



H.R.1: Enhanced Premium Tax Credit Extension



The Issue: Expiration of EPTC Expansion Limits Behavioral Healthcare Access

The federal government offers enhanced premium tax credits (EPTCs or tax credits) to help some individuals and families purchase insurance on the health insurance marketplaces. In 2021, Congress increased and expanded eligibility for the tax credits; however, those policies are scheduled to expire at the end of 2025.

Unless Congress acts, premiums will spike for both subsidized and unsubsidized enrollees. The enhanced premium tax credits have benefitted millions of Americans by lowering costs to obtain healthcare coverage and reducing the number of people who are uninsured.¹ If the enhanced tax credits expire, nearly 4 million people could discontinue receiving coverage through the Marketplace by 2026.¹ The Kaiser Family Foundation's [estimate](#) premiums will increase by 90% in Florida, 115% in Texas, 102% in North Carolina, and 85% in Georgia as residents of those states receive a greater share of premium tax credits than in other states.



Background

Certain individuals and families are eligible for prospective, monthly tax credits that lower the cost of health insurance marketplace premiums. To be eligible, these individuals or families must meet certain income thresholds, based on the federal poverty level (FPL); not be eligible for other comprehensive coverage, including Medicare, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), or affordable employer-sponsored coverage; and be a U.S. citizen or have proof of legal residency in the United States.

The 2021 tax credits resulted in an additional 10 million people gaining coverage through the health insurance marketplaces while others receiving assistance paid their health insurance costs. This has increased access to healthcare coverage and high-quality care for patients and communities served by behavioral healthcare providers.

For individuals in need of behavioral healthcare, limiting coverage comes at a critical juncture. According to data from the [National Survey on Drug Use and Health](#) compiled by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, there were 3 million fewer adults and 300,000 fewer adolescents who received any mental health treatment in 2024 compared with 2023.



Legislative Request

NABH urges Congress to extend the enhanced premium tax credit.