



Guest Opinion: Worried About How Tax Cuts Will Harm Low-Income Iowans

By The Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer

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Dear Rep. Miller-Meeks,

I'm a Presbyterian pastor in Davenport, writing as a person of faith — not on behalf of any organization. I have a simple but urgent question: Do you believe healthcare is a basic human right, or a privilege for those who can afford it?

I'm deeply concerned about how the Trump tax cuts will harm low-income Iowans. These policies benefit the wealthiest while putting programs like Medicaid at risk. Many of your constituents — some of whom are among the 700-vote margin that secured your election — depend on these programs. Vulnerable Iowans will lose their healthcare, forcing many deeper into poverty and medical debt.

Medical debt is a leading cause of bankruptcy, impacting not only families but the broader economy. It reduces consumer spending, hurts small businesses, and increases reliance on costly emergency care. Combined with the tariffs you've supported, these tax cuts contributed to the downgrading of America's credit rating and risk a full-blown recession ... all on your watch.

What's worse, these tax cuts don't pay for themselves. They inflate the deficit while offering little to working-class Iowans. It's immoral to give more to those who have the most while taking from those with the least.

As followers of Jesus, we're called to care for "the least of these:" the sick, the poor, the vulnerable. Any policy that drives low-income citizens further into poverty is not just bad economics, it's bad morality.

I urge you to consider the human cost and represent the health and dignity of every Iowan.

Peace, Love and God Bless,

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