

Energy and Commerce GOP Roll Out Package to Fight Medicaid Fraud

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Summary by Bloomberg AI

- Republicans on a House health committee rolled out a package of bills to combat fraud in Medicaid.
- The package consists of bills to expand data to fight fraud, allow states to retain funding recovered from fraud cases, and increase state oversight requirements.
- Republicans have coalesced around combating fraud in Medicaid, but the anti-fraud efforts on Capitol Hill haven't been bipartisan.
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Republicans on a House health committee rolled out a package of bills Tuesday to combat fraud in Medicaid, a central issue to the GOP heading into the midterms.

"While states are on the front lines of confronting this fraud, we must take commonsense steps to ensure that they are able to recoup their costs and incentivize the vital work that is needed to ensure the program can continue to work for the Americans it was designed to serve," Rep. [Brett Guthrie](#) (R-Ky.), chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, said in a statement Tuesday.

The package consists of 14 bills to expand the data available to fight fraud, allow states to retain more funding recovered from fraud cases to invest in audits and investigations, and increase requirements around state oversight of the program. Although Republicans have coalesced around combating fraud in Medicaid, the House is running out of time this year to act on legislation, as they don't return until after the midterm elections.

The committee early Tuesday had released a [report](#) from Republican staff about how fraud continues to plague Medicaid and Medicare. The report finds that states aren't using audit and investigation authorities enough, aren't utilizing provider risk levels as an integrity tool, and that both programs have historically relied on the "pay and chase" model, rather than stopping fraud ahead of time.

But the anti-fraud efforts on Capitol Hill haven't been bipartisan. While both Democrats and Republicans acknowledge there are issues of fraud in government health programs, **Democrats have accused the GOP** of using the issue as an excuse to **cut Medicaid and grab data**.