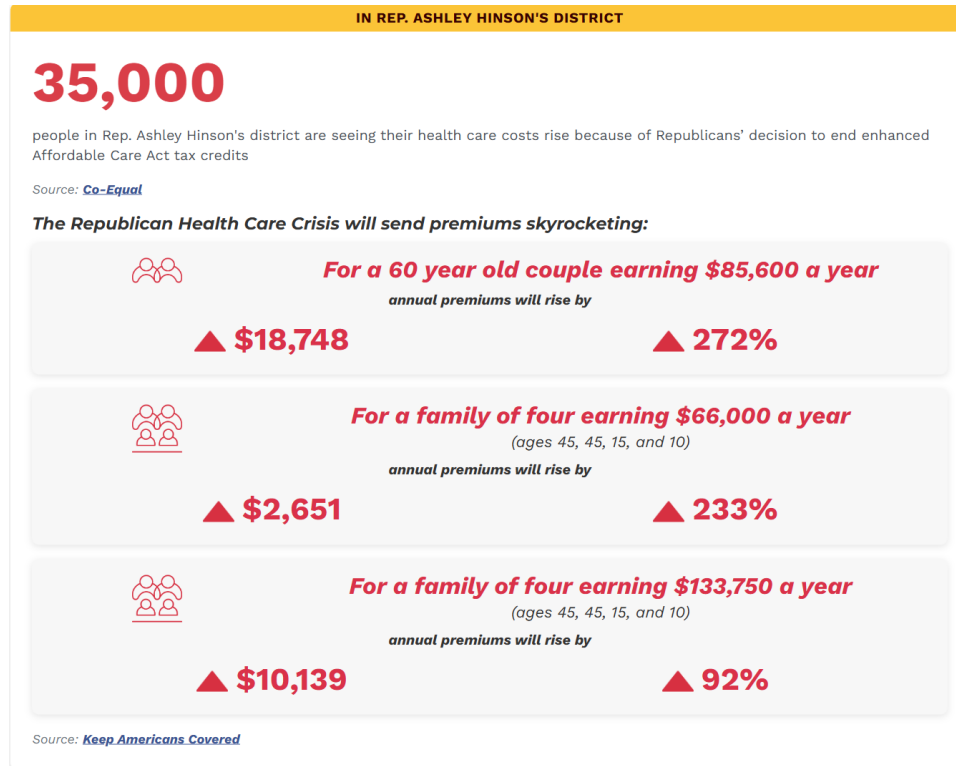
The One Big Beautiful Bill Failed To Extend The ACA Premium Tax Credits, Affecting 24,000 Iowans In The Second Congressional District

CNBC: The One Big Beautiful Bill Failed To Extend The ACA Premium Tax Credits. “Republicans gave a roughly \$4 trillion tax cut to Americans in the so-called ‘big beautiful bill’ that President Donald Trump signed into law July 4, extending several tax provisions scheduled to expire in 2026. However, there was a notable omission, according to health policy experts: an extension of a tax break that lowered health insurance premiums for millions of people. The enhanced premium tax credits, in place since 2021, have lowered the cost of health insurance premiums for those who buy coverage through the Affordable Care Act marketplace. Enrollees can use these to lower their premium costs upfront or claim the credits at tax time, but the credits are scheduled to expire after 2025. More than 22 million people — about 92% of ACA enrollees — received a federal subsidy this year that reduced their insurance premiums, according to KFF, a nonpartisan health policy research group. Those recipients would see a ‘sharp premium increase’ on Jan. 1, Cynthia Cox, the group’s ACA program director, said during a webinar Wednesday.” [CNBC, [7/11/25](#)]

- **KFF: 24,000 Iowans In The 2nd Congressional District Would See Their Premiums Skyrocket Because Of The ACA Premium Tax Credits Not Being Extended.** [KFF, [2/3/25](#)]

House Committee On The Budget: Premiums Were Projected To Increase By An Average Of 233% For A Family Of Four In IA-02

House Committee On The Budget: Premiums Were Projected To Increase By An Average Of 233% For A Family Of Four In IA-02. [House Committee on the Budget, accessed [9/29/26](#)]



[House Committee on the Budget, accessed [9/29/26](#)]

...While Supporting Cuts To Medicaid That Will Further Burden Iowa Families

Mitchell Supported The One Big Beautiful Bill, Which Was Projected To Cut Access To Health Care For 25,100 Iowans In The Second District

Mitchell Supported The One Big Beautiful Bill

May 2026: Mitchell Praised The One Big Beautiful Bill As A “Huge Deal.” MITCHELL: “We’re also going to be making sure, you know, that Iowans’ are going to keep more of their hard earned tax dollars. So that’s why the working families tax cut was such a huge deal last year when they passed it on July 4th, and the president signed it.” [KAAL, 04:25, [5/29/26](#)] (VIDEO)

