

BUILD BACK BETTER ALASKA

Build Back Better Bill (BBB)

The BBB is the name for the reconciliation bill in development with details being worked out between the House and Senate majorities. Often described as a ‘social spending bill,’ the current framework contains priorities such as childcare, climate change investments, tax cuts for working families, and more. The framework will help the U.S. meet its climate goals, create millions of good-paying jobs, enable more Americans to join and remain in the labor force, and grow our economy from the bottom up and the middle out.

Projected benefits to Alaska under the current framework are listed below:

1. Provide access to affordable childcare and preschool
 - a. Enable 56,795 young children (aged 0-5) to access childcare by ensuring families earning under 2.5 times the Alaska median income spend no more than 7% of their income on childcare
 - b. Expand free, high-quality preschool to more than 15,000 more 3- and 4-year-olds and improve overall preschool quality for all
2. Make the largest effort to combat climate change in US history
 - a. Extreme weather and disaster events have cost over \$1.8 billion in Alaska over the past decade. This framework will set the US on course to meet its ambitious climate targets to prevent and mitigate such disasters in the future
 - b. Establish a new Civilian Climate Corp to enlist a diverse generation of Alaskans and give them good-paying jobs conserving public lands, bolstering community resilience, and addressing climate change
3. Cut taxes and reduce expenses for workers and families
 - a. Increase maximum Pell Grant awards, supporting the 4,878 Alaska college students who rely on them
 - b. Invest in training programs to prepare Alaska workers for high-quality jobs in sectors such as public health, childcare, manufacturing, IT, and clean energy
 - c. Help the 11% of Alaska children that live in food insecure households by both expanding free school meals to an additional 7,000 Alaska kids and providing 58,760 students the ability to purchase food over the summer
 - d. Expand rental assistance for Alaska renters, benefitting the 37,000 who are rent burdened and enabling more first-generation homebuyers to purchase their first homes
 - e. Close the Medicaid coverage gap, expanding coverage to 18,000 uninsured Alaskans and reducing costs by hundreds of dollars on average for 14,000 more
 - f. Extend the historic Child Tax Credit and provide an expanded Earned Income Tax Credit that will give 38,900 low-wage Alaska workers a tax cut of up to \$1,500