

ALERT: The House "Reconciliation" Bill Makes Poor People - Especially Children Pay the Price

ACCORDING TO THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE:

- 75% of the \$12 billion in savings come from provisions affecting beneficiaries.
- Half of beneficiaries affected by new cost sharing requirements are children.
- 80% of the savings from cost sharing comes from decreased use of health services—not payment of the cost sharing itself.
- 20% of the savings from cost sharing comes from lower payments to Medicaid-participating health care providers (who are already providing services for reduced payments).
- 25% of the savings from a new requirement that beneficiaries pay premiums will come from individuals no longer being able to afford Medicaid coverage.

THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE ESTIMATES THAT:

- Half of those affected by reduced benefit packages will be children.
- Most of the service reductions in the benefit packages affect:
 - mental health
 - dental
 - vision
 - certain therapies (could also include possible restrictions on the amount, duration, and scope of coverage of other services).

Source: Congressional Budget Office, "Additional Information on CBO's Estimate for the Medicaid Provisions in H.R. 4241, the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005," November 9, 2005.