



**WELCOME!**

**MOVED TO ACTION**



*Saving SNAP,  
Medicaid, and More*

**NETWORK**  
NETWORK ADVOCATES FOR CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE

# AGENDA



- **Welcome**
- **Opening Prayer and Reflection**
- **Context Setting**
- **Tax Cuts**
- **Expanded Detention**
- **SNAP**
- **Medicaid**
- **Call to Action**
- **Q&A**
- **Support Our Work!**

# OUR PRESENTERS



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Grassroots Education & Organizing  
Coordinator



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**Catherine Gillette**  
Senior Grassroots Mobilization Organizer



# What's Happened Since January 20: Trump Administration's Chaos & Conflict

- **President Trump promised "shock and awe"**
- **What we see:** Project 2025 developed by the Heritage Foundation
- **Trump administration's executive actions** have attacked ALL areas of NETWORK's "Economy for All" agenda:
  - *Jobs with paid leave and living wages*
  - *Affordable housing, food, and health care*
  - *Safe and welcoming neighborhoods*
  - *Clean air and water*
  - *A tax code that ensures the wealthy pay their fair share*
  - *A just and humane immigration system*
  - *A politics responsive to the people, not the money*



# Elon Musk: Billionaire Calling the Shots

- **Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE):** New advisory body created by President Trump under Executive Order
- **Stated mission:** "Save taxpayers' money and reduce U.S. national debt"
- **What are they really doing?** Going into agencies they disagree with; indiscriminately slashing budgets and firing personnel; gaining access to our nation's most sensitive data
  - No transparency
  - Spreading misinformation about government spending
  - Musk has significant conflicts of interest given the billions in contracts his businesses hold with the U.S. government



# NETWORK Responds with "Truth and Light"

## Telling the truth

- **Track it:** Tracking all executive action that impacts NETWORK's agenda
- **Use our voice:** Speak up and speak out
- **Inform:** Providing resources to our field

## Taking action

- **The courts are key:** Reaching out to key litigation leaders to see how NETWORK can partner (ex. NETWORK recently signed an amicus brief in support of the Affordable Care Act)
- **Help us share by sharing your stories:** Tell us your stories about how Executive Actions are impacting your community! Congress works for YOU, and they NEED to KNOW!



# Refresher on Budget Reconciliation

## **NETWORK's Goal: Mitigate damage to our communities**

- Reconciliation is a tool—a special process—that makes legislation easier to pass in the Senate
  - Created in 1974 by the Congressional Budget Act to make it easier for Congress to alter revenue and spending to align with the annual budget resolution
  - Process used when a single party holds power over the White House, Senate, and the House of Representatives
- How is reconciliation different from a regular bill?
  - **Instead of 60 votes, a reconciliation bill only needs a simple majority in the Senate and cannot be filibustered**
  - Only policies that change spending or revenue can be included

# THE ROAD TO RECONCILIATION

## 1 CONGRESS PASSES A BUDGET RESOLUTION

This resolution instructs specific House and Senate committees to write parts of the reconciliation bill and tells each committee how much to change spending or revenue.

1

2

## 2 COMMITTEES WRITE RECONCILIATION BILLS

The instructions in the budget resolution dictate which committees can contribute to the reconciliation effort and what the committees may produce.

3

## 3 COMMITTEES MARK UP THEIR BILLS

At this point, committee members may offer amendments modifying—i.e., “marking up”—the legislation.

4

## 4 THE COMMITTEES' BILLS ARE COMBINED INTO A SINGLE RECONCILIATION PACKAGE

That bill can now come before the House and Senate for a vote—but their processes for reaching that vote are quite different.

5

## 5 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE HOUSE AND SENATE BILLS ARE RECONCILED

The House and Senate must approve the same version of the reconciliation bill.

