

## How the Default on America Act Threatens Public Safety

The GOP Default on America Act's 22% [spending cut](#) would slash nearly **\$17 billion** in funding for federal law enforcement, courts, and prisons that support public safety. Republicans are gambling with Americans' safety by threatening to not raise the debt limit.

### **After attacking Democrats for “defunding the police,” this bill cuts the Department of Justice’s budget by over \$8 billion and threatens nearly 30,000 law enforcement jobs**

- The DOA Act cuts nearly \$1 billion in grants for state, local, and tribal law enforcement.
  - This includes \$150 million in cuts to programs created by the Violence Against Women Act, which will especially harm women in [Native](#) communities.
- The bill cuts \$1 billion in FBI funding that the agency uses to conduct background checks, solve violent crimes, and combat terrorism.
- It eliminates \$564 million in funding for the Drug Enforcement Administration, and \$384 million more from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

### **After endless rhetoric about the border, the GOP plan guts funding for border security**

- The bill cuts over \$3.8 billion in funding for U.S. Customs and Border Protection and almost \$2 billion from U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement.
- The DOA would reject President Biden's \$4.7 billion proposed [investment](#) to strengthen security at the Southwestern Border.
- This plan shrinks investments in the science and technology that make the Department of Homeland Security more effective by almost \$200 million.

### **Shrinking support programs for vulnerable Americans makes the root economic causes of crime worse, not better**

- The DOA would restrict access to Medicaid, which one study found [reduced](#) annual crime by 3.3% after state expansions, saving localities \$13 billion per year.
- Cuts to the Housing Choice Voucher program would also worsen public safety, as one [study](#) found that housing assistance made people experiencing homelessness 80% less likely to commit a crime.
- An [analysis](#) of the Supplemental Security Income program shows that young adults who lose benefits were 60% more likely to become incarcerated in the next 20 years.

### **Cutting federal programs that help people transition back into society after they get out of prison makes it harder for them to get jobs and regain stability**

- The DOA would cut the Bureau of Prisons' [Occupational Education Program](#), which provide incarcerated people with employment training and skills to use upon release.
- The plan would threaten programs created under the bipartisan [First Step Act](#) aimed at reducing recidivism for incarcerated people.