

The Democratic-controlled U.S. House of Representatives was expected to vote Friday on a sweeping, \$1.75 trillion social-policy and climate package that accounts for much of Democratic President Joe Biden's domestic agenda.

The [package](#) has been scaled back and modified extensively during months of negotiations and is likely to be modified further in the Senate.

Here is what the latest version contains, according to the White House:

## **FAMILY BENEFITS**

- Free preschool for all 3- and 4-year-olds
- Support for child care costs: Families that earn less than \$300,000 per year would pay no more than 7% of their income on child care
- Tax credits worth up to \$300 per child per month
- Bolsters coverage of home-care costs for the elderly and disabled through the Medicaid health program
- Expands free school meals and provides \$65 per month in grocery money during summer months for 29 million low-income children who are eligible for free lunches at school

## **CLIMATE**

- Rebates and credits to cut the cost of rooftop solar systems by 30% and American-made, union-made electric vehicles by \$12,500
- Incentives to encourage U.S. manufacturing of clean energy technology and shift other industries to reduce carbon emissions
- Creates 300,000-strong Civilian Climate Corps to work on environmental and climate projects
- Creates a Clean Energy and Sustainability Accelerator to invest in climate-related projects, with at least 40% serving disadvantaged communities
- New spending on coastal restoration, forest management and soil conservation

## **HEALTHCARE**

- Enables the Medicare health plan for seniors to negotiate lower prices for prescription drugs that have been on the market for at least nine years

- Penalizes drug companies that increase prices faster than inflation
- Caps out-of-pocket prescription drug prices at \$2,000 per year and lowers insulin prices to \$35 per month
- Expands Medicare to cover hearing aids
- Reduces Affordable Care Act premiums by an average of \$600 per person per year
- Expands Medicaid coverage to low-income people in the 12 states that have opted not to expand the program on their own

## HOUSING

- Expands affordable housing, public housing and rental assistance programs
- Broadens down-payment assistance to bolster home ownership
- Expands lead-paint removal efforts
- Supports community-led redevelopment in low-income neighborhoods
- Encourages local governments to ease zoning restrictions that limit housing density

## EDUCATION

- Increases Pell Grants for college costs
- More aid for historically Black colleges and other minority-serving schools
- Boosts the Labor Department's job-training programs by 50%

## IMMIGRATION

- \$100 billion in "immigration reform," which is additional funding beyond the \$1.75 trillion
- Efforts to reduce backlogs, expand legal services and improve border processing and asylum programs

## OTHER PROGRAMS

- Expands a tax credit for low-income workers to cover those who do not have children
- More money for rural projects
- Supports community violence intervention

## TAXES

- 15% minimum tax on corporate profits for companies with more than \$1 billion in

profits

- 1% surcharge on stock buybacks
- 15% minimum tax on foreign profits of U.S. corporations
- 5% surtax on personal income above \$10 million
- Additional 3% surtax on income above \$25 million
- Close loophole to prevent wealthy from avoiding 3.8% Medicare tax
- Bolster the Internal Revenue Service to improve customer service and focus enforcement on wealthy tax evaders
- Expands a deduction for state and local taxes that primarily benefits upper-income households in high-tax states. Republicans had reduced that benefit in their 2017 tax-cut package

*The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Kootneeti Team*

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