

Republican Budget Would Be Devastating for Alaska Women

Senate Democrats have introduced a budget that cuts wasteful spending, invests in what the economy needs to grow, and protects programs critical to women across the country. Meanwhile, Republicans have again introduced a budget that would take an enormous toll on the nation's women, cutting the services they rely on for their health and the health of their children.

2,183 fewer Alaska women will 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 Alaska receiving \$550,012 less funding. [CDC, accessed 12/17/12; DPCC Calculations Based on Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, 7/25/12]

5,085 fewer children will receive life-saving vaccinations. Grants for childhood immunizations help to purchase and distribute vaccines for poor and uninsured children. The Republican budget could cut \$347,353 in funding for life-saving vaccinations in Alaska. [CDC, accessed 12/17/12; DPCC Calculations Based on Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, 7/25/12]

Reproductive health programs in Alaska could be cut by \$288,560. The Republican budget could cut \$288,560 in services funding for the Title X family planning program in Alaska, which provides access to contraceptive supplies, reproductive health information and counseling, breast and pelvic examinations, breast and cervical cancer screening, STD and HIV prevention education, and pregnancy counseling to 7,878 women in 2011 alone. [HHS accessed <u>2/26/13</u>; HHS, <u>11/12/12</u>; Family Planning Coalition, <u>12/21/12</u>; DPCC Calculations Based on CBPP, <u>3/14/13</u>]

Over 86,000 women in Alaska 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. 86,000 women and 64,000 children in Alaska would have a lifetime limit on their coverage under the Republican budget. [White House blog, 3/5/12]

87,077 fewer women and children will have access to maternal and child health services in Alaska. The Maternal and Child Health Block Grant program 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 would cut \$0.2 million in funding from Alaska, resulting in 87,077 fewer women and children served. [HRSA, accessed on 3/19/13; DPCC Calculations Based on Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, 7/25/12]