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The One Big Beautiful Bill Cut Medicaid By Almost \$1 Trillion, Threatening To Kick 25,100 Iowans’ In The Second District Off Of Their Access To Care

KFF: The Big Beautiful Bill Cut Medicaid By Nearly \$1 Trillion. “On July 4, President Trump signed into law a budget reconciliation package once called the ‘One Big, Beautiful Bill’ that made major reductions in federal health care spending to offset part of the costs of extending expiring tax cuts. The Congressional Budget Office’s (CBO) latest cost estimate shows that the reconciliation package would reduce federal Medicaid spending over a decade by an estimated \$911 billion (after accounting for interactions that produce overlapping reductions across different provisions of the law) and increase the number of uninsured people by 10 million.” [KFF, [7/23/25](#)]

- **HEADLINE: “Senate Megabill Marks Biggest Medicaid Cuts In History.”** [The Hill, [7/1/25](#)]

Joint Economic Committee: 25,100 People In Iowa’s 2nd Congressional District Were Projected To Lose Their Access To Health Care Because Of The Big Beautiful Bill. [Joint Economic Committee Minority, Page 6, [September 2025](#)]

Joe Mitchell Message #4 Backup

Mitchell supports healthcare cuts that will kick tens of thousands of Iowans off their health care, force layoffs and closures at local health care facilities, and drive up health insurance costs even for people who get their health care through their job.

Mitchell Supports Healthcare Cuts That Will Kick Tens Of Thousands Of Iowans Off Their Health Care...

May 2026: Mitchell Praised The One Big Beautiful Bill As A “Huge Deal.” MITCHELL: “We’re also going to be making sure, you know, that Iowans’ are going to keep more of their hard earned tax dollars. So that’s why the working families tax cut was such a huge deal last year when they passed it on July 4th, and the president signed it.” [KAAL, 04:25, [5/29/26](#)] (VIDEO)

April 2026: Mitchell Said The One 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, Iowa Talking Points, 09:21, [5/12/26](#)] (VIDEO)

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- **KFF: The One Big Beautiful Bill Was Projected To Cost 110,000 Iowans Their Access To Care.** [KFF, Figure 2, [8/20/25](#)]

- **Joint Economic Committee: 25,100 People In Iowa's 2nd Congressional District Were Projected To Lose Their Access To Health Care Because Of The Big Beautiful Bill.** [Joint Economic Committee Minority, Page 6, [September 2025](#)]

...Force Layoffs And Closures At Local Health Care Facilities...

The One Big Beautiful Bill's Medicaid Cuts Put Rural Hospitals At Risk And Forced Layoffs And Closures, Including In The Iowa's 2nd Congressional District

The One Big Beautiful Bill's Medicaid Cuts Threatened Hundreds Of Hospitals, Including In Rural Areas

HEADLINE: "Medicaid Cuts Threaten Hundreds Of Hospitals, New Reports Finds." [NBC News, [3/31/26](#)]

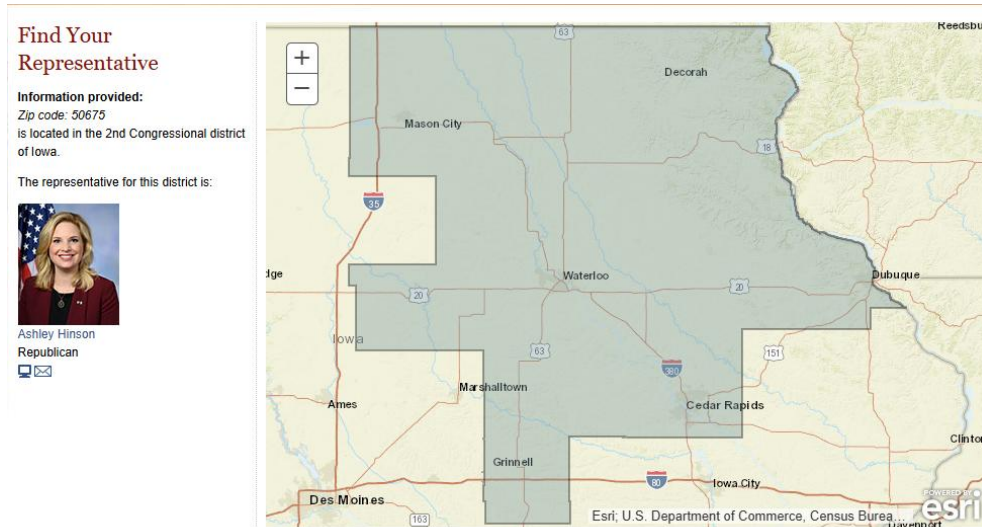
The Guardian: "More Than 300 Rural Hospitals Are At Risk Of Closure Or Cutting Services" Because Of The Big Beautiful Bill's Medicaid Cuts. "Healthcare providers across the country have closed clinics and hospital wards in the four months since Donald Trump signed into law the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, the landmark tax-and-spending legislation that will lead an estimated 10 million people to lose their health insurance. The law is expected to slash federal funding by hundreds of billions of dollars over the coming years, as part of Trump's campaign pledge to shrink government spending. But it will do so in part by paring back eligibility for Medicaid, the US government's health insurance program for low-income people; raising the cost of healthcare under the Affordable Care Act; and defunding some family planning providers who offer abortions." [The Guardian, [11/20/25](#)]