6

## 6 THE PRESIDENT SIGNS THE BILL INTO LAW

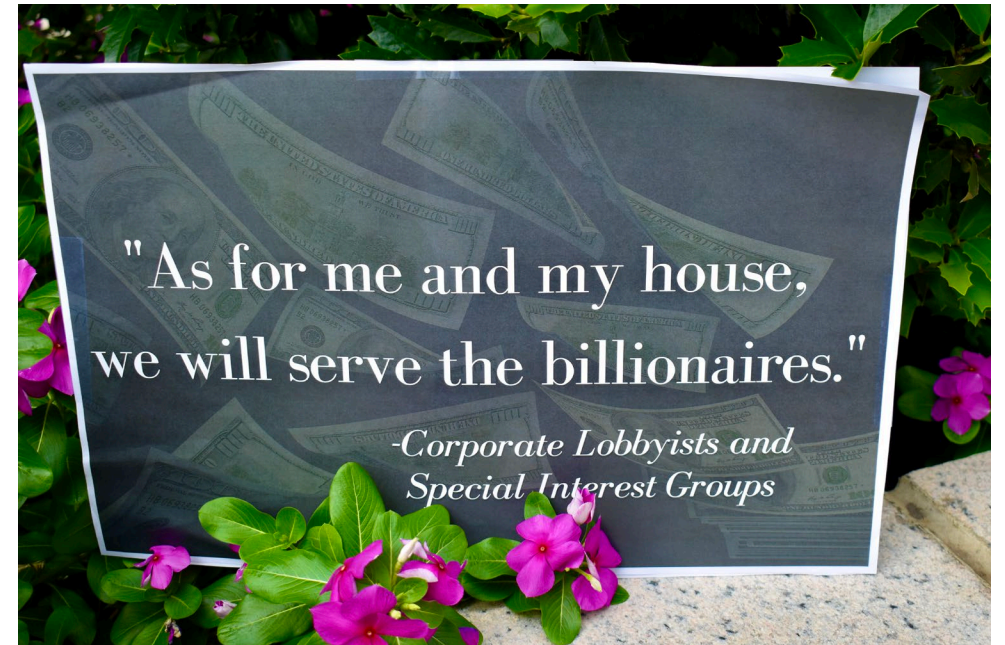
Once the House and Senate pass the same version of the reconciliation bill, the final bill goes to the President to sign into law or veto, just like any other bill.

