



THE *REAL* STATE OF THE UNION

The Real State of the Union: Failures, Lies and Broken Promises

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Over one year in, Donald Trump's presidency has failed the American people, and he is more unpopular than ever. House Republicans have fallen in line while the *real* state of the union – from the economy, to health care, immigration enforcement and beyond – is a disaster.

➤ **Economic and Affordability Failures**

Trump promised to lower prices saying, “A vote for Trump means your groceries will be cheaper,” instead, life is getting more expensive.

- This [includes](#) a 3.1% overall increase but much higher for some foods such as beef (15%), coffee (18.3%), orange juice (28%), eggs (30%) and condiments (10.2%).
- As grocery costs continued to rise, President Trump and Congressional Republicans decided to pass historic cuts to federal food assistance slashing [\\$186 billion from the SNAP program and causing 2-3 million people](#) to lose their food assistance entirely.
- Furthermore, Trump's tariff war has directly increased grocery prices further – by some estimates as much as \$400 per year for an average family of four.
 - In total, the Consumer Federation of America [estimates](#) that the tariffs have represented a \$16 billion annual tax on food.

Trump promised he would focus on affordability. Instead, he has focused on *anything but* affordability, going so far as calling it a “hoax.”

- Despite the Trump administration's claims that it would end inflation on Day 1, inflation has remained [above the Federal Reserve's target rate of 2%](#) throughout 2025.
- According to the [JEC](#), since President Trump took office, the average household has paid \$1,625 in higher costs.
- 7 in 10 registered voters in a new Fox News [poll](#) said Trump is not spending enough time focusing on the economy, including about half of Republicans.
- Only about 2 in 10 in the same poll say the president's economic policies and priorities have benefited them.

Trump said that foreign countries would pay the cost of his tariffs, and that Americans would receive “refund checks.” Instead, the costs have been passed down to consumers making life even more expensive.

- CBO estimates that [U.S. consumers bear 95% of the cost](#) of Trump's tariffs.
- This is similar to [a finding from the New York Federal Reserve](#) and others.
 - Meanwhile, the White House is trying to avoid responsibility, saying the New York Fed should be “[disciplined](#),” for publishing the findings.
- The Tax Foundation found that [Trump's tariffs cost the average U.S. household \\$1,000 in 2025](#). The Tax Foundation also found that Trump's tariffs were [the largest U.S. tax increase in over thirty years](#).

- Trump’s reckless and unpredictable tariffs have also made it nearly [impossible](#) for entrepreneurs to make supply-chain decisions for the survival of their small businesses.

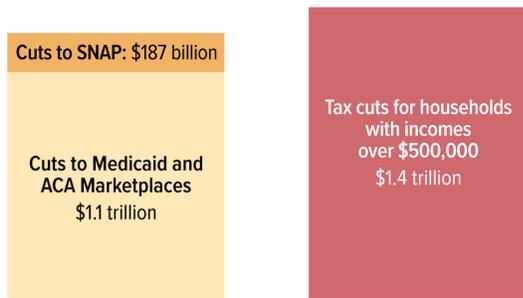
Trump said that his tax cuts pay for themselves. Instead, The One Big Ugly Law will add trillions of dollars to the debt, saddling future generations with economic uncertainty and higher costs.

- The One Big Ugly Law will add an estimated [\\$4.1 trillion to the debt over 10 years](#).
- That increases to \$5.5 trillion if temporary provisions of the law are made permanent.
- Over 30 years, the law will increase the debt by \$19 trillion, rising to \$32 trillion if temporary provisions are made permanent.

Trump promised working families that The One Big Ugly Law would help them. Instead, the law leaves the bottom 20% of families worse off than if he had done nothing.

- The One Big Ugly Law’s program cuts and tax breaks will make households with incomes in the bottom 20% of the income scale worse off—[they will lose more from the cuts in health coverage, food assistance and other programs than they will gain in tax cuts](#).
- At the same time, [he spent one trillion dollars just on tax cuts for the top 1%](#).
- In fact, the One Big Ugly Law took healthcare and nutrition assistance away from millions of American families [to pay for tax breaks](#) for the roughly 2% of households making over \$500,000 per year.

