Police Drag Disabled Demonstrators From Capitol Hill During Healthcare Bill Protest

BY CHRISTINA STURDIVANT IN NEWS ON JUN 22, 2017 1:55 PM

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Police forcibly removed demonstrators, many with disabilities, from a Senate building on Capitol Hill today. A total of 43 people were arrested, according to Capitol Police.

The protesters blocked the hallway outside of Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's office after Republican Senators unveiled a revised healthcare bill that had been drafted in secret.

ADAPT, a nonprofit group that advocates for people with disabilities, organized the "die-in" protest, bringing dozens to the Russell Senate Office. Crowds chanted "No cuts to Medicaid — save our liberty!" among other things.

Videos and photos show a disturbing scene as police dragged protesters, some of whom were in wheelchairs or using medical devices, leaving blood on the hall's floor.

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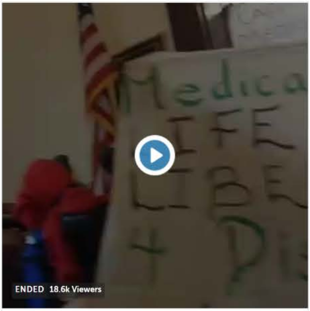
We are at @SenateMajLdr demanding he stop the attacks on Disabled people's freedom with #AHCA. #ADAPTandRESIST #NoC… pscp.tv/w/bBqEzDFxTFFH…

10:14 AM - 22 Jun 2017



NationalADAPT @NationalADAPT

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

pscp.tv

1,932 2,409

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Last month, the House voted 217-213 on a version of the bill, with 20 Republicans joining Democrats to vote against the American Health Care Act.

Some of the Senate's changes, as reported by ABC News, include removing the individual and employer mandates and phasing out the Medicaid expansion, enacted under Obama, in 2020.

"Obamacare is dead, and we're putting a plan out today that is going to be negotiated," President Donald Trump said during a White House event today. "We'd love to have some Democrats' support, but they're obstructionists."

Along with many others, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi denounced the bill, calling it "mean and heartless," at a news conference. She said the bill would cause "millions and millions and millions of people" to lose their health care and "inflict great suffering on veterans, on seniors, on working families, on rural communities."

Those arrested as part of the demonstration have been charged with crowding, obstructing, or incommoding. "Many of the demonstrators, as part of their protest activities, removed themselves from their wheelchairs and lay themselves on the floor, obstructing passage through

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the hallway and into nearby offices. U.S. Capitol Police officers warned the demonstrators to cease their unlawful activities or be faced with arrest," Capitol Police said in a statement.

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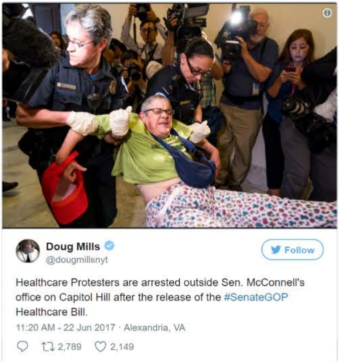

Doug Mills @dougmillsnyt

Healthcare Protesters are arrested outside Sen. McConnell's office on Capitol Hill after the release of the #SenateGOP Healthcare Bill.

11:20 AM - 22 Jun 2017 · Alexandria, VA

💬 🔁 2,789 ♡ 2,149

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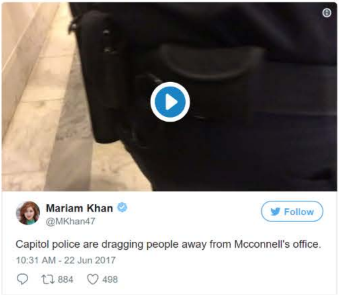

Mariam Khan @MKhan47

Capitol police are dragging people away from Mcconnell's office.

10:31 AM - 22 Jun 2017

💬 🔁 884 ♡ 498

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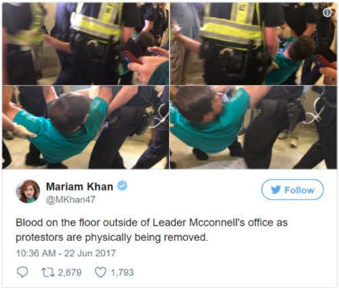
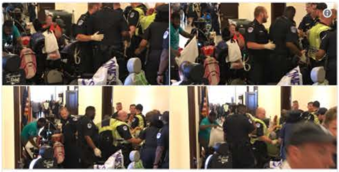


Mariam Khan @MKhan47

Blood on the floor outside of Leader Mcconnell's office as protestors are physically being removed.