CONGRESSIONAL  
PROGRESSIVE  
CAUCUS CENTER

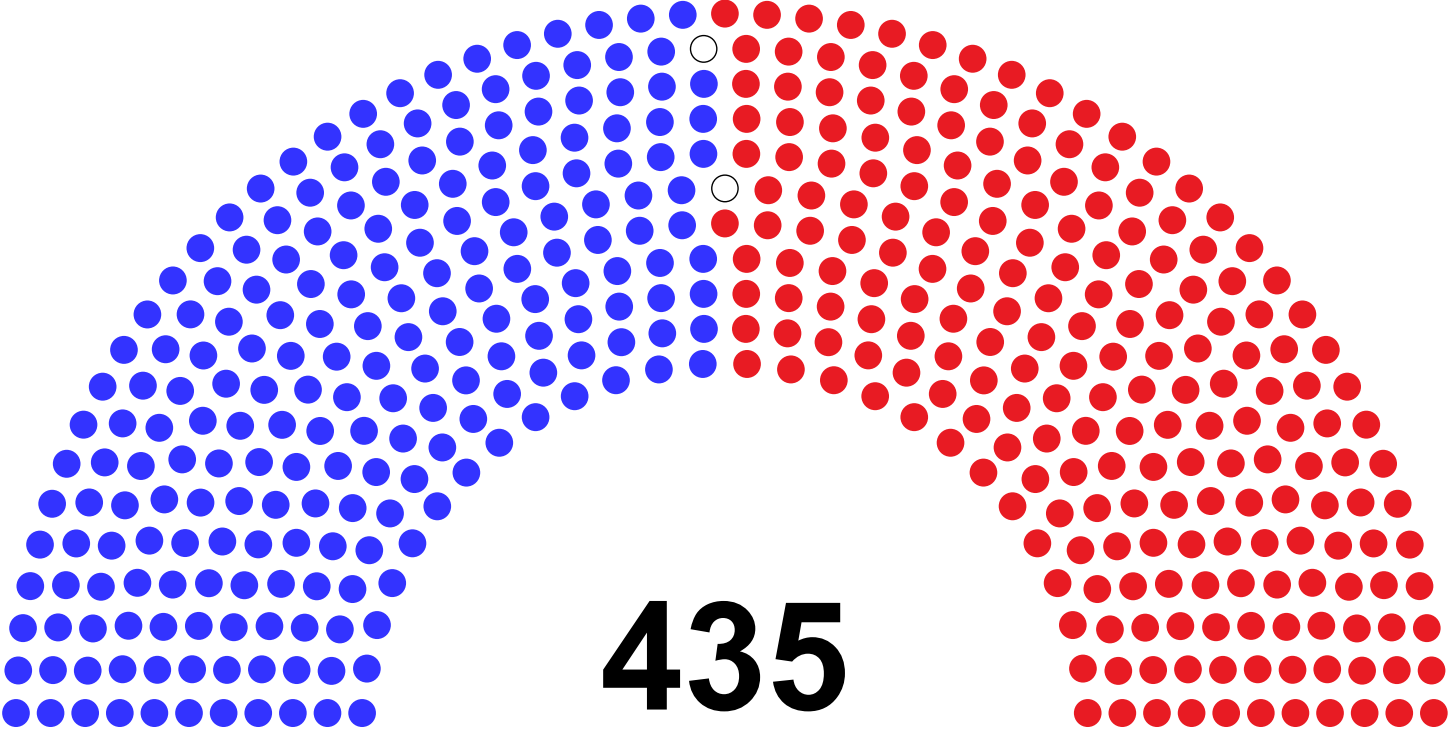


# Republican Priorities for Budget Reconciliation

- **Spending Priorities**
  - Tax cuts for the rich and powerful corporations
  - Expanded detention and deportation money for Trump's mass deportation effort
- **Paid for by...**
  - Cuts to Medicaid
  - Cuts to food programs (SNAP)
  - Cuts to clean energy incentives



# Our Superpower: Politics = Math!



# Tax Policy

**Vital social safety net programs face significant cuts to pay for renewed tax breaks for the ultra-wealthy.**

- Passed by Republicans in 2017, the **Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA)** gave massive tax breaks to **billionaires and corporations**
- The TCJA will expire at the end of this year
- As part of the Budget Reconciliation process, **House Republicans have proposed \$4.5 trillion in tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans**
- Private equity, inequality in wealth, and wealth concentration will find favor in all the wrong ways
- To pay for these tax breaks, they are looking to decrease spending by \$2 trillion or more – **gutting our food programs, health care, housing, education, clean energy, and more**
- Corporations boosted their bottom line on the backs of working and middle-class people and families



## Before and After the Trump Tax Law for 16 Prominent Corporations

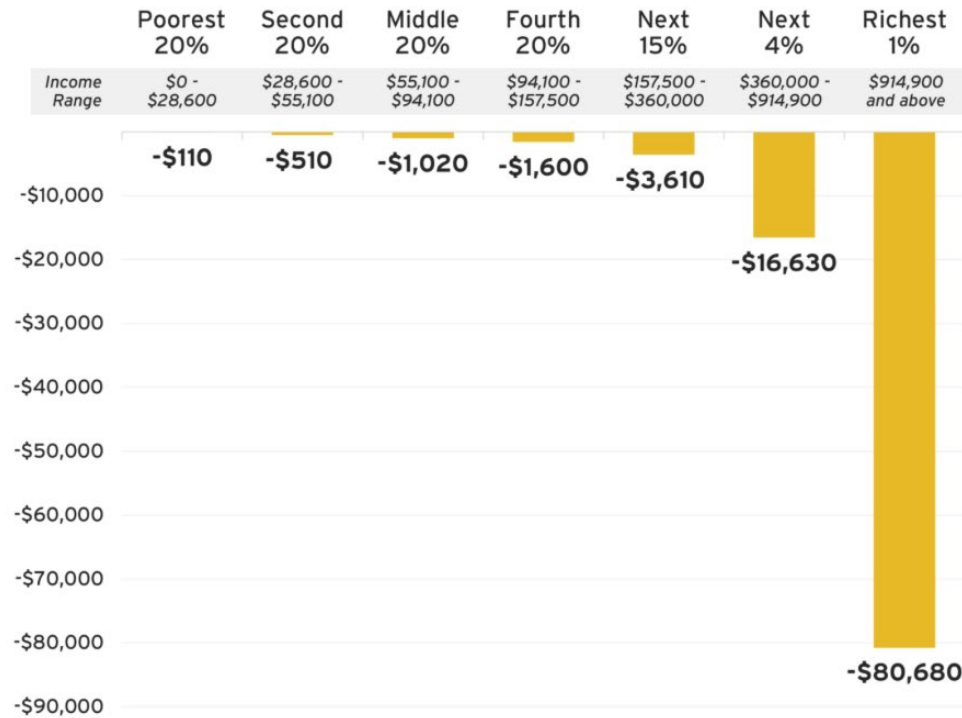
Company	Effective tax rates		Saved taxes	% change 2013-2016 to 2018-2021*	
	2013-2016	2018-2021		in profits	in taxes
Verizon Communications	21%	8%	\$10.7 billion	18%	-52%
Walmart	31%	17%	\$9.0 billion	-3%	-45%
AT&T	13%	3%	\$8.2 billion	1%	-81%
Meta	28%	18%	\$8.0 billion	372%	203%
Intel	27%	13%	\$7.7 billion	47%	-31%
Comcast	24%	14%	\$6.6 billion	42%	-17%
Walt Disney	26%	8%	\$6.1 billion	-27%	-78%
Visa	32%	18%	\$5.2 billion	74%	-2%
Lockheed Martin	33%	15%	\$5.0 billion	46%	-33%
Capital One Financial	31%	16%	\$5.1 billion	42%	-28%
Target	34%	16%	\$3.4 billion	25%	-42%
Honeywell International	23%	6%	\$2.3 billion	13%	-71%
FedEx	18%	1%	\$2.1 billion	7%	-92%
Deere	30%	13%	\$1.7 billion	2%	-54%
Archer Daniels Midland	26%	6%	\$838 million	-30%	-83%
Domino's Pizza	29%	9%	\$402 million	87%	-43%