One Clinic In IA-02 Closed, And Another Laid Off Employees After The Passage Of The One Big Beautiful Bill

A Family Medicine Clinic In Traer, Iowa Closed Following The Passage Of The One Big Beautiful Bill

HEADLINE: "MercyOne Traer Family Medicine To Shutter Dec. 10." [Times-Republican, [12/1/25](#)]

The MercyOne Traer Family Medicine Clinic Was Located At 200 Walnut Street In Traer, Iowa, Which Was In IA-02. [Times-Republican, [12/1/25](#); Find Your Representative, accessed [9/25/26](#)]



[Find Your Representative, accessed [9/25/26](#)]

2026: A MercyOne Hospital In Mason City, Iowa Announced It Was Laying Off 34 People Following The Passage Of The One Big Beautiful Bill

February 2026: MercyOne Medical Center In Mason City Announced It Was Laying Off 34 Employees. “MercyOne has issued more layoffs in Iowa. 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.” [KCRG, [2/2/26](#)]

- **Mason City Was Located In Iowa’s 2nd Congressional District.** “The 2nd Congressional District, which includes cities like Cedar Rapids, Waterloo, Dubuque and Mason City, has been represented by a Republican since 2021, and is currently held by U.S. Rep. Ashley Hinson, who is not seeking another term due to her bid for the U.S. Senate.” [Iowa Capital Dispatch, [6/2/26](#)]

Multiple Hospitals In Iowa Had Or Were At Risk Of Closure Because Of The One Big Beautiful Bill’s Medicaid Cuts, Including One In IA-02

Multiple Hospitals In Iowa Had Closed Because Of The One Big Beautiful Bill

January 2026: The MercyOne Clinic In Ottumwa, Iowa Announced It Would Close At The End Of February 2026. “A MercyOne clinic in Ottumwa will be closing its doors at the end of February. Ottumwa's MercyOne Family and Internal Medicine clinic, 522 N Hancock St., will see its last patients Feb. 27, and permanently close its doors, Alex Carfrae, the regional public relations official for MercyOne, confirmed with the Register.” [Des Moines Register, [1/15/26](#)]

- **CNN: MercyOne Said The Medicaid Cuts “Contributed” To Its Decision To Close The Ottumwa Clinic.** “The GOP package also contributed to MercyOne, which has 21 medical centers and multiple clinics across urban and rural Iowa, deciding to close its clinic in Ottumwa and lay off dozens of staffers. MercyOne is part of Trinity Health, which said in a statement to CNN that ‘the recent and future government funding policy changes’ are expected to reduce its annual revenue by \$1.5 billion.” [CNN, [3/2/26](#)]

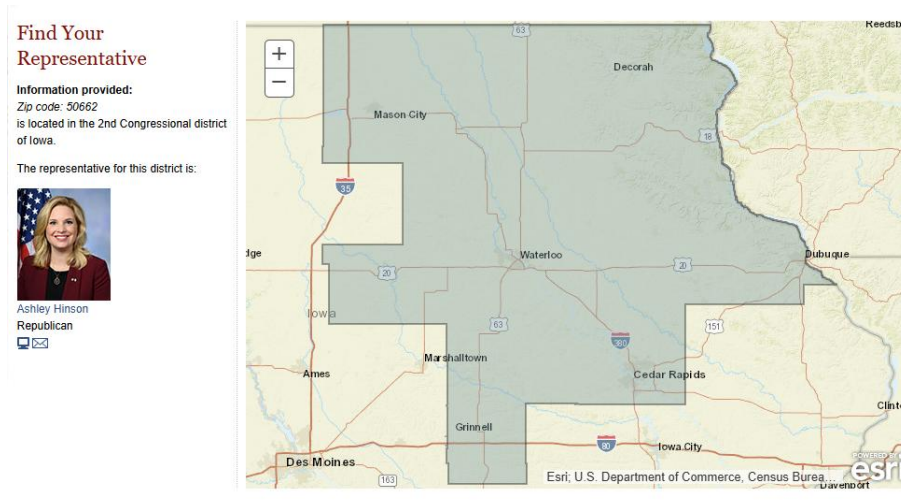
May 2026: River Hills Community Center In Centerville, Iowa Announced It Was Closing Because Of “Financial And Operational Challenges.” “River Hills Community Health Center has announced the closure of its Centerville clinic, effective July 31st, 2026, citing ongoing financial and operational challenges facing rural health care providers across Iowa and the nation. The announcement comes shortly after the organization announced the closure of its Richland Dental Clinic in Keokuk County, which was announced April 29th, 2026, also attributed to cuts in insurance funding nationwide. The southeast Iowa region has experienced cuts by many health care providing agencies, reflecting a broader trend affecting rural and community health systems nationwide.” [Ottumwa Radio, [5/12/26](#)]

