The Graham-Cassidy Bill would take health care away from many older Alaskans.

The Graham-Cassidy bill, the latest version of an Affordable Care Act (ACA) repeal bill, would cap and cut Medicaid, end Medicaid expansion and health insurance subsidies, and undermine many of the ACA’s consumer protections. The bill would take away health care from many older Alaskans.

Alaska would lose $2 Billion in federal funding by 2027 and Millions would be uninsured.

- Federal funding nationwide would be cut by $489 Billion by 2027. These cuts would skyrocket to over $4 Trillion by 2036.
- The bill’s unfair funding formula would penalize Alaska for expanding Medicaid.
- Graham-Cassidy would take health coverage from at least 32 Million people nationwide, including 41,000 Alaskans.
- The end of Medicaid expansion alone risks coverage for 14,400 Alaskans, including many 50- to 64-year-olds.

Cuts would force Alaska to cut nursing home care home health care and other services that help older Alaskans maintain their independence.

- Medicaid is the primary payer for 79% of Alaska’s nursing facility residents.
- Approximately 11,296 Alaskans receive long-term services and supports through Medicaid at any one time.
- Medicaid covers approximately 9,500 Alaskans age 65 and older.
- The bill’s Medicaid cuts will grow over time, making it hard for Alaska to meet the needs of its growing aging population. By 2025, the number of Alaskans over age 65 is expected to grow by 53.5%, and the number over 85, a population that relies on long-term services and supports, is expected to grow by 66.5%.

Alaskans ages 50-64 could face unaffordable health insurance premiums.

- Graham-Cassidy would end the tax credits and cost-sharing reductions that help 7,000 Alaskans ages 50-64 afford coverage through the Marketplace.
- The bill allows states to waive the ACA’s limits on age-related premium increases. This “age tax” by itself would raise premiums in Alaska by $9,659 annually for a 60-year-old.
- Fewer consumer protections would cause additional sharp cost increases for older adults and others with preexisting conditions.
- Premiums and out-of-pocket costs could rise by as much as $31,790 a year for a 60-year-old living in Alaska with $25,000 in income, making coverage literally unaffordable.