\*2017 was a transition year between the prior and post-Trump tax regimes and was thus excluded.  
Source: ITEP analysis of Securities and Exchange Commission filings of publicly traded corporations



## Average Tax Change From Trump's Plans to Make Most of the 2017 Tax Law Permanent in 2026

Average tax change by income group in 2026



Source: Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, December 2024

# Detention and Deportation



**In a recent letter to the U.S. Bishops, Pope Francis wrote,**

*"... the act of deporting people who in many cases have left their own land for reasons of extreme poverty, insecurity, exploitation, persecution or serious deterioration of the environment, damages the dignity of many men and women, and of entire families, and places them in a state of particular vulnerability and defenselessness."*

# Detention and Deportation

- **Proposed cuts to social safety net programs** will help pay for expanded detention and increased deportations
- At least **\$300 billion** has been allocated for detention and deportation
- 90% of all people held in immigration detention are held in facilities run by **private corporations**
  - In 2022, Geo Group made \$1.05 billion in revenue from ICE contracts alone
  - CoreCivic made \$552.2 million in revenue from ICE detention contracts
- Reconciliation bill proposes **doubling the number of detention centers** from 2022
- Military deportation flights cost as much as **\$3 million per flight**
- Spending exorbitant amounts on transferring and jailing immigrants in **Guantanamo**



# Protecting SNAP

## The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

- For decades, SNAP has served as our nation's most essential tool to prevent hunger
- SNAP is also central to lifting people out of poverty
- Even with SNAP, **34 million people in the U.S. still face hunger, including 9 million children**
  - This is immoral!

## House Budget Committee Proposal

- Significant cuts to SNAP
- House Committee covering anti-hunger programs (including SNAP) will have to cut \$230 billion
- Some proposals would reduce benefits for all 40 million SNAP beneficiaries (ex. \$6.20 decreased to \$4.80 per person per day)
- Other proposals would drop people from SNAP entirely with the addition of harsh new work-reporting requirements



# Protecting SNAP



## The Challenge

Congress must hold the line against any cuts to current SNAP benefit levels and against any new and more punishing work-reporting requirements.

## The Opportunity

Congress must remove the Farm Bill's unjustifiable lifetime ban on SNAP benefits for individuals convicted of drug felonies.

