



U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Top Reasons to Oppose the Republican Budget

Uses fast track procedures to increase the debt and deficits by \$1.5 trillion, while showering tax cuts on millionaires and corporations — If this budget is approved, Republicans will bring their irresponsible \$1.5 trillion tax plan to the floor in just a matter of weeks, using the reconciliation process to approve it on a strictly partisan basis. Rushing legislation that impacts nearly every American family and business is reckless, and trying to hide its details is more proof that Republicans can't justify or defend their tax plan. They are hoping to rush it through before the American people can find out that it overwhelmingly benefits the wealthy and corporations, while increasing taxes on millions of middle class families.

Tax cuts do not pay for themselves, despite Republican claims — The historical record is clear: tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations do not generate enormous growth. This approach has failed time and time again: in the early 1980s; the early 2000s under President George W. Bush; and recently to disastrous effect in Kansas. Experts from a wide array of backgrounds have concluded that the tax cuts in the budget will not create an economic boom, but will instead lead to a higher concentration of wealth among the rich, while dramatically increasing our deficits and debt.

Includes massive spending cuts to the priorities of the American people – and that's just the start — The budget threatens programs that Americans rely on by assuming \$4 trillion in mandatory spending cuts, plus deep cutbacks to discretionary funding. The enormity of these cuts and the severity of the consequences cannot be overstated. Education, health care, research, and infrastructure are all threatened under this budget. And when the debt and deficits explode as a result of the tax cuts in this plan, Republicans will unleash a new round of attacks on these programs and other important benefits that help American families get ahead.

Cuts nearly \$2 trillion from Medicare and Medicaid — It cuts \$1.3 trillion from Medicaid and other health programs, and nearly \$500 billion from Medicare. These are programs that provide health care to seniors, children, individuals with disabilities, and struggling families. Despite the overwhelming support and need for Medicare and Medicaid services, Congressional Republicans are giving massive tax cuts for the wealthy at the expense of this life-saving care.

Guts investment critical to expanding economic opportunity — It fails to address the looming cuts to defense and non-defense investments, maintaining the inadequate austerity-level discretionary spending caps for 2018. In subsequent years, the budget meets the defense caps but cuts the non-defense spending limits even further, by \$632 billion. These cuts undermine our investments in education, infrastructure, research, and other programs that expand opportunities for American families.

Fast-tracks drilling in wilderness areas — It includes fast-track procedures that are likely to be used to open pristine wilderness areas in Alaska to oil and gas drilling, threatening fragile ecosystems.