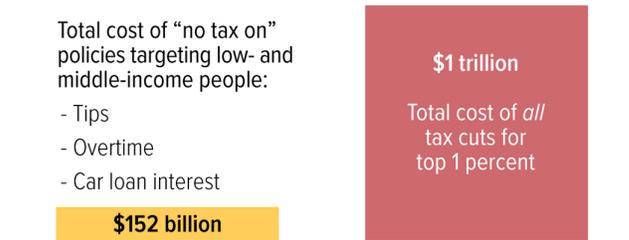
Republican Megabill Takes Away Health Care, Food Assistance to Pay for Tax Cuts for Wealthy



Note: ACA = Affordable Care Act. All estimates through 2034. Reflects Public Law 119-21.
Source: Tax cuts from CBPP calculations using JCT tables JCX-35-25 and JCX-37-25. JCT numbers are adjusted to incorporate the impact of the estate tax cut using TPC tables T25-0042 and T22-0101. SNAP and health coverage numbers from CBO “Estimated Budgetary Effects of Public Law 119-21...Relative to CBO’s January 2025 Baseline” (July 21, 2025).

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Tax Breaks for Wealthy in Megabill Far Exceed New Tax Exemptions for Low- and Middle-Income Families



Note: All estimates through 2034. Reflects Public Law 119-21.
Source: JCT tables JCX 35-25 and JCX-37-25; adjusted to incorporate the impact of the estate tax using TPC tables T25-0042 and T22-0100.

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Trump promised to bring back jobs, instead he is bottoming out our job market.

- The U.S. economy has [lost 638,000 jobs, unemployment is up and has increased from 4% \(6.9 million unemployed\) on inauguration day to 4.4%](#) (7.4 million unemployed).
- After significant downward revisions by the BLS, we now know the economy added a net total of only [+181,000 jobs for the entire year of 2025](#).

- That's fewer than the 1.46 million jobs that were added in 2024, and [one of the weakest years in decades outside of a recession](#).

Trump said that “jobs and factories will come roaring back into our country.” Instead, manufacturing is shrinking.

- The U.S. lost [108,000 manufacturing jobs](#) in 2025, and with damaging tariffs and other chaos, it is not expected to recover any time soon.
- In fact, [manufacturing employment fell every month of Trump's first year in office](#).

Trump promised to support small businesses and create an economy where everyone could win. Instead, he is gutting the agency that helps them succeed.

- SBA Administrator Loeffler had announced her intention to [fire](#) thousands of public servants and to [relocate](#) regional offices as an act of political retaliation against specific localities.
- Trump has also openly [pushed](#) for the elimination of nearly 150 women's business centers and dozens of offices that serve veterans, all while demanding that SBA's overall budget be reduced by a third.

Trump promised a “Golden Era of prosperity” for all Americans. Instead, it's a golden age for Trump.

- Trump has received over [\\$2 billion in cash and gifts](#) received over the past 475 days.
- Since 2024, Trump's crypto ventures have added at least \$7.5 billion of “paper worth” to his overall net worth, with most of that gain occurring after his election.

Trump promised to “drain the swamp.” Instead, he is corruptly using his clemency power to [protect allies](#), donors and the well-connected from the legal consequences of their criminal behavior.

- This includes forgiving more than [\\$1.5 billion in criminal debts](#) owed to victims and the U.S. Treasury.
- He [pardoned or gave benefit to people](#) who donated to him or invested in his businesses.
 - Trump pardoned Binance's co-founder after [Binance](#) propped up Trump's family crypto holdings company, World Liberty Financial (WLFI), and [after Binance promoted WLFI's stablecoin to its 275 million users](#).
 - Trump [suspended](#) an SEC fraud investigation into a crypto billionaire [Justin Sun](#) just weeks after Sun invested \$75 million into Trump's crypto company World Liberty Financial.
 - Trump also cashed in on his presidential power, [bumping up the value of his \\$TRUMP memecoin by 60% by offering a White House tour to top investors](#).
- His administration is also [perverting antitrust enforcement](#) in this country by using merger review to benefit companies he likes and punish those who either refuse to bend the knee or fail to hire the right MAGA lobbyist.

