

Senate Democrats' Attempt to Block Trump Healthcare Rule Fails

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Senate Democrats Tuesday failed in their attempt to pass a resolution to block a Trump administration rule that could boot up to 2 million enrollees off Obamacare plans in 2027.

“The result will be more Americans buying worse care that does not cover necessary services from routine checkups to life-threatening emergencies,” Sen. [Tammy Baldwin](#) (D-Wis.), top Democrat on the Senate Appropriations health subcommittee, said on the floor Tuesday.

The resolution failed 51-48.

Lawmakers took issue with the regulation’s promotion of high-deductible catastrophic plans. The rule allows [catastrophic plans to last up to 10 years](#), moving away from the current one-year duration.

The regulation also allows bronze and catastrophic plans to implement higher out-of-pocket expenses. Bronze plans — which are plans in the Affordable Care Act marketplaces with low premiums and high out-of-pocket costs — would be allowed to implement cost-sharing up to \$15,600 in 2027, nearly equivalent to the federal poverty level for an individual.

Non-network plans would be available as qualified health plans on the federal exchange under the regulation. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services explains that these plans don’t rely on a contracted set of providers, and instead set benefit amounts for covered services. The left-leaning Center on Budget and Policy Priorities says there’s no guarantee that providers will accept these benefit amounts or will be compelled to remain in an agreement.