



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives
House Republican Majority Caucus

1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007

Monday, January 26, 2026
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

House Republicans Advance ‘*One Big Beautiful Implementation*’ to Put H.R. 1 Reforms into Arizona Law

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Arizona House Republicans will move forward Monday on a package of legislation implementing key provisions of [H.R. 1](#), the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act*, as the House Health and Human Services Committee meets to advance reforms aimed at restoring accountability to Medicaid, strengthening rural health care, and protecting taxpayers.

The committee, chaired by State Representative Selina Bliss, will meet this afternoon, Monday, January 26, at 2:00 p.m. in HHR 4 to consider six bills aligned with H.R. 1’s federal reforms. The measures focus on eligibility verification, fraud prevention, workforce access, and positioning Arizona to compete for additional federal rural health funding.

A livestream of the meeting will be available at:

<https://www.azleg.gov/videoplayer/?clientID=6361162879&eventID=2026011066>

“Medicaid was created to protect the vulnerable, not to bankroll waste, fraud, and unchecked growth,” said House Majority Leader Michael Carbone. **“In Arizona alone, Medicaid spending has jumped from \$13 billion to \$23 billion in just *four* years. H.R. 1 restores accountability and puts the program back on a sustainable path, and these bills are critical to ensure Arizona complies with those reforms.”**

The committee will hear the following legislation:

H.R. 1 Medicaid Bills

- [HB 2796](#) (Carbone) – AHCCCS; enrollment verification; presumptive eligibility
- [HB 2689](#) (Heap) – Hospitals; patient immigration status; reporting

H.R. 1 Rural Health Transformation Fund Bills

- [HB 2396](#) (Biasiucci) – SNAP; allowed purchases; waiver
- [HB 2190](#) (Willoughby) – Physician Assistant Licensure Compact
- [HB 2437](#) (Bliss) – EMS reciprocity; compact
- [HB 2233](#) (Blackman) – Arizona Rural Health Transformation Fund; reporting

The primary Medicaid reform bill, HB 2796, strengthens eligibility enforcement at AHCCCS by requiring cross-agency data matching with the Department of Revenue, Department of Economic Security, and Department of Health Services to verify income, residency, deaths, and out-of-state activity. The bill ends reliance on self-

reporting except where federal law requires it and tightens presumptive eligibility by limiting it to children and pregnant women.

Polling shows strong public backing for these reforms, including 82 percent support for verifying eligibility through state and federal data sources and 75 percent support for eligibility verification twice per year.

“HB 2796 is how we keep Medicaid sustainable, by verifying eligibility, enforcing the rules, and making sure resources reach the people they were designed to serve,” Majority Leader Carbone said. **“While Governor Hobbs is busy issuing vetoes, House and Senate Republicans are leading the charge to align state policy with H.R. 1 to protect rural communities.”**

“Rural Arizona is being shortchanged,” Chairman Bliss said. **“Congress put \$50 *billion* on the table to stabilize rural health care, yet Arizona ranked near the bottom in funding. We are advancing policies that strengthen the rural workforce, improve access to care, and make sure these dollars are tracked and used properly.”**

The Rural Health Transformation Fund bills strengthen Arizona’s ability to compete for future federal funding by advancing workforce compacts, expanding SNAP policy options that improve Arizona’s federal scoring, and requiring legislative oversight of how rural health dollars are spent.

Failure to act would leave Arizona exposed to federal penalties under H.R. 1, including funding reductions tied to improper Medicaid payments and SNAP error rates.

The committee meeting is open to the public, and Arizonans are encouraged to watch and follow the discussion live online.

###