➤ Healthcare Failures

Trump vowed to “love and cherish Medicaid.” Instead, he signed into law the largest cut to Medicaid in history.

- After repeatedly stating that he would not cut Medicaid and that he would protect the program, Republicans passed and President Trump signed into law the largest cut to Medicaid in history – totaling nearly [\\$1 trillion dollars](#) in funding. President Trump’s broken promise will result in:
 - 10 million Americans losing their Medicaid.
 - [\\$137 billion cut](#) to rural healthcare.
 - Up to [700 rural hospitals](#) and nearly [600 nursing homes](#) at risk of closure due to the historic healthcare cuts.
 - Threatened access to substance use disorder treatment for over 1.6 million individuals.
 - Eliminated funding for Planned Parenthood and other essential family planning providers threatening access to comprehensive reproductive healthcare for millions (this includes contraception, STI testing and treatment, prenatal care and other preventative services).

In May 2025, Trump claimed that drug prices would fall “almost immediately.” Instead, his actions on this issue are merely for show, while the pharmaceutical industry continues to see profits.

- In addition to claiming that drug prices would fall by 1000%, which is mathematically impossible, his claim that he would reduce drug prices immediately is simply false and has been [independently fact checked](#).
- Trump and Congressional Republicans included an [\\$8.8 billion bailout](#) for the pharmaceutical industry in their One Big Ugly Bill carving out top-selling drugs from Medicare negotiation, such as lifesaving cancer drugs Keytruda and Opdivo.
- The TrumpRx website is a sham and delivers no real prescription drug savings. It creates a cumbersome portal that directs patients to existing discount programs that often require significant upfront cash, aren’t counted towards insurance deductibles and steer patients towards more expensive brand name drugs. In fact, half of the drugs on the website have widely available cheaper generics.
- Trump has enriched the pharmaceutical industry to the tune of [\\$130 billion in profits](#) this past year, signing fake agreements with the largest pharmaceutical companies that don’t deliver any demonstrable savings for the American people and instead simply boost pharma company stock prices.
- Any savings that Americans experience during the second Trump term will be because of the Inflation Reduction Act that was passed solely by Congressional Democrats and implemented by a Democratic administration.
 - Democrats delivered \$1.5 billion in direct out-of-pocket savings for Medicare seniors this year because of negotiated lower prices for the top 10 most expensive drugs.

Trump pledged to make IVF widely accessible and affordable, and even going so far as to say it will be free and available to all. Instead, the administration has done nothing to improve access to IVF or reduce costs.

- The February 2025 IVF Executive Order fell far short of President Trump’s campaign pledge and took no significant action to expand access or lower the cost of IVF care for federal employees, service members, veterans, Medicaid and ACA coverage enrollees and other Americans who need it.
- In August, the [Washington Post](#) reported that the White House has no plan to mandate IVF care.
- TrumpRx’s IVF-related discounts are extremely limited and don’t address the bulk of IVF procedure costs.
- Republicans stripped a provision from NDAA that would’ve expanded access to assisted reproductive technologies, such as IVF, for active-duty service members.

➤ **Immigration Failures**

Trump promised to deport violent criminals. Instead, he has largely focused on people without criminal records.

- In 2025, 77% of people who entered deportation proceedings for the first time had [no criminal conviction](#) and only 23% had any sort of conviction.
 - Of those who did have a criminal conviction, [nearly half](#) were for non-violent traffic and immigration offenses.
 - Traffic offenses alone made up nearly 30% of the [convictions](#), the largest category by far.
- According to a [study](#) from CU Boulder, just 37% of ICE arrests during Trump’s first 10 months in office in 2025 involved individuals with criminal convictions.
 - That’s down from 52% in Biden’s final year in office, 70% in Trump’s first year of his first term and 79% in Obama’s final year.

Trump promised “lawful, orderly enforcement.” Instead, he is brutalizing American citizens and killing people.

- Nameless and masked officers are terrorizing local communities and making race-based stops.
- Since the start of Trump’s second term, at least [6 people have been fatally shot](#) by federal immigration officers, including American citizens Renee Good and Alex Pretti.
- ProPublica identified more than [170 cases in 2025 where U.S. citizens](#) were detained by immigration agents.
 - Among the citizens detained are nearly 20 children, including two with cancer.
 - More than 20 citizens have reported being held for over a day without being able to call their loved ones or a lawyer.

