

**To:** Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, Senate Appropriations Committee Vice Chair Patty Murray, Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Committee Rosa DeLauro  
**From:** Katie Bethell, MoveOn Civic Action Executive Director  
**Date:** September 8, 2025  
**RE:** Grassroots mandate: Fight like hell for our health care in the budget battle

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Our millions of members, located in every congressional district in the country, represent the most energized members of the Democratic Party's grassroots base. These are the people who knock on doors in your state, phone-bank, talk to their friends and neighbors to bring them into the tent, and have fueled some of the largest protests against President Trump. They are urging a bold, fighting, and united posture from congressional Democrats.

**The results of our most recent survey of MoveOn membership lead us to strongly recommend the following: Democrats should actively fight back against the administration and refuse support for any funding bill that doesn't reverse Republicans' massive health care cuts.**

### **USE YOUR LEVERAGE TO REVERSE HEALTH CARE CUTS**

Last week, in a survey to MoveOn members, we found the following:

- Our grassroots base has near-universal support for Democrats uniting against one-sided Republican proposals to fund the government.
  - **91% of MoveOn members say Democrats should not back any funding bill that doesn't reverse massive health care cuts.** Our members see defending the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid as nonnegotiables.
  - **80% of MoveOn members say willingness to push back against the Trump administration weighs as much or more than policy positions** when considering support for their lawmakers.
- Our most recent message testing in Republican-represented congressional districts supports framing the OBBBA as **detrimental to working people and their interests—particularly as it relates to health care and Medicaid cuts.**

### **THE OPPOSITION NEEDS TO MORE VISIBLY FIGHT BACK NOW**

President Trump is rapidly advancing his authoritarian agenda, despite public outrage and historically low approval ratings (-22% favorability in latest [Gallup](#) survey, -23% in latest [Pew](#) survey and -11% in the latest [Navigator Research](#) survey).

Armed National Guard troops deployed in our neighborhoods. Seismic Medicaid and health care cuts. Chaotic and indiscriminate immigration raids. We are in a five-alarm-fire scenario for the

country. **America's ability to endure this moment requires a Democratic Party driving a vibrant, impactful and public resistance.**

President Trump and congressional Republicans stopped playing by the rules years ago and have only doubled down since Inauguration Day. From a pocket rescission of foreign aid to gutting the federal workforce, President Trump has already violated the law, nevermind torpedoed norms. He is actively causing substantial harm to tens of millions. And he isn't slowing down. This is the moment to show the base, and the general public, that there is a vibrant opposition fighting against the Trump administration and for the American people.

### **WHAT A UNIFIED OPPOSITION FIGHTING BACK LOOKS LIKE**

**Make no mistake: President Trump and the Republican Party are the ones to blame for wreaking havoc in our communities and making everyday life more expensive and painful for everybody.** There is no denying that Democrats are left with little legislative power as Republicans control all three branches of government. **But that is exactly why Democrats have to use every ounce of leverage we have surrounding the September 30 funding deadline to prove the Democratic Party's commitment to fighting like hell for the American people.**

**Democrats have the leverage to hold the line and refuse support for any funding bill that doesn't reverse Republicans' massive health care cuts. Now is the time to use that leverage, and when you do, the grassroots base — including millions of MoveOn members — will have your back.**

**Over the last few months, MoveOn members have been fired up at levels we have not seen in years to protect health care, push back against the impacts of this administration, and ensure we are assigning blame to Republicans.** We will provide the tools members need to reach their elected officials and voice their support for a reversal of the health care cuts, a strong priority for the majority of our base.

Our members will also continue to host and show up in droves to town halls and recess actions across the country, especially in Republican areas. They're also ready to fuel historic, nationwide peaceful protests, including No Kings on October 18, an opportunity to hopefully show a unified opposition following the September 30 deadline.

A strong opposition is not a solo sport—all of us have to play our part to organize against the administration and show the public that Republicans are to blame for health care cuts and higher costs.

The old playbook isn't working, and the grassroots is ready to play with a new one. We invite you to join us.