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## **Millions at Risk as US House Passes Devastating Budget Cuts that Would Harm Tennesseans**

**Nashville, TN** — In a razor-thin 217-215 vote, the U.S. House of Representatives has pushed forward a federal budget that threatens to unravel the nation's healthcare and food security safety nets. The vote, which stretched over an hour as leaders scrambled for last-minute support, marks the first step in what could become a catastrophic rollback of essential social programs.

At the heart of this budget are staggering cuts that will leave millions vulnerable: at least **\$880 billion slashed from Medicaid**, jeopardizing healthcare access for children, seniors, and people with disabilities, and **\$230 billion ripped from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**—food assistance that keeps families from going hungry. These cuts signal a deliberate dismantling of the programs that protect the most at-risk populations, threatening their health, their well-being, and their very survival.

“This budget will now move to the Senate, and details on how these cuts will be implemented are yet to be determined,” said Michele Johnson, TJC's Executive Director and Co-Founder. “This is not a partisan issue, for these cuts will hurt all families, no matter how or whether they vote, or where they live. It's about all of us, and our task is to help our neighbors understand that.”

The fight is far from over. Final votes are expected before May, and the narrow margin in the House vote shows deep divisions, offering a critical window for opposition to mount. If these cuts are enacted, the consequences will be swift and severe—rural hospitals will close, families will lose healthcare, children will go hungry, and entire communities will suffer.

We urge **advocates, community leaders, and concerned citizens to act now** — through letters, media engagement, direct outreach to policymakers. Congress must choose whether to protect the health and well-being of millions or allow these devastating cuts to push families deeper into crisis.

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[About Tennessee Justice Center / www.tnjustice.org](http://www.tnjustice.org)

For over 28 years, the Tennessee Justice Center has been standing with vulnerable Tennessee families and helping them access basic necessities of life. Since opening our doors in 1996, TJC has used lawsuits, legislation and coalition building to overcome injustice, winning \$2 billion in health care and hundreds of millions in financial and nutrition assistance for Tennesseans. Aside from lawsuits, TJC helps assist seniors and other individuals with TennCare, SNAP, and other public benefit programs.