

Question	Answer	Responder Name	Answerer Email
How do organizations that are serving neighbors through federal programs limit the information they collect to protect immigrants?	Mary: feel free to reach out to me at wala@nilc.org if you'd like to dive deeper, but as I noted there are two key actions here: 1. consider updating your document retention policy to keep only information you're required to keep by law or to run your operations; and 2. refuse to provide any information to law enforcement/immigration officials unless you're legally required to do so (e.g. via a valid subpoena or warrant, in most cases).	Raha Wala	wala@nilc.org
Do you have a schedule of topics for these weekly programs? Where?	<a href="https://www.chn.org/email-list-signup/">Please join the Federal Connection email group via this website (tick on the Federal Connection box) for focused weekly programs in the future. https://www.chn.org/email-list-signup/.</a>	Admin CHN	admin@chn.org
With the Republican Trifecta in DC, we need to focus at the state level. Comments? Are we spinning our wheels at the Federal Level?	Yes, you do need to focus at the state level - but can't forget totally about federal programs - at minimum we have to fight hard to protect programs like Medicaid and SNAP from cuts and structural changes - and preventing as much anti-immigrant action as possible. Federal funding makes up on average more than one-third of state funding - so ignoring threats will hurt states and make your work even harder.	Admin CHN	admin@chn.org
Raha - what do you mean by "wedge issue"?	Sorry for the inside baseball terminology! What I meant is pitting Democrats against each other and ultimately vulnerable communities against each other. For example, trying to "protect" X, Y, or Z program that we all care about by eliminating or restricting eligibility for that program for immigrant communities. Or scapegoating BIPOC immigrant communities for broader issues pertaining to crime and national security.	Raha Wala	wala@nilc.org
"We need to be in solidarity" - what does that mean concretely for us in the field? What can we do?	For this and other similar questions - part of solidarity means being willing to stay connected through listservs to get messages about proposals coming before Congress, and to be willing to join in in some form of action - letters, meetings, public statements, etc. - even if the issues are not the ones you work on all the time. If we all remember that the people we serve utilize a range of programs, we need to be prepared to join in if they are threatened. There are lots of actions you can join in that don't take THAT much time, but that communicate strong opposition to cuts (or support for progress).	Admin CHN	admin@chn.org
Do you anticipate some republican legislators will back away from support mass deportation once they start to see how this will truly impact their businesses and state revenue? I'm thinking of states like Florida and Texas.	<a href="https://www.vox.com/politics/392864/elon-musk-vivek-h1b-visas-trump-stephen-miller">I do, and leveraging business and economic interests is a really critical strategy for those who have the capacity to drive this. Example: https://www.vox.com/politics/392864/elon-musk-vivek-h1b-visas-trump-stephen-miller</a>	Raha Wala	wala@nilc.org
What deportation rapid response networks are being setup this go around? Is there a bail bond national fund, national strategies around family planning	There are a number of rapid response initiatives in the works, both national and state and local, though the most effective models have been driven at the state and local level with support from national orgs like NILC. We are providing that support to various networks of state and local orgs through KYR materials and toolkits, trainings, advocacy and comms support for local advocacy campaigns, messaging research, etc. Some of our partners are compiling a database of immigration legal services providers, and there are other resources available though I'm less familiar with plans re: a national bail bond fund, I'll ask around!	Raha Wala	wala@nilc.org
What exactly is the definition of their birthright citizenship? How can they define who does, or does not, have the right to be an American citizen? I ask because could this affect those born to military or other "ex-pat" American citizens.	<a href="https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/sites/default/files/research/birthright_citizenship_factsheet_241017.pdf">It's complicated, you're correct Catherine. Here's a great primer: https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/sites/default/files/research/birthright_citizenship_factsheet_241017.pdf</a>	Raha Wala	wala@nilc.org
It would be great if NILC could do a webinar for service providers to help us navigate things with our clients	NILC is a great resource. Please be sure to follow them at NILC.org	Admin CHN	admin@chn.org
