



Reconciliation Megabill Will Cause Irreversible Harm to Children and Families

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WASHINGTON, July 9, 2025 – On July 4, 2025, the President signed into law a reconciliation bill that slashes funding for programs and puts millions of children and families at risk of deprivation, maltreatment, and separation. These vital services have historically reflected the caring, compassion, and consciousness of our nation, which collectively understood that helping families meet basic needs was an investment in the well-being of our children and country.

The final bill includes devastating cuts to Medicaid and SNAP, ensuring that children and their caregivers will go without medical care and proper nutrition. Thanks to provisions in this terrible bill, parents will have to choose between life-saving benefits and being able to stay home to care for and raise their children. Rural hospitals will struggle to meet community needs, and many, if not most, will close. Additionally, 270,000 young people exiting foster care, people experiencing homelessness, and veterans will lose guaranteed access to food assistance.

To add insult to injury, the bill utilizes these historic human service funding cuts to fund a transfer of wealth to the highest-income households while billing future taxpayers—our children—with the cost through an ever-increasing budget deficit.

This final bill also funds massive increases in family separation and detention. Immigrant children will again languish in detention centers, and more unaccompanied children will be at risk of abuse, trafficking, and death. Citizen children in mixed-status households will lose tax benefits quickly, thrusting them into poverty. Immigrant victims of trafficking and domestic violence will lose access to safety and assistance needed to overcome trauma and make a new start in life.

This disgraceful reconciliation bill will cause irreversible pain and trauma to citizens and residents who believe and invest their lives in the American dream despite their vulnerability. It didn't have to be this way: members of Congress were warned repeatedly about the impact that these political decisions would have, and they could have instead passed legislation to support and protect the children in our nation.

CWLA expresses our deep disappointment in every Senator and Representative who neglected to uphold their moral duty to serve and care for all their constituents and chose to vote for this terrible bill.