- Agents have arrested about 130 Americans, including a dozen elected officials, for allegedly interfering with or assaulting officers, yet those cases were often dropped.
- In 2025, at least [32 people died](#) in ICE detention, marking the highest number in 20 years.
- Since the beginning of 2026, we have learned of at least [6 deaths](#) in immigration detention.

➤ Energy and Climate Failures

Trump promised to cut energy bills by 50% in his first year as President. Instead, energy prices have risen nationwide, while he focuses on undermining cheap, American energy sources.

- In Trump’s first year as President, energy costs have risen [13%](#) on average nationwide, and by over 20% in D.C., New Jersey and Illinois, among other places.
- Under Trump’s Big Ugly Law and other policies implemented by this administration, over [\\$35 billion](#) in clean energy investments have been cancelled and over 165,000 American jobs have been lost.
- Attacks on clean energy in Trump’s Big Ugly Law are also expected to drive energy prices up by [61%](#) over the next decade and by more than \$160 annually per household by 2030.

Trump promised that the U.S. would have the cleanest air and water. Instead, he has propped up polluters and undermined critical environmental protections.

- Trump’s EPA is implementing its self-proclaimed “biggest deregulatory actions in U.S. history,” eliminating over 30 pollution regulations that protect our air and water from toxic waste contamination, which causes nearly 30,000 preventable [deaths](#) per year.
- This includes reversing over 15 years of policy established under the [Endangerment Finding](#), the bedrock legal determination that requires EPA to regulate greenhouse gases.

Trump promised to make National Parks beautiful again. Instead, he has acted to undermine the safety and natural beauty of our public lands.

- Trump’s policies have threatened \$1 billion of funding for National Parks, eliminated 25% of [NPS staff](#) and reopened more than 13.1 million acres of [federal lands](#) for dirty coal leasing.
- Not only did Trump make it easier for polluters to extract dirty fossil fuels from our precious public lands, but he also made it cheaper by reducing [royalty rates](#), the rate that companies pay to use taxpayer resources.
- Despite urging from former superintendents, Trump further jeopardized the [safety](#) of our National Parks and park [visitors](#) by keeping parks open with limited emergency resources during the Republican government shutdown.

➤ Public Safety and Accountability Failures

Trump promised to “make America safe again.” Instead:

- He [terminated](#) hundreds of millions of dollars in public safety and violence prevention grants and [proposed](#) billions of dollars in cuts to federal law enforcement agencies like the FBI, ATF and DEA.

- He issued pardons and commutations to more than 1,500 members of the [bloodthirsty mob](#) that violently assaulted police officers on January 6, 2021. His administration also [fired career prosecutors](#) who investigated the insurrectionists.
- At the behest of his friends in the gun lobby, his administration has [sought to weaken](#) or end regulations meant to keep us safe from gun violence, such as ATF's pistol brace rule and the ban on forced reset triggers.

Trump promised free and fair elections. Instead:

- He is undermining voters' trust by continuing to spread the [“big lie”](#) that the 2020 election was rigged against him and perpetuate the [false claim](#) that significant numbers of noncitizens are voting in federal elections.
- He signed an [unlawful Executive Order](#) that would implement the SAVE Act's extreme voter registration requirements, compromise voters' personal information and disrupt and defund election administration across the United States.
- He has recently [called on Republicans to “take over” and “nationalize” elections](#) in 15 states, despite our constitution's clear directive that election rules should be set by the states.

Trump said that he would release the “Epstein files” and signed a law that would require his administration to do just that. Instead, Trump’s White House and Department of Justice continue to cover for the rich and powerful abusers identified throughout the Epstein files.

- Despite campaign promises made by Trump and commitments made by his Attorney General to release the Epstein list and files, Oversight Democrats had to [force a subpoena for the full release of the files in July 2025](#), and Congress passed the [Epstein Files Transparency Act](#) in November.
- DOJ says it collected 6 million pages of documents but [only released 3 million](#).
- [DOJ says it is done producing Epstein information](#), but they have hidden a significant portion of what was released with redactions they are not legally entitled to make, and has [withheld documents with allegations specifically about Trump’s involvement](#).
- Despite excusing their delays in production and withholding of documents as necessary to protect survivors, [Trump and his DOJ have been criticized by survivors](#) for [exposing their names](#) while continuing to hide and protect the names of male abusers.

