



Senate Finance Committee Unveils New Medicaid Package



United States Senate Floor. Photo Courtesy of US Senate.

WASHINGTON, D.C. – This week, the Senate Finance Committee unveiled an early draft of their portion of the H.R. 1 “One Big Beautiful Bill” package. Taxation and Medicaid both fall under the Senate Finance Committee’s purview, so the unveiled text drew countless eyes. Once read, it drew countless criticism as well. An overview of the text shows that it is attempting to stop two tactics that states use to increase the Medicaid funding for hospitals: state-directed payments and Medicaid provider taxes. The House’s version of the bill did the same, but experts comment that the Senate’s legislation will have a greater effect as their changes make the restrictions more aggressive.

Republican Senators Josh Hawley (MO), Susan Collins (ME), and Lisa Murkowski (AK) have voiced concerns about the changes made to the Senate version of the bill. Senator Hawley noted that he was unaware of how significant the revisions would be compared to the House version. He added that during a conversation with President Trump on Tuesday, Trump appeared unaware of the changes related to provider taxes included in the Senate text.

Beyond Congress, rural hospitals are vocally concerned about the changes to the bill as it may force many of them to close. The story is still developing, as the final Senate vote on the overall Budget resolution is tentatively planned for July 4, 2025. The next couple of weeks will be critical, as Senators negotiate clauses on the different portions of the bill before they vote whether to pass it or not.