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Project 2025: What's At Stake for Health Care and Anti-Poverty

What is Project 2025? It's a wish list of right-wing policies, reflecting an extreme Christian nationalist ideology, written by the Heritage Foundation and more than 100 other conservative groups as a blueprint for a potential conservative administration. It is an explicit effort to further empower the presidency, embed ideologues in nonpartisan civil service, and enable the executive branch to unravel the civil rights movement's gains over the last seven decades.

The full agenda, which is more than 900 pages long, would completely reshape our federal government in order to benefit white nationalists, the rich and powerful, and religiously motivated bigots. When it comes to the ability of families to access health care and meet other basic economic needs, its impact would be devastating, threatening access to affordable care and making existing economic disparities worse. For example, Project 2025 calls for:

- **Restricting Public Health Programs:** Project 2025 would scale back the use of public health programs like Medicaid and make it harder for people to access them, including through huge funding cuts to Medicaid. Instead, it calls for pushing families towards private plans with worse coverage.
- **Rolling Back Affordable Care:** Project 2025 would make it more costly and difficult for people to access affordable health coverage generally, including by weakening key reforms under the Affordable Care Act, a law that has that helped millions of people gain health care coverage.
- **Attacking Reproductive Rights:** Project 2025 would ban or severely restrict access to mifepristone, the safe and effective drug used in more than half of all abortions today, including by criminalizing the distribution of medication abortion drugs by mail. States that vowed to protect reproductive rights would be forced to report data to the federal government on pregnant people traveling from other states to seek care. And Project 2025 calls for rolling back HIPAA guidance put in place to protect the privacy of people who receive reproductive health care.
- **Rolling Back Antidiscrimination Protections in Health Care:** Project 2025 would weaken important regulations implementing protections known as "Section 1557," particularly as they relate to addressing sex discrimination in health care settings.

- **Shrinking Safety Nets:** Project 2025 would make it more onerous or impossible for people with low incomes to access public benefit programs — for example, it would reduce food assistance benefits by imposing additional work reporting requirements and limiting what people can use their benefits for.
- **Overhauling the Tax System:** Project 2025 proposes ending most deductions, credits, and exclusions. While not mentioned by name, this could include the Child Tax Credit. Under those changes, families with low incomes will likely pay more while wealthier families will see cuts.
- **Politicizing the Government at Every Level:** Project 2025 supports drastic changes, known as “Schedule F” reforms, that would force tens of thousands of civil servants — including in agencies that protect civil rights — to serve the president’s political aims instead of serving the public interest. This would include agencies that shape policies related to health care and economic security.