

Vice President JD Vance Tours Country to Promote Republicans' New Tax Law

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Vice President J.D. Vance is defending the Republican-backed tax and spending bill that includes sweeping cuts to Medicaid, arguing the reductions are necessary to fund priorities like border security and economic growth. Speaking during a visit to a steel plant in Canton, Ohio, Vance framed the cuts as a matter of fairness and national interest.

The legislation, which narrowly passed the Senate after Vance cast the tie-breaking vote, extends Trump-era tax breaks and adds new benefits, including a boosted child tax credit and deductions for tipped workers and overtime. At the same time, the bill slashes more than \$1 trillion from Medicaid over the next ten years while pouring billions into border enforcement and immigration controls.

“If you want to protect Medicaid, and President Trump certainly does, then the best way is to ensure it’s reserved for the people who truly need it, not for those who are in the country illegally,” Vance told workers at the event. He described the Medicaid cuts as “immaterial” when compared to what the administration sees as larger national goals.

His remarks quickly drew pushback from healthcare advocates, who warn that the cuts could leave millions without access to care and place significant strain on rural hospitals and low-income communities. Critics also noted the apparent contradiction between Vance’s past rhetoric, where he positioned himself as a populist defender of working-class families, and his current support for policies that reduce healthcare funding.

Some Republican lawmakers expressed quiet concern that the bill may alienate key voting blocs, particularly in battleground states where Medicaid supports a large share of the population. Nonetheless, the legislation cements the Trump administration’s focus on immigration enforcement, work requirements for public assistance, and a rollback of climate-related tax incentives.

Nonpartisan analysts estimate that nearly 12 million people could lose health coverage under the new policy. Supporters argue the bill promotes

fiscal responsibility and strengthens incentives to work, while opponents call it a retreat from basic social protections.

Vance, now fully aligned with Trump's policy agenda, has hit the road to sell the bill as a win for American workers. But as critics point out, the broader question remains: in a trade-off between healthcare and border security, who ultimately bears the cost?