Is there any safe "sanctuary" space? criteria?	<a href="https://www.ilrc.org/resources/national-map-local-entanglement-ice">This is defined by state and local law so is unique to the specific state and city you're in. Roughly "sanctuary" cities are those localities that prohibit or limit cooperation with federal immigration authorities. Hoping ILRC will keep their interactive map updated: https://www.ilrc.org/resources/national-map-local-entanglement-ice</a>	Raha Wala	wala@nilc.org
Is information sent to state governors and legislators to let them know their rights regarding not complying with federal directives regarding immigration?	NILC and others are partnering with state DA offices and legal advisors for mayors, sheriffs, etc. to ensure that they are aware of the relevant legal requirements, great question!	Raha Wala	wala@nilc.org
I'm having trouble understanding - is this 2017 tax law currently active up till December 2025?	Yes, many of the 2017 tax law changes -- including the changes to the Child Tax Credit that Amy is discussing now -- are scheduled to end after December 2025. Some other 2017 (mostly business) tax changes, like corporate tax breaks, are permanent and do not expire.	"Meredith Dods	mdodson@chn.org
With the poverty gap estimated at \$250 billion and the IRS documenting \$677 billion in annual tax cheating-- why aren't advocates spotlighting those two facts more often, since family income is a critical factor in thriving?	Many advocates have been pushing hard to protect/increase IRS funding -- can get a sense of some of their efforts in this recent blogpost: <a href="https://www.chn.org/voices/organizations-urge-lawmakers-to-protect-irs-funding/">https://www.chn.org/voices/organizations-urge-lawmakers-to-protect-irs-funding/</a> . Would love to support more advocates to engage to protect IRS funding, and hoping we may have time for Amy to address this too (but think we may not, so she may chime in via chat).	"Meredith Dods	mdodson@chn.org
Thank you, Amy, for all this great info! Did you just say that all the states with medicaid expansion could be in trouble since the expansion is up for renewal at the end of 2025?	The increased ACA subsidies are expiring, so people will see their health care premiums go up, in every state.	Amy Matsui	amatsui@nwlc.org
"Fetal personhood" laws could open up quite a can of worms. Could people claim fetuses as dependents on their tax returns? Could they add fetuses to their health care plans? Could a pregnant womb-bearer drive in a high-occupancy lane when there is nobody else in her car?	Yes, there is great work by groups like Pregnancy Justice that outline the very serious concerns that these laws pose -- including by criminalizing behavior of pregnant people. On top of that, these laws lay the groundwork for a national (federal) abortion ban. Happy to connect off line for folks who are interested or need more info.	Amy Matsui	amatsui@nwlc.org
Is there a contradiction with the "fetal personhood" though with other benefit access work? For example, household size with SNAP for a pregnant individual (considered as a household of 2 vs 1 - correct?)	The concern here is a little different. We all support giving pregnant people the resources they need, but this is more of a legal strategy to support a nationwide abortion ban. Happy to chat offline if that's helpful!	Amy Matsui	amatsui@nwlc.org
Please help me understand the child tax credit. Can undocumented parents that file taxes currently claim their undocumented children? Can undocumented children obtain an ITIN number?	Someone who does not have a SSN can file taxes using an ITIN (and children can also have ITINs). Under current law, parents with ITINs can claim the CTC but only for children with SSNs. This is because of a change that was made in 2017 (which is expiring in December).	Amy Matsui	amatsui@nwlc.org
Republicans say the rich already pay a disproportionate amount of taxes with figures that prove it-how to counter?	We can counter it by showing that the top is paying a historically low level of tax, and we can make other choices so we can have the public dollars to invest in people and communities.	Amy Matsui	amatsui@nwlc.org

Given the immense costs of tax cuts to much-needed revenues, what messaging do you recommend for proposals focused on making ends meet - not only the CTC, but caregiver tax credits, housing tax supports, etc.? When/how do we determine that no tax bill is a good bill?	I think we should push for the policies that we know would make a difference for families — a fully refundable CTC, public investments in child care, paid family and medical leave, and home- and community-based services, etc. If there are smaller proposals in this tax bill, they should get an extremely careful look to see what help they actually offer to families AND if there are any problematic aspects of the proposals. And then folks can weigh that, against the overall cost of the tax bill, both in terms of lost revenues and in terms of the cuts to funding and benefits.	Amy Matsui	amatsui@nwlc.org