Three Rural Hospitals, Including One In IA-02, Were At Risk Of Closure Because Of The One Big Beautiful Bill’s Medicaid Cuts

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

May 2026: Three Hospitals Across Iowa In Ottumwa, Council Bluffs, And Oelwein Were At Risk Of Closure Because Of The One Big Beautiful Bill’s Medicaid Cuts. “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](#)]

- **MercyOne Oelwein Medical Center Was Located In Iowa’s 2nd Congressional District.** [MercyOne, accessed [9/25/26](#); Find Your Representative, accessed [9/25/26](#)]



[Find Your Representative, accessed [9/25/26](#)]

...And Drive Up Health Insurance Costs Even For People Who Get Their Health Care Through Their Job

The One Big Beautiful Bill's Medicaid Cuts Could Accelerate Health Care Provider Consolidation And Reduce Competition In Hospital Markets, Which Would Lead To Increased Private Insurance Costs

The One Big Beautiful Bill Cut Medicaid By Nearly \$1 Trillion

KFF: The One Big Beautiful Bill Cut Medicaid By Nearly \$1 Trillion. “On July 4, President Trump signed into law a budget reconciliation package once called the ‘One Big, Beautiful Bill’ that made major reductions in federal health care spending to offset part of the costs of extending expiring tax cuts. The Congressional Budget Office’s (CBO) latest cost estimate shows that the reconciliation package would reduce federal Medicaid spending over a decade by an estimated \$911 billion (after accounting for interactions that produce overlapping reductions across different provisions of the law) and increase the number of uninsured people by 10 million.” [KFF, [7/23/25](#)]

Medicaid Cuts Were Projected To Cause Higher Health Care Premiums For People With Private Health Insurance

Third Way: “Medicaid Cuts Would Squeeze Health Care Providers And Accelerate Consolidation—Further Raising Prices On Care For Patients With Private Insurance.” “As part of the partisan reconciliation process, congressional Republicans are considering \$880 billion in cuts to Medicaid. While these cuts would severely impact the health and finances of low-income Americans, the consequences would reach far beyond Medicaid enrollees. Medicaid cuts would destabilize the broader health care system, ultimately driving up costs for employers and workers who rely on private insurance. In this memo, we unpack how workers and employers are struggling with health care costs. We then examine how Medicaid cuts would squeeze health care providers and accelerate consolidation—further raising prices on care for patients with private insurance.” [Third Way, [5/1/25](#)]

Third Way: “If Republicans Are Successful In Cutting Up To \$880 Billion From The Medicaid Program, Employers And Patients With Private Insurance Will See Their Costs Rise As A Result Of Reduced Competition In Hospital Markets.” “The problem is that when a hospital is acquired by a larger system, prices increase. For example, after North Carolina-based Mission Health was acquired by HCA Healthcare, patients saw significant price hikes. Hospital mergers can lead to price increases of up to 65%. As more struggling hospitals are absorbed by larger systems, we will see higher prices and reduced competition in hospital markets. If Republicans are successful in cutting up to \$880 billion from the Medicaid program, employers and patients with private insurance will see their costs rise as a result of reduced competition in hospital markets.” [Third Way, [5/1/25](#)]

- **The One Big Beautiful Bill Cut More Than \$1 Trillion In Medicaid And Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Funding.** “The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated that the OBBBA will cut federal spending on Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) benefits by \$1.02 trillion, due in part to eliminating at least 10.5 million people from the programs by 2034. With new federal limits on Medicaid eligibility likely increasing the number of uninsured, along with other provisions that restrict states’ ability to raise revenue to fund their Medicaid programs, states will have to reevaluate their budgets to either supplement the spending or cut services. Research shows that when federal funding for Medicaid decreases, states tend to cut optional benefits such as home- and community-based (HCBS) first. It is nearly impossible to carve out a specific population, such as disabled people or elderly people, because the cuts to Medicaid funding will affect everyone due to hospital closures and health care workforce layoffs.” [Center for American Progress, [7/3/25](#)]