



**THE SILVER STATE AFFORDABILITY CRISIS:**

**TRUMP AND REPUBLICANS IGNORE  
SKYROCKETING COSTS, RIPPING AWAY HELP  
FROM NEVADA FAMILIES AS AFFORDABILITY  
CRISIS DEEPENS**



**DEFEND AMERICA**  
*ACTION*



***THE SILVER STATE AFFORDABILITY CRISIS:***

***Trump and Republicans Ignore Skyrocketing Costs, Ripping Away Help From Nevada Families As Affordability Crisis Deepens***

One year into Donald Trump's second term in the White House, his destructive policies have ripped away Nevadans' economic security. Trump's agenda is hurting the local economy in all areas, from his disastrous tariff regime to massive cuts to government funding, and the Trump-GOP Big, Ugly Bill, stoking a dire affordability crisis in the state.

Inflation and the cost of living are the top concerns for most Nevada residents – and for good reason. The state ranks 49th in affordability, food prices are 20 percent higher than the rest of the country, and utility bills are set to spike as a new demand surcharge takes effect in the spring. With more than half of Nevada renters cost-burdened and home sales dropping to their lowest levels since the Great Recession last year, housing is in crisis. Ranchers and cafe owners alike are sounding the alarm about tariff-caused disruptions, higher costs, and health care premium hikes. Trump has jeopardized hundreds of millions in Nevada energy investments and has ripped away hundreds of millions of dollars in federal funding for health care and food aid. To make matters worse, more than 100,000 locals stand to lose their health care as a result of the Trump-GOP budget.

Throughout Trump's second term, the President and Republicans in Congress have worked in lock-step to reward their rich and powerful friends at the expense of everyone else. They are obliterating the economic security of millions across the country, and working families are the ones paying the price.

That is why sagebrush state leaders like ourselves are coming together to highlight what President Trump has done to hurt Nevada families across our great state and to fight back against this reckless administration. We hope you will join us in standing up to Trump and his agenda, which is skyrocketing costs across the Silver State.

Signed,

Senator Marilyn Dondero Loop, District 5  
Senator Julie Pazina, District 12  
Senator Edgar Flores, District 2  
Senator Fabian Donate, District 10

Assemblymember Howard Watts, District 15  
Assemblymember Erica Mosca, District 14  
Assemblymember David Orentlicher, District 20  
Assemblymember Selena La Rue Hatch, District

- **COST-OF-LIVING IS NEVADAN'S TOP CONCERN:** Nevada residents are [facing](#) high prices [due to Trump's economic policies](#), and a recent poll [found](#) that **the economy is Nevada voters' top concern**. Nearly two-thirds of Americans say Trump has [not gone far enough](#) in trying to reduce the price of everyday goods, and a majority say that Trump's policies have worsened economic conditions. According to a recent [report](#) ranking states on family-rearing, **Nevada ranks 49th in affordability and 50th in socio-economics**. The Secretary Treasurer of Nevada's largest union, the Culinary Workers Union, which represents 60,000 hospitality workers based in Las Vegas, [said](#) "concerns about the economy have gotten worse" since Trump took office. In the first year of Trump's second term, **Nevadans paid an average of \$1,565 more in [goods and services](#)**. **Trump's tariffs have [cost](#) Nevada households an average of \$941**.
- **FOOD COSTS ARE UP:** Food costs are [rising](#) nationwide thanks to Donald Trump's tariffs and America-last trade policies – [especially in Nevada](#). Nevada is now **among the top 10 states most cost-burdened by groceries**, meaning household incomes in Nevada are [not keeping up](#) with rising grocery prices in the state. **Nevada households are spending nearly 12 percent of their incomes on [groceries](#)**. The average Nevada household [spends](#) \$9,310 a year (around \$775 monthly) on groceries – **nearly 20 percent higher than the national average**, even though the median household income in Nevada is slightly below the national average.
- **WITH TOURISM DOWN AND TARIFFS UP, NEVADA SMALL BUSINESSES ARE SUFFERING:** Trump's tariffs are [disproportionately hurting](#) Nevada's small businesses, especially those that rely on tourism. Nevada's economy is heavily reliant on tourism, which brings in [around 40 percent](#) of Nevada's GDP and [supports](#) roughly 1 in 3 jobs in the state. **Trump's tariffs have caused Las Vegas tourism to [drop 11 percent](#)** in year-over-year visitor volume. The Trump administration's proposed restrictions on foreign travel [threaten](#) to further hamper Las Vegas tourism in 2026.
  - **Nevada's small businesses, from ranches to breweries, have been hurt by Trump's economic policies.** The state is [home](#) to **over 330,000 small businesses**. Nevada ranchers have been [hit hard](#) by Trump's chaotic trade policies on beef, and have [pushed back](#) against his plans to increase imports from Argentina. Small farms and food businesses in Nevada [lost \\$3 million](#) in USDA support in 2025 thanks to Trump's budget cuts. Coffee roasters and wholesalers in Nevada have had to [raise prices](#) to offset Trump's tariffs. The co-owner of a Hispanic-owned brewery in Las Vegas [told reporters](#) it was a "very slow, scary

summer” as a result of Trump’s tariffs spiking canning prices and the cost of living.