# The Importance of Medicaid

## Medicaid Helps Keep People Healthy at All Stages of Life

Medicaid covers:



2 in 5 of all U.S. births



2 in 5 children



1 in 6 non-elderly adults



2 in 5 non-elderly adults with a disability



1 in 4 people with SUD or mental illness

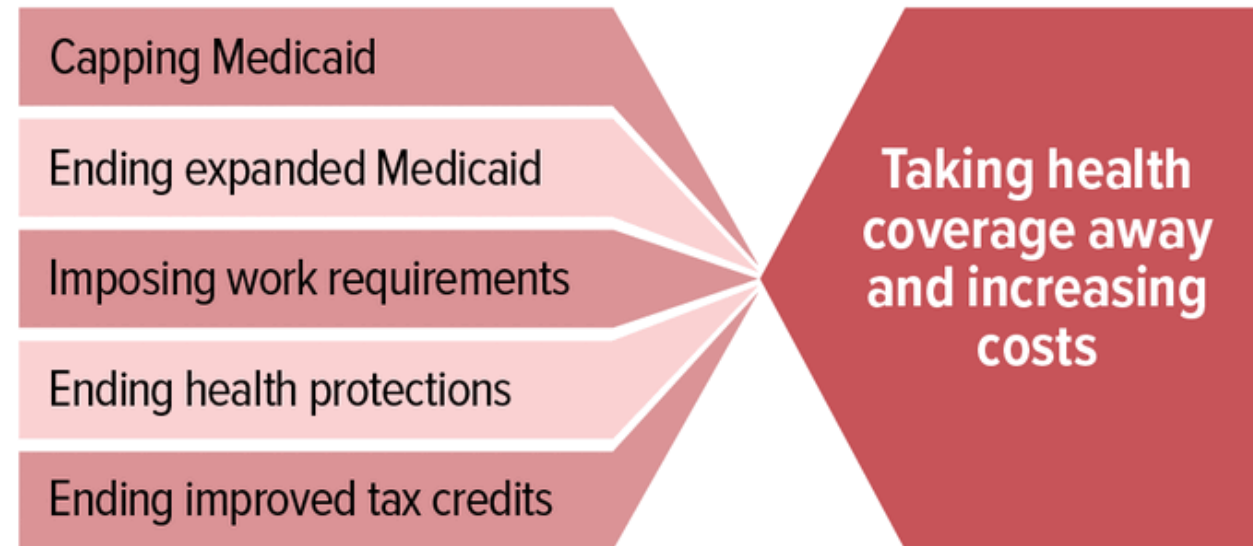


3 in 5 nursing facility residents

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# Threats to Medicaid

**Health Care Cuts  
May Take Many  
Forms But With  
Same Result**



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# Medicaid Cuts: Slashing Federal Payments

- \$1.3 trillion
- Ending ACA matching of 90% for those who enrolled when Medicaid coverage was expanded
- Eliminating the 50% floor for federal matching funds
- Eliminating higher federal matching % for Washington, D.C.

- Medicaid Expansion enrollment: 20,606,401
- Current cost to states: \$14.9 billion
- New cost to states without 90% match: **\$64.9 billion**
- Increase in costs for the 11 states with the lowest matching % if floor is removed: **\$42.9 billion**

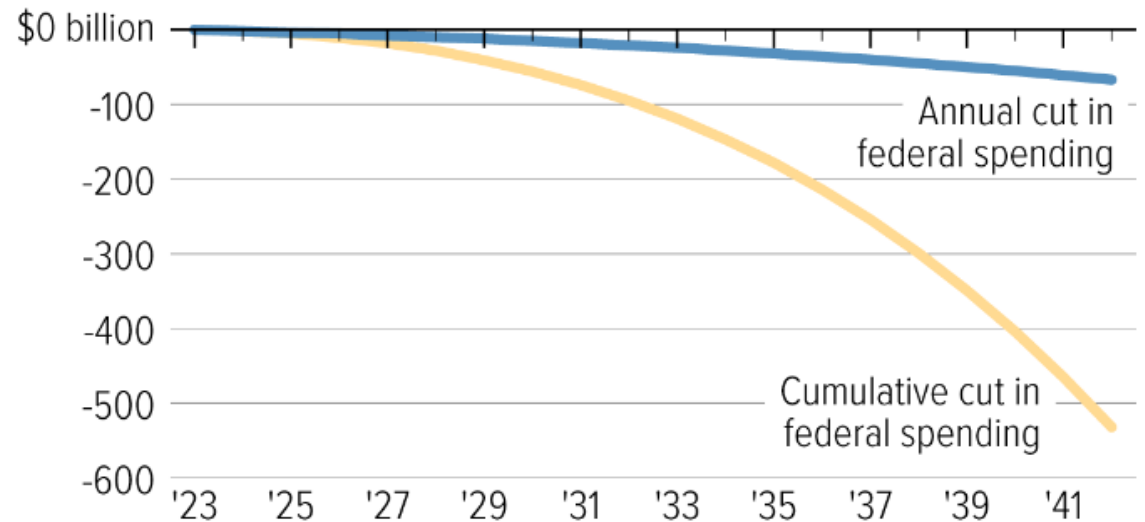


# Medicaid Cuts: Ending Medicaid as an Entitlement

- \$918 billion
- Imposing "per capita" caps, which would set the allowable increase in costs at below the expected rate
- Could be set at a uniform rate over time