10:36 AM - 22 Jun 2017

💬 🔁 2,679 ♡ 1,793



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jordan 🌹 @JordanUhl

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Capitol Police arresting protesters who rely on wheelchairs. They dropped one.#NoCutsNoCaps

10:38 AM - 22 Jun 2017

9,844 7,417

This post has been updated with arrest figures and comment from Capitol Police.

Contact the author of this article or email tips@dcist.com with further questions, comments or tips.

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mensan98th · 10 days ago

...leaving blood on the hall's floor.

Good god. What have we come to?

28 · Reply · Share ›

brunostrange mensan98th · 10 days ago

We're a country that lets cops murder black people. We were already pretty debased.

35 · Reply · Share ›

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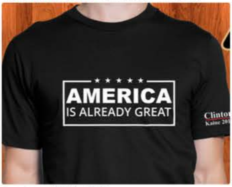
The Honorable Kev29 ➦ brunostrange · 10 days ago



6 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

timeisanillusion ➦ The Honorable Kev29 · 9 days ago

the subtle clinton kaine logo on the sleeve. fail.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

ms_jlynn ➦ mensan98th · 10 days ago

We're completely fucked

11 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

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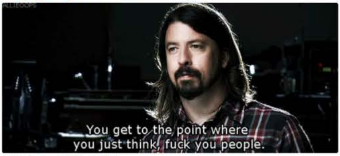
sock puppet mayhem ➦ mensan98th · 10 days ago


You get to the point where
you just think, fuck you people.

12 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

B!tchIt'sSaturday ➦ sock puppet mayhem · 10 days ago

Side note (at an inappropriate time): I found out this week I am being gifted tickets to their show in October.

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

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Chicken_Flucker ➦ B!tchIt'sSaturday · 10 days ago

Side, side note: I am available to go with you.

10 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Scourge of the West Village ➦ Chicken_Flucker · 10 days ago

Side, side, side note:

I used to suck
dick for coke

6 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Chicken_Flucker ➦ Scourge of the West Village · 10 days ago

The internet never forgets!

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

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sock puppet mayhem ➦ B!tchIt'sSaturday · 10 days ago

Oh I guess you just don't care how they're super greedy jerks who are overcharging their tru fans

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

The Honorable Kev29 → B!tchIt'sSaturday • 10 days ago

Trying to get LCD Soundsystem tickets tomorrow

7 ^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

Detex → mensan98th • 10 days ago

I ask myself every day. Just wait until tomorrow, this will probably be child's play.

5 ^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

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Kaliduurga → mensan98th • 10 days ago

Ask the folks at Standing Rock.

3 ^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

Sean → mensan98th • 10 days ago

Well, Dems are mass-shooting GOP members so I'd call this a step down.

^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

fawnMower → Sean • 10 days ago

Cool story, bro.

7 ^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

spookiness → mensan98th • 9 days ago

It's been a fing police state for awhile now.

^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

DCnihilist • 10 days ago

"We'd love to have some Democrats' support, but they're obstructionists."

You just got Jamm-ed.

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18 ^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

EmilySquirrely • 10 days ago

#optics

1 ^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

Matthew Savoury • 10 days ago

HOW'S SCALISE DOING!?!?

1 ^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

ms_jlynn → Matthew Savoury • 10 days ago

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5 ^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

Matthew Savoury → ms_jlynn • 10 days ago

ikr

^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

Bercules → Matthew Savoury • 10 days ago

He'll be cheered when they roll him into congress because they're F**king Deplorable.

^ | ⌄ • Reply • Share ›

ahh_2_2 • 10 days ago

When he's on his deathbed, I'm sure Mitch McConnell will look back at all the good things he did for everyday Americans.

6 ^ | ⌄ • Reply • Share ›

UrsusMajeure → ahh_2_2 • 10 days ago

Well, I mean, he could still turn it around and do some good things in his life. He's got a lot of years left.

Do you even know how long tortoises live?!

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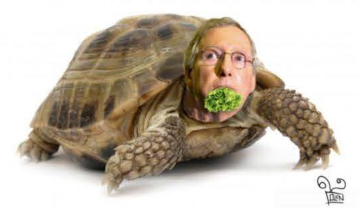

14 ^ | ⌄ • Reply • Share ›

Snarfyguy → ahh_2_2 • 10 days ago

The man has no soul. He is pure living, breathing filth.