Trump promised to end the weaponization of the federal government. Instead:

- His hand-selected sycophants at the Department of Justice have launched numerous investigations and prosecutions [against his political opponents](#), often following direct threats from President Trump himself in social media.
- He has now hung a multi-story banner of his own face on the United States Department of Justice.

Trump promised to restore freedom of speech and end federal censorship. Instead:

- His administration has sought to arrest peaceful protestors, sitting United States Senators and Members of Congress and even faith leaders for exercising their First Amendment rights to speak out against the government.
- He has waged a war on the bedrock American value of free speech by [forcing](#) major media companies to [bend the knee](#) to his MAGA demands, even [stating](#) that negative coverage of him is “really illegal.”

➤ **Government Funding & Efficiency Failures**

Trump promised to cut waste, fraud and abuse and increase efficiency through a so-called Department of Government Efficiency. Instead:

- His administration [illegally stole or froze](#) hundreds of billions of dollars for our communities and damaging the services hardworking families rely on from medical research to education programs to public safety grants to funding for rural communities.
- He unilaterally cut lifesaving humanitarian assistance through [illegal pocket rescissions](#), bypassing Congressional approval.
- He dramatically [cut funding](#) for public radio and television, depriving local communities of critical communications resources and emergency alerts during dangerous situations.
- He has slashed [funding to blue states](#) for politically motivated reasons with complete disregard for the consequences. This included freezing billions in critical [childcare](#) funds for five states with no care for the thousands of impacted children left without care, and slashing \$7 billion in clean energy projects to blue states during the shutdown.
- Many of the so-called waste in contracts and other spending DOGE [claimed to root out](#) was exaggerated, false or unable to be verified.
- Instead of making federal agencies operate more efficiently, DOGE fired federal workers that [ultimately needed to be rehired](#).
- While dismantling and cutting services everyday Americans rely on, the Trump administration has instead wasted no expense for their self-serving corruption including a new \$70 million [luxury jet](#) for Secretary Kristi Noem, a [bailout](#) for Argentina and accepting millions in corporate donations for a lavish [ballroom](#).

➤ **Education Failures**

Trump promised to improve educational outcomes. Instead, he has actively attacked our nation’s students, teachers and education systems.

- Trump has failed our nation’s students and teachers by illegally gutting the Department of Education, without the approval of Congress.

- His administration has attempted to freeze and/or redistribute billions in Congressionally allocated funding intended for [school-based mental health](#), after-school and summer school programming, teacher training and adult education [services](#).
- Education Secretary McMahon is responsible for pushing out [thousands](#) of hardworking career employees and [abandoning](#) department responsibilities, including [civil rights enforcement](#) in our education system.
- He has also directly made America less competitive on the international scale by gutting critical research funding. More than 7,800 ongoing grants by the National Institutes of Health and National Science Foundation were [cancelled](#) last year, impacting hundreds of institutions across this country. Scientists and researchers are now being [lured](#) away by other nations, and America is losing out on generations of cutting-edge research and innovation.

➤ **Labor Failures**

Trump said he would stand up for America’s workers. Instead, he is directly attacking them.

- Trump illegally [fired](#) leaders of independent labor protection agencies, [stripped](#) collective bargaining rights from over 1 million federal employees and [attacked](#) the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health – proving that worker rights and protections are being actively targeted by this administration.
- Last year, this administration [pushed](#) out over 300,000 hardworking federal public servants. This means that people lost their jobs in every community across this country, as over 80% of federal employees are based [outside](#) the Washington D.C. area.
- Just last year, Trump was directly responsible for massive job losses, including over [165,000](#) clean energy jobs that were eliminated. When he began his ill-conceived tariff war last April, over [58,000](#) manufacturing jobs were lost within half a year.
- This administration has also now [weaponized](#) the EEOC, [abandoning](#) decades of enforcing civil rights and preventing employment discrimination.

