



Welcome to Advocacy Day!

We believe that all people have human dignity and are deserving of respect and self-determination. Therefore, we are committed to ensuring that we are grounded in race, equity, and social justice so that we reduce any cultural, linguistic, and other barriers that prevent people from being fully participating citizens.

In recognition of the historical and ongoing injustice faced by Indigenous peoples, we begin by acknowledging that Washington is the traditional land of 35 tribes representing more than 140,714 native citizens. We honor the original caretakers of this land and recognize their enduring connection to it.

By participating in Advocacy Day, you are agreeing to be respectful of speakers, presenters, and other participants and their diverse thoughts and opinions so we can provide a positive and safe environment for everyone.

We will get started in a few minutes, grab a cup of coffee, and get ready to engage!

Thank you!



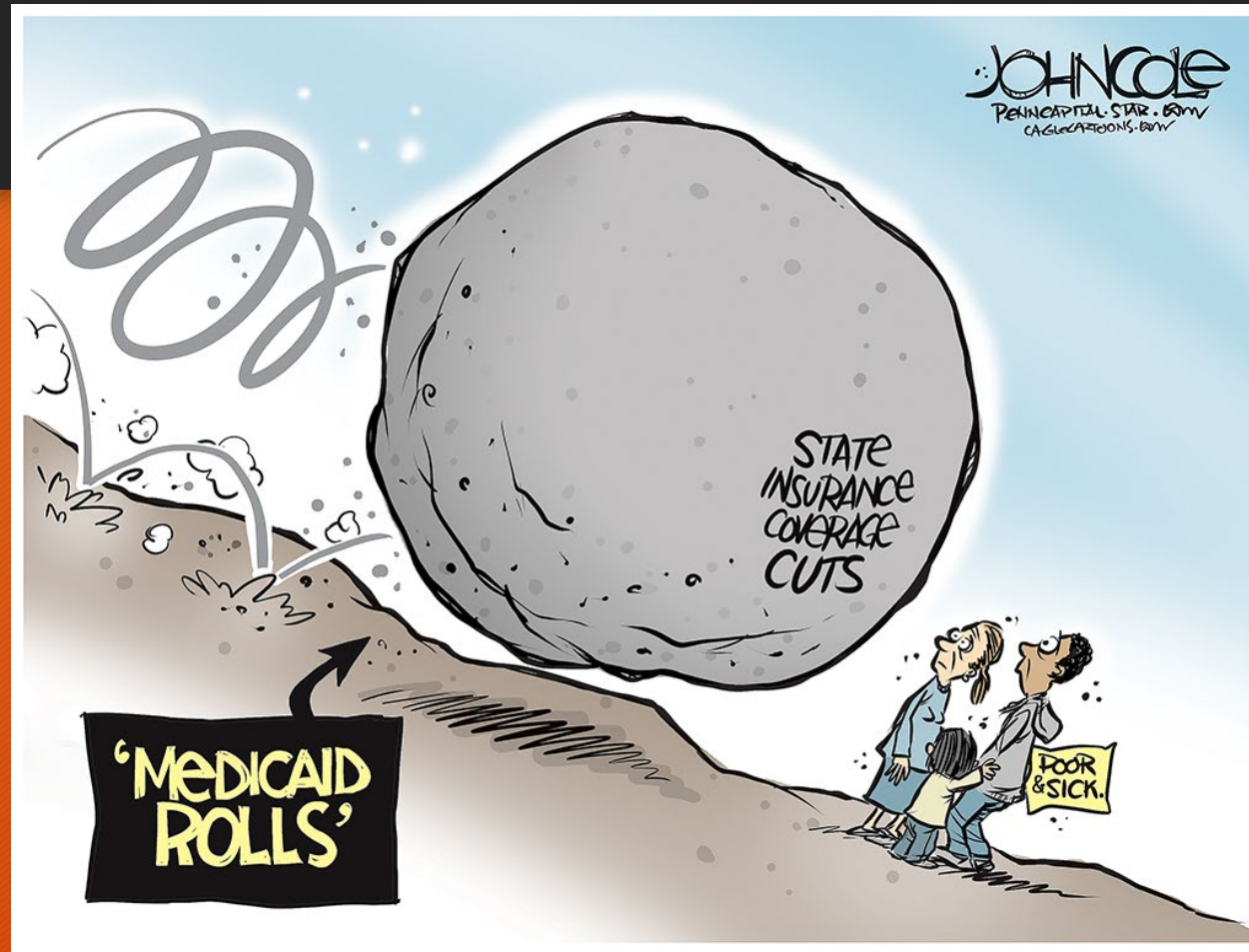
Protect our Services and our Rights

How do we ensure we have the services we need and that our rights to live in the community are protected?

What's Happening?

