



Republican Budget Puts Special Interests Ahead of Rhode Island Women

The Republican budget would rig the rules in favor of special interests and cut vital federal resources for hardworking women. Senate Democrats are fighting to replace automatically triggered cuts to core programs that help women and their children, such as domestic violence programs, cancer screenings, and vaccinations. Instead of investing in women and their families, the Republican budget cuts critical programs while paving the way for huge tax cuts for special interest corporations.¹

401 fewer Rhode Island 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 Rhode Island receiving \$101,297 less funding. [Senate Republican Budget, [3/18/15](#); HHS, [1/15](#); CDC, accessed [4/11/14](#); DPCC Calculations]

1,674 fewer children could receive life-saving vaccinations. Grants for childhood immunizations help to purchase and distribute vaccines for uninsured and underinsured children. The Republican budget could cut \$114,493 in funding for life-saving vaccinations in Rhode Island. [Senate Republican Budget, [3/18/15](#); HHS, [1/15](#); CDC, accessed [4/11/14](#); DPCC Calculations]

Reproductive health programs in Rhode Island could be cut by \$70,587. The Republican budget could cut \$70,587 in services funding for the Title X family planning program in Rhode Island. In 2012, Title X funding provided access to contraceptives, reproductive health information and counseling, breast and pelvic examinations, breast and cervical cancer screening, STD and HIV prevention education, and pregnancy counseling to 22,929 women in Rhode Island. [Senate Republican Budget, [3/18/15](#); HHS, [1/15](#); HHS accessed [3/15/15](#); HHS, [11/12/13](#); DPCC Calculations]

8,277 fewer women and children could have access to maternal and child health services in Rhode Island. 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 \$70,587 in funding from Rhode Island, resulting in 8,277 fewer women and children served. [Senate Republican Budget, [3/18/15](#); HHS, [1/15](#); HRSA, accessed on [4/11/14](#); DPCC Calculations]

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 Senate Republican Budget in FY16, and applying that reduction to the most recent programmatic levels to illustrate potential differences.

Funding to help victims of domestic violence in Rhode Island would be slashed by \$135,525. Funding for the STOP Violence Against Women Program helps states provide support services for victims of domestic violence. The Republican budget could cut \$135,525 in funding from Rhode Island. This includes \$32,660 in funding cuts to Rhode Island, 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. [Senate Republican Budget, [3/18/15](#); DOJ, accessed [3/15/15](#); NWLC, [12/5/13](#); New York Times, [6/1/08](#); DPCC Calculations]

107,000 more Rhode Island women would have to pay more for preventative services such as 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. Approximately 107,000 women in Rhode Island became eligible for newly expanded coverage of preventive services because of the health reform law. In 2013, more than 24 million more contraceptive prescriptions nationwide were filled without a co-pay than the previous year, resulting in savings to women throughout the country of more than \$483 million. [HHS, [6/27/14](#); IMS Institute for Healthcare Informatics, [4/9/14](#); USAToday, [4/16/14](#)]