



National
Nurses
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RED ALERT: **DC Hospitals at risk of cuts, closure**

What's happening?

Registered nurses who are members of National Nurses United have identified H.R. 1 as a massive red line crossed by the Trump administration and Republican members of Congress.

Financial analysis by National Nurses United (NNU) shows that – as a result of H.R. 1 – every hospital in the District of Columbia area stands to lose substantial funding and, subsequently, be vulnerable to service cuts. In total, DC's five acute-care hospitals stand to lose between \$140.5 million and \$223.8 million annually when H.R. 1 is fully implemented. MedStar Washington Hospital Center alone will lose between \$56 million and \$90 million annually. According to Medicare Cost Reports, these hospitals provide around 80,000 inpatient visits yearly.

DC patients, particularly Black DC residents, are already facing unprecedented hurdles to health care access and nutrition assistance, in addition to fewer options for care at their hospitals, and the implementation of H.R. 1 cuts will cause these conditions to deteriorate even further.

What is H.R. 1?

H.R. 1 is the budget bill passed by U.S. House and Senate Republicans and signed into law by President Trump in 2025. H.R. 1's health care and safety net cuts are paying for massive tax benefits to the wealthiest households in America, militarized immigration enforcement, and endless wars.

Starting after the 2026 midterms, the bill will impose nearly [\\$1 trillion in federal health care funding cuts](#), leading to [10 million people losing their insurance by 2034](#). In its "A Preventable Crisis" report, NNU identified [600 hospitals nationwide](#) at risk of cuts and closure once H.R. 1 health care cuts take effect.

The law also reduces spending on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) by 20 percent. [By 2034, when the bill is in full effect, approximately \\$187 billion will be cut from the program.](#)

What does a \$141-224M funding loss mean for health care access at DC hospitals?

Service cuts or closures at any District hospital force residents to travel much farther to receive emergency and acute care.

District of Columbia residents already face dwindling access to health care, given the recent closure of a postpartum unit at MedStar Washington Hospital Center. In the past seven years alone, the District has seen the closure of two hospitals: United Medical Center in 2025 (the only public hospital serving residents east of Anacostia) and Providence Hospital in 2019.

While a new hospital, Cedar Hill Regional Medical Center, opened in Ward 8 in 2025, the [hospital has faced serious staffing and patient safety challenges](#). Moreover, the hospital's 136 beds barely make up for the shortfall created by the closure of United Medical Center and Providence Hospital, which combined had more than 600 beds.

The local economy is intertwined with the fate of these hospitals. Washington Hospital Center alone employs over 5,700 people and serves more than 28,000 patients each year. The other hospitals are smaller, but each employs thousands of workers.

How else will H.R. 1 impact the health care needs of DC residents?

Across the District of Columbia, [95,000 individuals – including infants, children, seniors, and individuals with disabilities – are at risk of losing their Medicaid](#), with [3,500 more](#) more facing mounting costs due to the expiration of ACA subsidies. In total, [nearly a third of all DC residents](#) who rely on Medicaid will be impacted.

The DC Health Care Alliance, the locally funded medical assistance program created to provide health care coverage for low-income residents, [has already implemented coverage reductions](#). As a result, [26,000 residents are anticipated to lose their coverage in 2026 alone, with an additional 16,000 losing dental, vision, long-term care, or other benefits](#).

[Nearly 10,000 individuals in the DC](#) area have lost access to SNAP. Once fully implemented, estimates show up to [230,000 families will lose some SNAP benefits, with 26,000 families with children and 33,000 working families losing \\$25 or more monthly](#).

Who is harmed?

Communities of color are disproportionately harmed by cuts to health care and nutritional assistance.

[According to Census reports](#), DC's population is 42 percent Black, 37 percent White, and 13 percent Latine. [More than one in three Black residents](#) of DC belong to a household participating in SNAP, compared to 1 in 65 white residents. Nearly half of Black DC residents are enrolled in Medicaid, compared to 1 in 37 white residents. [Twelve percent of D.C.'s Latine residents received Medicaid](#).

Residents in [Ward 7 and 8](#), two historically marginalized wards, will face the greatest harm from H.R. 1.

What's the bottom line?

D.C. hospitals are facing a massive loss of federal dollars due to the H.R. 1 cuts. These losses will likely lead to cuts in services and possibly even hospital closures. These losses will undoubtedly hurt DC's most vulnerable residents. Nurses are calling on community members to help them organize and advocate for their [Vision for a Healthy Society](#) to protect patients, not profits. This includes ensuring that everyone can get high quality health care, live in the place they consider home, and make a living wage.