- A survey conducted by the U.S. Hispanic Business Council [found](#) that **over a third of Hispanic business owners in Nevada rated their current economic situation as “impossible” or “struggling,”** while nearly a majority reported merely “surviving,” and just 16 percent said they were “thriving.” The President of Nevada’s Latin Chamber of Commerce [said](#) that local companies are concerned about high prices and slowing tourism: “Inflation’s got to come down...cost of goods and services — we rely heavily on construction here, and if it costs too much, then we’re not going to have construction and that’s going to have devastating effects on the rest of the economy.”
- **NEVADA HEALTH CARE COSTS ARE UP THANKS TO TRUMP & REPUBLICANS:** The Trump-GOP Big, Ugly Bill [cuts](#) \$1 trillion from Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act (ACA). More than **100,000 Nevadans** [stand to lose](#) their health care because of Trump and Republicans’ deep health care cuts.
  - **Nevada hospitals are estimated to [lose \\$232 million a year due to Medicaid cuts alone.](#)** The state [recently received](#) a rural health care grant from the Trump administration, but it [falls far short](#) of covering the \$553 million state funding gap created by the Trump-GOP bill and leaves Nevada hospitals scrambling to come up with tens of millions of dollars.
  - The Trump-GOP plan to rip away ACA tax credits will hit Nevada's small businesses [especially hard](#). **Over 22,000 small business owners** in the state [rely](#) on the ACA for coverage – **1 in 5** ACA enrollees in Nevada. 87 percent of small business owners [reportedly](#) wanted Congress to permanently extend ACA tax credits.
- **HOUSING CRUNCH:** Nevada [ranks](#) 44th in the country for housing affordability. **More than half of Nevada renters and nearly a quarter of homeowners are cost-burdened.** Nevada [ranks second-highest](#) among cost-burdened renters, behind only Florida, and ranks fifth in cost-burdened homeowners. In Southern Nevada, [record numbers](#) of families are being priced out of homeownership.
  - **Homebuilders and homebuyers are [among the most impacted by Trump’s tariffs.](#)** Trump’s tariffs on building materials are expected to [increase](#) the price of a new home in Nevada by about \$9,200. As a [result](#), **2025 was the worst year for home sales in Southern Nevada in nearly two decades.**

- **ENERGY COSTS SKYROCKETING:** Trump’s war in Iran is causing **gas prices to skyrocket in Nevada**. Nevada drivers are paying an average of [\\$4.67 a gallon](#) at the pump as of Mar. 19, **up 28%** from the statewide average last month. Since Trump took office in January, residential electric bills are [up over 17 percent](#) nationwide, meaning the cost of household utilities is rising nearly *five times* faster than inflation overall. Locally, Climate Power [estimates](#) that electricity bills in Nevada are **rising by around \$36 annually**. In April, NV Energy – which [serves around 90 percent](#) of the state’s electricity needs – will [implement](#) the nation’s first [mandatory demand charge](#), which will spike costs when [demand is high](#), like during summer heat waves, and will **add approximately \$20 per month for the average Nevada customer**.
- **JOB LOSSES & LOST INVESTMENT:** Trump has **threatened hundreds of millions of dollars in Nevada energy investments**, [cancelling, delaying, and forcing layoffs at energy-related projects](#) amounting to [over \\$200 million](#) in funding for the state.
- **HELP RIPPED AWAY:** Trump’s budget cuts are **ripping away vital assistance** for health care, food, and more from hundreds of thousands of Nevadans.
  - Thanks to Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress, Nevadans who buy health insurance on their own through the Affordable Care Act are [facing](#) an **average premium increase of 26 percent** for 2026. **Nearly 100,000 people across the state** are seeing their coverage costs [at least double on average](#) this year.
  - Trump and Republicans in Congress [cut \\$187 billion](#) in food assistance, which [helps](#) give nearly 505,500 Nevadans access to food. These cuts [leave an estimated 46,000 Nevada families at risk of losing their food aid](#) and will leave Nevada [without](#) \$336 million in annual federal funds – a 31 percent reduction.