A tax plan for the rich, paid for by kids and working families

By YOUR NAME

There’s now no doubt about who will reap the benefits from the new tax plan: corporations and the richest Americans. They will get a massive tax cut. But who will end up paying for it? Low-income families who are struggling the most to make ends meet, including millions of kids.

Here is what we can expect: once these tax cuts take effect and the deficit predictably skyrockets, some lawmakers will demand cuts to federal programs that help millions of Americans put food on the table, get affordable health care, and make ends meet.

How do we know?

Because we’ve seen the same pattern all year, from the many heath care bills to both the House and Senate budget resolutions. All have jeopardized critical anti-poverty programs — whether through direct funding cuts, harmful structural changes, or, in this case, giving tax breaks to the wealthy and threatening future funding for anti-poverty programs. These examples are all from 2017, but the fact is that these programs have been targeted one way or another for years.

Time and again, Capitol Hill has considered hundreds of billions of dollars in cuts to Medicaid, SNAP (what we used to call Food Stamps), and other programs that allow low-income Americans to get by. Fortunately, because of public outcry, many of those threats have been stopped. But if Congress enacts these tax breaks for the wealthy that blow a hole in the deficit, many of those programs will be at risk once again.

[These programs impact real people. INSERT PERSONAL STORY OR YOUR REASON FOR SUPPORTING PROGRAMS LIKE SNAP AND MEDICAID].

Here’s a fact that gets lost in all the rhetoric: federal anti-poverty programs actually *work*. SNAP alone [lifted 3.6 million people above the poverty line](http://www.frac.org/news/poverty-data-highlight-need-strong-safety-net) in 2016, while Medicaid currently provides [health care for one in five Americans](http://files.kff.org/attachment/fact-sheet-medicaid-state-US), including low-income children, pregnant women, adults, seniors, and people with disabilities.

Programs like SNAP play a key role in our economy because recipients use their benefits at local businesses. Children in households that receive SNAP [do better in school and earn more as adults](https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/snap-works-for-americas-children). Medicaid makes people [healthier in the long-term](https://www.cbpp.org/research/health/medicaid-works-millions-benefit-from-medicaids-effective-efficient-coverage), and ensures families don’t have to fear that one trip to the emergency room will result in a lifetime of devastating debt.

Make no mistake: if made law, this tax plan will ask struggling families to subsidize tax cuts for the wealthy. On a practical level, this means that instead of being able to buy groceries and get affordable medical care for their kids, low-income families could face a situation where they simply don’t have enough food and can’t see a doctor.This is an unacceptable trade-off.

I hope we can count on Senators [XXXXX] and [XXXXX] to reject this plan. Tax policy can be a powerful mechanism for creating economic opportunity and security for all. Sadly, this plan doesn’t do that. Instead, it prioritizes the super-rich and leaves working families and kids behind.