



SCHOLARS
STRATEGY NETWORK

How the Republican tax bill leaves poor kids behind

Megan A. Curran, Columbia University

Jane Waldfogel, Columbia University

H.R. 1, the One Big Beautiful Bill, manages to be the worst of both worlds. It spends an eye-watering amount our country can ill afford and directs almost all of that money to the wealthiest while cutting critical services for low- and middle-income Americans.

The bill's significant cuts to health care and food programs have drawn the most attention. But even a tax provision included to help families, by increasing the child tax credit, would block the neediest households from receiving new benefits while piling on more aid for those with higher incomes.