Can you speak to any specifics on how the tax cuts would impact people with disabilities, if any?	If the Republicans cut SNAP and Medicaid in order to reduce the costs of the tax cuts, and then if the cost of the tax cuts is used to justify cutting federal spending, that would directly impact the health, economic security and well-being of people with disabilities. There might also be specific tax policy proposals that affect people with disabilities.	Amy Matsui	amatsui@nwlc.org
Is there a free resource that can help families make sure they qualify for all cuts or breaks available ?	There is a great tool that not helps people in some states file their taxes directly with the IRS plus make sure they qualify: <a href="https://directfile.irs.gov/">https://directfile.irs.gov/</a> .	"Meredith Dods	mdodson@chn.org
Is there a free resource that can help families make sure they qualify for all cuts or breaks available ?	<a href="https://www.irs.gov/credits-and-deductions-for-individuals">and this guide helps taxpayers see what credits they claim: https://www.irs.gov/credits-and-deductions-for-individuals.</a>	"Meredith Dods	mdodson@chn.org
What does make it "toxic" mean? Is this about messaging?	It's both about messaging and public awareness. People understand the tax code is not fair, and that billionaires don't need more tax cuts. And then we need people to weigh in with their representatives to let them know they don't support more tax cuts at the top at families' expense.	Amy Matsui	amatsui@nwlc.org
Can you talk a little bit about the limits to what can be included in a reconciliation package.	If we don't have time to answer this live, here is a great explainer: <a href="https://www.americanprogress.org/article/how-does-budget-reconciliation-work/">https://www.americanprogress.org/article/how-does-budget-reconciliation-work/</a> .	"Meredith Dods	mdodson@chn.org
Can you talk a little bit about the limits to what can be included in a reconciliation package.	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/Hdt5wGAOSCTA2qWF9Y5Yw3L7YudbgDGXWpWxtuu61-FQML3SM3jObh81lawR63ejKhYPnfbn643GhgH8.PJusSXysbKQoQcYe?canPlayFromShare=true&amp;from=share_recording_detail&amp;startTime=1734022838000&amp;componentName=rec-play&amp;originRequestUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fus02web.zoom.us%2Frec%2Fshare%2FcdLIInqyOp_HdVUAQnw4dFiaHDly9mJJQ5yYQf5MyKjT369-bfD0vG5Acgw9QW9Zp.AbXX94eanSM6NsRo%3FstartTime%3D1734022838000">And here is a recording of a webinar we hosted on this last month: https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/Hdt5wGAOSCTA2qWF9Y5Yw3L7YudbgDGXWpWxtuu61-FQML3SM3jObh81lawR63ejKhYPnfbn643GhgH8.PJusSXysbKQoQcYe?canPlayFromShare=true&amp;from=share_recording_detail&amp;startTime=1734022838000&amp;componentName=rec-play&amp;originRequestUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fus02web.zoom.us%2Frec%2Fshare%2FcdLIInqyOp_HdVUAQnw4dFiaHDly9mJJQ5yYQf5MyKjT369-bfD0vG5Acgw9QW9Zp.AbXX94eanSM6NsRo%3FstartTime%3D1734022838000</a>	"Meredith Dods	mdodson@chn.org
How do you recommend people in very blue states talk with our delegation about this? (i.e., they already agree with us)	Some thoughts: urge them to speak out publicly and repeatedly -- use their bully pulpit. And, engage other friends and family in other places. And, some legislation including annual spending bills -- also known as "appropriations", and the Farm Bill (key for food assistance), require bipartisan support/60 votes in the Senate. So Democrats have some leverage.	"Meredith Dods	mdodson@chn.org
I assume all these links just posted will be in follow up email too. Can't save chat on iPad	Correct- no worries, it will be sent in a follow-up email.	Admin CHN	admin@chn.org
If all of your representatives in Congress are Democrats, then how can you push back effectively on the GOP agenda??	Some thoughts: urge them to speak out publicly and repeatedly -- use their bully pulpit. And, engage other friends and family in other places.	"Meredith Dods	mdodson@chn.org
If all of your representatives in Congress are Democrats, then how can you push back effectively on the GOP agenda??	And some legislation including annual spending bills -- also known as "appropriations", and the Farm Bill (key for food assistance), require bipartisan support/60 votes in the Senate. So Democrats have some leverage.	"Meredith Dods	mdodson@chn.org
are there any movements amongst those with wealth to push against tax cuts and be poverty abolitionists (as desmond, author of poverty by america would say)?	<a href="https://patrioticmillionaires.org/">This group engages people with wealth to push against tax cuts for the rich: https://patrioticmillionaires.org/ (less focused on poverty)</a>	"Meredith Dods	mdodson@chn.org