➤ **Failing our Veterans**

President Trump promised to “improve care and benefits for our nation’s heroes.” Instead, his administration has slashed VA’s medical workforce, undermined the agency’s capacity and limited care and benefits for veterans.

- [He eliminated tens of thousands of health-care job vacancies](#) without any warning or consultation with the VSO community.
- [His VA proposed a rule](#) that would limit veterans’ disability rating unfairly.
- He slashed access reproductive healthcare for women veterans.

➤ Social Security Failures

Trump promised to protect Social Security and root out “fraud.” Instead:

- Trump [lied](#) about finding fraud within Social Security during last year’s State of the Union which was used as the basis to deploy DOGE minions to the Social Security Administration to [illegally](#) access Americans’ sensitive personal data.
- Trump’s administration has [pushed out](#) over 6,600 public servants from SSA, gutting the already historically low staffing levels at field offices across this country. He has also [intentionally](#) made it more difficult for our seniors and people with disabilities to get the services they need.
- He also repeatedly [lied](#) to our nation’s seniors about eliminating the tax on Social Security benefits in the One Big Ugly Law. Republicans failed to include that provision in the final bill, but that has not stopped them from routinely praising themselves for this patently false accomplishment.

➤ AI and American Innovation Failures

The Trump-Republican [platform](#) promised to support AI development grounded in “human flourishing.” Instead:

- He has repeatedly [posted harmful](#) and [racist deepfake videos](#), even after [signing a bill](#) aiming to combat such AI-generated content. His conduct signals to bad actors across America, including those who abuse AI to create [nonconsensual images of women and children](#), that creating and posting unconscionable AI content is encouraged.
- He undermined public trust in AI by repeatedly trying to jam a [nationwide moratorium](#) on all state AI laws down the throats of the American people, including those related to consumer protection and child safety.
- He called for the repeal of the CHIPS and Science Act, a bill that has already created tens of thousands of good-paying jobs in the U.S. and surges our AI and innovation economy.
- Despite [declaring](#) “we have to take the lead” over the Chinese Communist Party as it relates to AI, he sold out our national security by [selling them advanced chips](#).

➤ Failing our Farmers

Trump said that “our new trade policy will also be great for the American farmer.” Instead, his indiscriminate tariff crusade has caused economic losses at home while boosting profits abroad.

- Farmers are facing massive economic losses due to Trump’s trade wars, with some projections indicating roughly [\\$44 billion](#) in income losses for the 2025-2026 crops.
- He [significantly](#) expanded imports of foreign beef from Argentina at the expense of American ranchers.
- He provided a \$40 billion bailout to Argentina, which in turn boosted its soybean industry, while U.S. soybean exports in 2025 fell to a [13-year low due](#) to Trump’s chaotic trade war.

- He [canceled \\$1 billion](#) in funds that schools and local food banks use to purchase directly from local farmers and producers.

➤ **Foreign Affairs and National Security Failures**

Trump promised to end foreign wars and conflicts “on day one” of his administration and said that he is “not going to start a war, I’m going to stop wars.” Instead:

- Trump is marching towards another military conflict in the Middle East with Iran. This follows U.S. military strikes on Iran in June that, contrary to Trump’s statements, failed to “obliterate” Iran’s nuclear program.
- In Gaza, the conflict continues. Hamas has not been reigned in. Palestinian civilians continue to die from starvation. Israel and the entire region remain on edge.
- Russia continues its war on Ukraine. Scores of Ukrainian and Russian lives have been lost since Trump has taken office, including civilian women and children. Further, Trump’s promotion of a 28-point Peace Plan drafted by the Russians drew swift condemnation from the Ukrainians and Europeans, further underscoring the administration’s lack of credibility as bona fide broker for enduring peace.
- Trump’s obsession with a U.S. takeover of Greenland has further strained relations with our NATO and European allies rather than fortifying these critical partnerships.
- Trump launched a military operation in Venezuela that left Maduro’s number two, Delcy Rodriguez, who apparently remains a Maduro loyalist, running the country. It remains unclear whether the Trump’s actions will promote true democracy in Venezuela or what our continued involvement might be.