



Republican Budget Would Be Devastating for Massachusetts Women

Senate Democrats are working to provide a fair shot for everyone to succeed by creating good paying jobs and opportunity for working women. Instead of protecting programs critical to women across the country, Republicans have again introduced a budget that would take an enormous toll on women by cutting the services they rely on for their health and the health of their children.¹

1,303 fewer Massachusetts women could be screened for cancer. The Republican budget would cut funding for the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program, which helps low-income, uninsured, or underinsured women gain access to diagnostic services like clinical breast examinations, mammograms, pap tests, and pelvic examinations. The deep cuts in the Republican budget could result in Massachusetts receiving \$328,267 less funding. [[P.L. 113-76](#); CDC, accessed [4/11/14](#); DPCC Calculations Based on Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies FY12 Levels, [7/25/12](#)]

27,975 fewer children could receive life-saving vaccinations. Grants for childhood immunizations help to purchase and distribute vaccines for poor and uninsured children. The Republican budget could cut \$1,911,238 in funding for life-saving vaccinations in Massachusetts. [[P.L. 113-76](#); CDC, accessed [4/11/14](#); DPCC Calculations Based on Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies FY12 Levels, [7/25/12](#)]

Reproductive health programs in Massachusetts could be cut by \$1,071,063. The Republican budget could cut \$1,071,063 in services funding for the Title X family planning program in Massachusetts, which provided access to contraceptives supplies, reproductive health information and counseling, breast and pelvic examinations, breast and cervical cancer screening, STD and HIV prevention education, and pregnancy counseling to 57,052 women in 2012 alone. [[P.L. 113-76](#); HHS accessed [2/26/13](#); HHS, [11/12/12](#)]

Over 975,000 women in Massachusetts will lose access to health benefits. The Republican budget repeals the Affordable Care Act, eliminating health insurance coverage and new benefits for millions of Americans and jeopardizing their access to stable, secure, affordable care. 975,000 women and 633,000 children in Massachusetts would have a lifetime limit on their coverage under the Republican budget. [White House blog, [3/5/12](#)]

¹ Reductions to discretionary programs are determined by calculating the percentage reduction from the non-defense budget authority provided under the Budget Control Act for FY16 before sequestration to the budget authority provided under the House Republican Budget in FY16, and applying that reduction (15 percent) to the most recent programmatic levels to illustrate potential differences.

225,753 fewer women and children could have access to maternal and child health services in Massachusetts. The Maternal and Child Health Block grant helps states provide critical maternal and child health services, including prenatal care, well-child services, and other services through clinics, home visits, and school-based health programs. The Republican budget could cut \$1,980,772 million in funding from Massachusetts, resulting in 225,753 fewer women and children served. [P.L. 113-76; HRSA, accessed on [4/11/14](#); DPCC Calculations Based on Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies FY12 Levels, [7/25/12](#)]

1,753 fewer victims of domestic violence could be served through the STOP Violence Against Women Program. Funding for the STOP Violence Against Women Program helps states provide support services for victims of domestic violence. The Republican budget could cut \$384,471 in funding from Massachusetts, resulting in 1,753 fewer women and children served. Additionally, the Republican budget could cut \$46,145 in funding to Massachusetts, for the Sexual Assault Services program, which is dedicated to assisting victims of sexual assault through rape crisis centers and other programs. At the same time, because the Republican budget repeals the Affordable Care Act, insurance companies will again be able to say that being a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault is a “pre-existing condition” that will force women to pay more for their health insurance. [White House, [4/9/14](#); DOJ, accessed [4/11/14](#); NWLC, [12/5/13](#); New York Times, [6/1/08](#)]

Millions more women will have to pay more for contraceptive coverage. The Republican Budget repeals the Affordable Care Act, which requires that insurance plans provide coverage without cost sharing for a variety of preventive health services, including cervical cancer and breast cancer screenings as well as contraceptive drugs. In 2013, more than 24 million more contraceptive prescriptions were filled without a co-pay than the previous year, resulting in savings to women throughout the country of more than \$483 million. [IMS Institute for Healthcare Informatics, [4/9/14](#); USAToday, [4/16/14](#)]