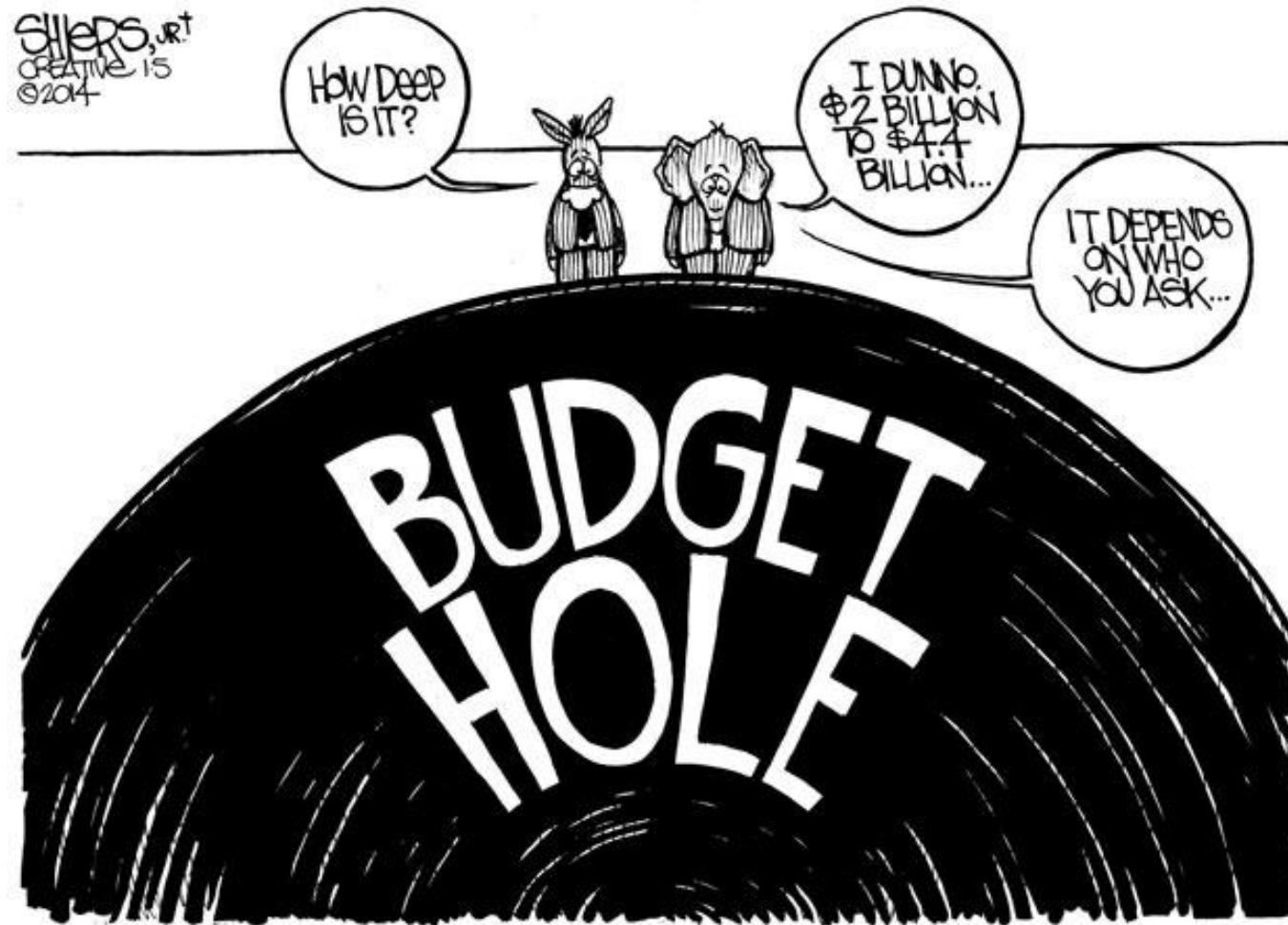
- Federal level
 - Medicaid cuts coming
 - Snap Cuts
 - Department of Education shut down
 - Threats to Section 8 housing
 - Threats to disability infrastructure
 - Threats to Social Security





Cost Shifts to the States

\$ Billion Budget Hole



Protect Critical Services



Maintain
Eligibility
for DD
Services

Preserve
Personal
Care
Hours

Keep
Waiver
Services
Intact

Sustain
Provider
Rates

Messaging



Protect
Disability Services



Protect
Community Living



Protect
Disability Rights

Cuts Cause Crisis

- **Individuals**
 - don't get the care they need
 - end up isolated
 - end up in the hospital or jail
- **Families**
 - have to quit work
 - go into financial crisis
 - are separated
- **Agencies**
 - can't adequately serve new people
 - go out of business
- **Students**
 - don't get an appropriate education
 - Are isolated and/or restrained
 - get sent out of state



Protect DD Services

- Individuals need these services to live
- The state has a moral obligation to ensure this population is cared for
- Individuals with I/DD receive services from many agencies, so they end up taking multiple cuts
- Equal cuts across state agencies are not equitable for people with I/DD
- #Cuts #Cause #Crisis



2026 Legislative Session



HEARINGS



BUDGET SIDE BY SIDE



BILLS OF INTEREST

<https://arcwa.org/advocacy/bill-tracker/>



How You Can Advocate

Shawn's Wrap Up