

## Agenda Item 1.3.2

### BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BRIEFING PAPER

**Topic: Executive Order Task Force Update: Anticipated Impacts of Federal Budget Reconciliation Bill (H.R.1) on Medicaid & Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Programs**

**Presented by: Dan Conway, CFO, Carey Markel, Deputy County Attorney, Mary Berg, Human Services Director, Jesica Antonucci, Community Assistance Director**

**Date: 6/10/2025**

☒ For Information

☐ For Discussion/Board Direction

☐ Consent to  
Place on Business/  
Hearing Agenda

**Issue:** The U.S. House of Representatives has passed the Federal Budget Reconciliation bill (H.R.1), now under Senate consideration. This legislation includes sweeping changes to Medicaid and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) that could significantly impact Jefferson County's Human Services operations, community well-being, and fiscal landscape.

**Background:** As H.R. 1 is still under discussion, the situation remains fluid, and impacts will evolve as implementation details emerge. The Senate is expected to act on this legislation in June.

In Jefferson County on average, we serve 37,975 people active on SNAP benefits each month; 35% of these recipients are children. For Medicaid, we have an average of 79,241 individuals on our caseload each month.

H.R.1 proposes major structural changes to Medicaid and SNAP, including:

- Work requirements, copays, and more frequent eligibility reviews for Medicaid.
- Cost-sharing and federal reimbursement changes that shift financial responsibility to states and local governments for SNAP.
- SNAP match requirements that could necessitate up to a 25% local match.

- Eligibility verification tightening, particularly for non-citizens and long-term care applicants.

These provisions are expected to increase administrative burdens, reduce program participation, and increase demand for uncompensated care locally.

### **Discussion: Key Medicaid Impacts:**

- **Medicaid Community Engagement (Work Requirements)**  
Individuals must complete 80 hours/month of work or related activity to remain active in the program. Jefferson County would possibly need to significantly increase staffing to manage new reporting requirements and outreach that would help connect members to employment.
- **Increase in Frequency of Medicaid Redeterminations**  
Medicaid redetermination will take place twice per year, rather than annually. This will also increase the workload and add additional burden to eligibility processing for both county staff and Medicaid recipients.
- **Home Equity Cap for Long-Term Care**  
Capping allowable home equity at \$1million in perpetuity may disqualify some residents, creating confusion and increased appeals or emergency care use.
- **Citizenship Verification Requirement**  
Eliminates federal funding for individuals pending citizenship status verification, resulting in increased state or local cost burdens for coverage gaps.
- **Retroactive Coverage Shortened**  
Reduces retroactive Medicaid coverage from 3 months to 1 month, creating financial risk for hospitals and clinics and potential coverage loss for residents facing urgent care needs.

### **Key SNAP Impacts:**

- The proposed SNAP changes include requirements for states to fund up to 25% of benefits costs and assume 75% of administrative costs. Historically, SNAP benefits have been 100% federally funded, while administrative costs have been covered as follows: 50% federal, 30%

state, and 20% county. The table below quantifies the proposed SNAP increases based on 2024 benefits and administration data.

Proposed SNAP Cost-Sharing Increases			
Entity	Administration 25%	Benefits 25%	Total
Jefferson County	\$2,060,875	\$22,709,899	\$ 24,770,774
State of Colorado	\$33,457,594	\$359,127,599	\$392,585,193

- Work requirement expansions and eligibility tightening will lead to SNAP recipients disenrolling from the program and needing to re-apply causing disruptions in benefit issuance. Updated requirements may also disqualify residents with minor discrepancies, increasing food insecurity.
- The proposed changes to SNAP could change the face and impact of this program dramatically.

### **Community Impacts:**

- **Reductions in Medicaid and SNAP enrollment will lead to:**
  - Higher uninsured rates, particularly among working-age adults, due to new requirements creating barriers for eligible parties to comply.
  - Increased reliance on emergency rooms and safety-net services, which pushes the cost of medical services to local medical facilities and the community.
  - A rise in uncompensated care, which local healthcare providers may struggle to absorb.
  - Greater economic and health disparities, especially in communities already experiencing barriers to access.
  - Increased number of individuals in the community, who do not seek medical treatment, contributing to public health concerns.

- SNAP participation in Jefferson County could decline by 24% or more, increasing demand for emergency food and community support services.

Attachment A: This attachment summarizes programs by department, categorized as having confirmed impact, under monitoring, or with impact yet to be determined. Gray tables indicate previously briefed items with no fiscal changes; white tables reflect new items or updated impacts.

Attachment B: This attachment is a downloaded Excel export of all data currently monitored by the Executive Order (EO) Taskforce in Monday.com. Added columns based on feedback:

- Assessed probability of impact
- Other Negative Impacts: outlines potential indirect costs to the County (e.g., increased administrative burden, impacts to community, etc.)

**Fiscal Impact:** ☐ yes ☐ no ☒ to be determined

**SPA Review:** No current fiscal impact. Sherry Wilger, 6/2/2025

**County Attorney Review:** Carey Markel, 6/2/2025

**Facilities Review:** No fiscal impact, Tim Doiel, 6/2/2025

**BIT Review:** No impact. Andy Corbett, 6/3/2025

**Fleet Review:** No fiscal impact. Janice Mayer, June 3, 2025.

**County Human Resources Review (new FTE only):**

**Recommendations:**

- Monitor federal guidance closely as legislation moves through the Senate.
- Advocate for reduced impacts to states and counties while legislation is with the Senate.
- Assess budgetary scenarios for state/local match and staffing needs.

- Provide estimates of financial impact to the county, once practicable.
- Coordinate with community providers to prepare for increased demand for local healthcare and food systems.
- Begin internal planning for eligibility system updates, staff training, and public communication strategies.

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