

THURSDAY, JUN 22, 2017 11:58 AM CDT

Police drag away protesters in wheelchairs from Mitch McConnell's office

Protesters with disabilities conducted a "die-in" on Capitol Hill after Republicans unveiled their health care bill

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Minutes after Senate Republicans released the text of their bill to repeal Obamacare a group of protesters, some wheelchair-bound or wearing medical devices, were carried away by police after blocking the hallway outside of Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's office. ADAPT, the national disability rights group behind the protest, said the Senate GOP's bill is a direct threat to the future of people with pre-existing conditions and disabilities.

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We are at @SenateMajLdr demanding he stop the attacks on Disabled people's freedom with #AHCA. #ADAPTandRESIST pscp.tv

1,834 2,409

A group that advocates for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities organized the "die-in" against the GOP's bill on Thursday. According to the Washington Post, about 60 protesters chanted "No cuts to Medicaid — save our liberty" while being forcibly removed by Capitol Police.

Andrew Desiderio @desiderioDC [Follow](#)

Capitol Police are physically removing protesters who are staging a "die-in" in front of McConnell's office

10:44 AM - 22 Jun 2017 - Washington, DC

2,644 2,002

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Protesters gather outside Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's office after health care bill rollout [cnn.i/2r2KLZR](#)

11:02 AM - 22 Jun 2017

1,460 2,944

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Huge protest inside and outside of Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's office happening right now.

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4,670 8,311

Steve Kopack @SteveKopack [Follow](#)

Security is quite literally dragging people away from outside McConnell's office

10:33 AM - 22 Jun 2017

5,046 3,539

McConnell was not in his office to see the protests. Instead, he was introducing the Republican plan on the Senate floor as a bill that it will "strengthen Medicaid."

While the Republican plan does little to actually repeal Obamacare, it does repeal the taxes that help pay for Obamacare by snatching access to health insurance from low-income and poor Americans through severe cuts to Medicaid. Beginning in 2020, the Senate bill would limit the federal funds states get each year for Medicaid. The program currently gives states all the money needed to cover eligible recipients and procedures — including 60 percent of all children living with disabilities in America. Medicaid cuts spike further in 2025, the year many baby boomers turn 80, under the GOP plan.

President Donald Trump's \$4.1 trillion budget proposal for 2018 also includes \$600 billion in decreases to Medicaid.

Watch footage of the "die-in" below, via the Washington Post:

Protesters hold sit-in at McConnell's ...
Posted by Washington Post Politics
731,067 Views

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John Farrelly · Coming (city), New York
Notice that the Chicken S's aren't willing to put it into effect for next year when they may have to run against themselves. I think we are reaching time when the people need to stage massive protests in Washington that would shutdown the Government until we have a new Congress and Executive Branch that care about the people. Take Mitch out into the middle of I95 and let him dodge traffic for awhile.

Like · Reply · 70 · Jun 22, 2017 1:25pm

David Fahey · Kent State University
Now I would actually pay to see McConnell dodging freeway traffic. Turtle in the headlights?

Like · Reply · 24 · Jun 22, 2017 2:09pm

Julie Phipps · University of Louisville
Shutting down the government only hurts those who are already struggling. It's a tool that privileged people use.

Like · Reply · 4 · Jun 22, 2017 2:14pm

Mike Lane · Amos School
Tie him down on I95 much better!

Like · Reply · 8 · Jun 22, 2017 3:02pm

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Steven Danis
Where it will get very dicey for the Republicans is if they can actually realize their program of slashing Medicaid. Medicaid is the chief means by which the elderly who don't have much money can pay for long term care in nursing homes. Take away Medicaid from the disabled elderly and there will be a true public relations nightmare for the Republicans as pictures of elderly people being forcibly discharged from nursing homes will flood the media.

Like · Reply · 46 · Jun 22, 2017 12:09pm

Frank Barton · Works at Retired
bingo! my wife works at a place like that, and what you say is true, true, true!

Like · Reply · 21 · Jun 22, 2017 12:30pm

Steven Danis
Frank Barton What is not discussed nearly enough is the prospect of major job losses if the health care cuts planned by the Republicans become law. Health care including nursing homes is labor intensive and in many communities is a major source of employment. Because so much of the work is hard, dirty and not particularly well paying it is an entry level for many people especially those who lack formal education but are willing to work.

Like · Reply · 30 · Jun 22, 2017 12:56pm

Sadie Hoily
they are delaying many of the effects to be after the next elections where they hope to fully own the supreme court and maybe disenfranchise and yone who does not love propoganda

Like · Reply · 10 · Jun 22, 2017 1:49pm

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CJ Cetron
There is nothing prettier than watching a public servant dragging disabled and sick people out of a protest. SAID NO ONE EVER! Well unless you are human that doesn't give a friggin shit about humanity!

Like · Reply · 32 · Jun 22, 2017 1:56pm · Edited

John Brennan · Stony Brook University
I wonder how many Kentuckians will lose their Medicaid provided opioid addiction treatment if this bill passes? Voting GOP for so many of those people is almost literally an act of cutting off the nose to spite the face.

Like · Reply · 22 · Jun 22, 2017 1:48pm

Courtney Chase · Portland, Oregon
KentuckyCare is one of the most successful examples of the Medicaid expansion. When a successful implementation is gutted, it will have the largest ripple effect. Just sayin'.

Like · Reply · 11 · Jun 22, 2017 2:43pm

Pamela Parker Ricer · Works at Retired
Courtney Chase , KYnect was successful under Gov Beshear, but since the last couple of years under Republican Governor Devin it was discontinued for the federal exchange, and the Gov and Republican legislature have done everything in their power at the state level to sabotage that. Premiums skyrocketed and companies pulled out.

Like · Reply · 4 · Jun 22, 2017 3:48pm

Wolski Suzanne · Waitsfield, Vermont
Courtney Chase I guess McConnell must be planning to retire.

Like · Reply · 2 · Jun 22, 2017 4:03pm

Stan Lightner · Works at Retired Professors
I am expecting the next Repug attack to be against disabled combat vets like myself. I received a call from the local hospital informing me the program enabling disabled vets to receive private health care (TriWest) is bankrupt. I had been scheduled for a CAT scan and care from a civilian pulmonologist for asbestos exposure as the wait for a VA doctor was 30+ days. Now I have to get back into the que and wait even more.

BTW, McCurtin received a "discharge" after 4 months in the Army due to an eye condition which was easily treatable with a corticosteroids.

Like · Reply · 13 · Jun 22, 2017 2:23pm

Wolski Suzanne · Waitsfield, Vermont
He's a real loser isn't he? He's vermed millions off of his position in the government so I suppose there must be something in this "health not care" bill of his. 4 months!

Like · Reply · 3 · Jun 22, 2017 4:06pm

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