FIGURE 1

## Total Medicaid Cuts From a Per Capita Cap Would Grow Over Time



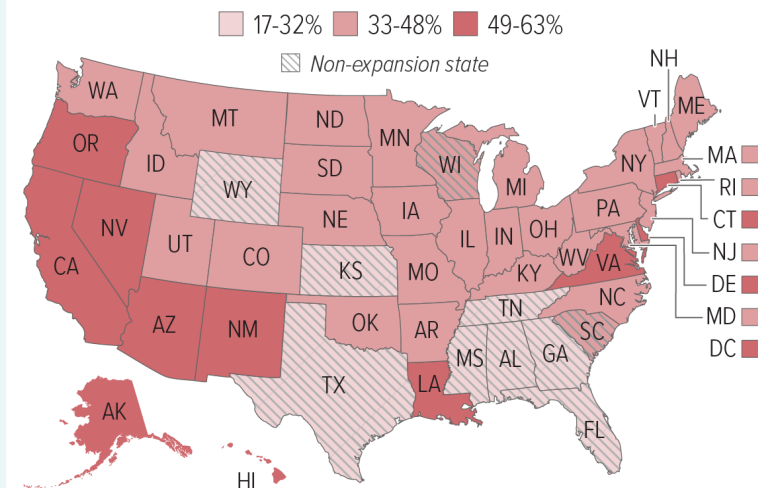
# Medicaid Cuts: Imposing Work-Reporting Requirements

- \$120 billion
- **67% of those with Medicaid are children, people with disabilities, or seniors**
- Imposing work-reporting requirements would not meaningfully increase the number of Medicaid beneficiaries with jobs (Congressional Budget Office)
- **Instead: Creates bureaucratic hurdles to staying enrolled**

## People in Every State Could Be at Risk of Losing Medicaid Coverage

Share of all Medicaid enrollees at risk under various proposals to take coverage away from people who don't meet burdensome work requirements

**44%** of all Medicaid enrollees would be at risk — about **36 million adults**.



Source: CBPP analysis of June 2024 Medicaid enrollment data collected by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission estimates using fiscal year 2022 T-MSIS enrollment data.

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# Affordable Care Act Cuts

- \$151 billion
- Forcing states to end coverage for non-US citizens
- Would save \$15 billion by **threatening the immigration status of those who use public health insurance**
- Requiring beneficiaries to pay back premium credits if their income has gone up within the year
- Reducing or ending premium tax credits, jacking up the cost and **causing 4 million people to become uninsured**



# Take Action with NETWORK!

- **Sign-up** to organize an in-district lobby visit with your Representative or their staff
- **Timeline for visits:** March 10-21
- **Ask:** Don't cut SNAP or Medicaid to pay for tax cuts for the ultra-wealthy and detention/deportation
- NETWORK will provide **talking points, leave behinds, and other prep materials** to support your visit!

*Unable to participate in a lobby visit (either virtual or in-person)?  
Please call your Representative's in-district office during the March 10-21 window to share your concerns!*

# Q&A

*We will do our best to follow-up regarding any questions we are unable to answer during our time together today!*



# Support Our Work!

Your support is critical—now more than ever! The work you heard about tonight is only possible because of people like you, who are part of a network of over **94,000 supporters**.

**Join us in advancing justice and allowing all of us to thrive with a donation today!**

- By donating, you join **5,600+ members** powering our mission
- A **\$50+ gift** grants you an annual membership (\$20 if senior, student, or limited income)
- Receive *Connection*, our award-winning quarterly magazine

**Call to Action:** Use this special link to support our work: **[www.networklobby.org/justiceseekers](http://www.networklobby.org/justiceseekers)**

# Coming Soon!

**We're giving up billionaires for Lent.**

**We hope you will join us!**

**Stay tuned for more information...**





# Thank You

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