12 ^ | ⌄ • Reply • Share ›

Necktat Mentat → Snarfyguy • 10 days ago

Him and Spineless Ryan the slithering sycophant...

4 ^ | ⌄ • Reply • Share ›

mrf95 • 10 days ago

No other democratically governed country is trying to pass or even consider a health care bill that will make life worse for its citizens.
Are Israeli's in the street urging a end to Golda Meir care?
In Rwanda, yes Post genocide Rwanda their health system includes house calls. At the very least I think we can learn a bit from other countries.

13 ^ | ⌄ • Reply • Share ›

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David Donnell → mrf95 • 10 days ago

*Israelis (APOSTROPHE CATASTROPHE!!!)

3 ^ | ⌄ • Reply • Share ›

cminus → David Donnell • 10 days ago

Apostropocalypse!

5 ^ | ⌄ • Reply • Share ›

mrf95 → cminus • 10 days ago

Spell check apocalypse

^ | ⌄ • Reply • Share ›

SpideySense • 10 days ago

Wow, they're getting as bad as United Airlines.

3.1K Like Share Tweet

22 ^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

soxinthecity • 10 days ago

These pictures of disabled protesters being dragged out the Capital are porn for Trump supporters.

19 ^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

SpideySense → soxinthecity • 10 days ago

I agree. Trump Deplorables have zero empathy for the lesser of us who get trampled on or abused, so long as they're not the ones getting the business end of the abuse.

8 ^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

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Mincks → SpideySense • 10 days ago

That's why I kind of want the bill to pass. The ONLY way for these sociopaths to wake up is to have It destroy them personally. The obvious downside, though, is that people like the ones you see here are going to have to go down with them. If there was a way for this Wealthcare bill to only affect those who voted for it.

3 ^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

Joan Arkham → Mincks • 10 days ago

I wish but nope. They'll still somehow blame it on blacks, immigrants, Obummer, Shillary, Sharia law, etc...

5 ^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

Mincks → Joan Arkham • 9 days ago

Aren't those all the same thing?

^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

Troy Romanowski • 10 days ago

Nothing like taking away stuff from the poor and giving to the rich right Senators?

3 ^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

B!tchIt'sSaturday • 10 days ago

Thanks to the millennials for raising #awareness.

3.1K
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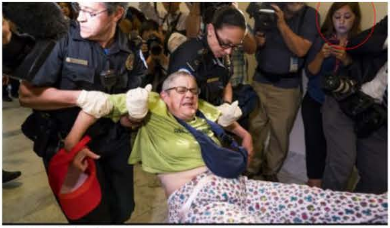
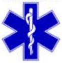


16 ^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

Thelma Harper → B!tchIt'sSaturday • 10 days ago

She's in the middle of changing her Facebook profile photo to one with an overlay of a Rod of Asclepius.



6 ^ | ˅ • Reply • Share ›

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B!tchIt'sSaturday · 10 days ago

Mitch McConnell RN:

You can walk home, bitches.

11 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

YouandWhoseArmy3D · 10 days ago

Would be nice if the capital police had the guts to stand up for themselves. I guess upholding the constitution isn't part of their job.

1st Amendment:

> Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or **the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.**

"I was just following orders" Where have I heard that before....

6 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

3.1K
Like
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SpideySense → YouandWhoseArmy3D · 10 days ago

"I was just following orders" Where have I heard that before....

7 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

RuMADorRuREALLYmad → YouandWhoseArmy3D · 10 days ago

I would quit or protest the order. But we already know one must be without conscience to be allowed to wear a uniform.

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

3.1K
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Q_bert → RuMADorRuREALLYmad · 10 days ago

That's a stupid take.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

RuMADorRuREALLYmad → Q_bert · 10 days ago

calling something a "take" is stupid

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

GMo → RuMADorRuREALLYmad · 10 days ago

You're stupid...

3 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

3.1K
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Chicken_Flucker ➦ GMo · 10 days ago

and smelly.

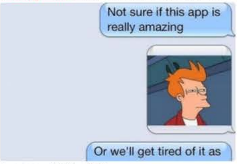
Reply · Share ›

RuMADorRuREALLYmad ➦ Chicken_Flucker · 10 days ago

What app are you using?

Reply · Share ›

Chicken_Flucker ➦ RuMADorRuREALLYmad · 10 days ago


Not sure if this app is really amazing
Or we'll get tired of it as

1 · Reply · Share ›

3.1K
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