

THE LOOMING CRISIS FOR CORRECTIONS

HOW FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS WILL HURT CORRECTIONS WORKERS

AFSCME corrections officers and corrections workers put their lives on the line to keep our communities safe. Now, as anti-union extremists are proposing devastating cuts to the federal budget to pay for billionaire tax cuts, our corrections workers are in even more danger.

THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF FEDERAL BUDGET CUTS WILL DEVASTATE CORRECTIONS

For every \$10 spent on corrections in our states, about 90 cents comes from the federal government. While the loss of that funding would have serious consequences for corrections workers, even more harmful will be the loss of money that comes from states if anti-union extremists get their way.

More than 80% of spending on corrections comes from the states themselves. Federal budget cuts will leave huge holes in state budgets, since states receive on average 30% (and up to 50%) of their money from the federal government.

Those state budget shortfalls will lead to:

- **Potential layoffs of corrections officers**
- **Potential layoffs of corrections workers like nurses, counselors and others**
- **A worsening staffing crisis and more dangerous workplaces**
- **Weaker contracts for corrections workers**

WIDER CONSEQUENCES

Reckless federal budget cuts will make corrections work even harder, prevent the rehabilitation of offenders, and harm our communities.

The loss of federal and state funding will mean less investment in corrections jobs that offer competitive wages and benefits. This will lead to more vacancies and a more severe staffing crisis in our prisons, even as corrections workers are being asked to do more.

Even before Congress begins making budget cuts, the current administration has already started cutting off existing Department of Justice grants that support the work of corrections officers and corrections workers, as well as other public safety workers.

And just as bad, cuts to federal agencies like the Department of Labor, which runs vocational programs for incarcerated individuals, or cuts to the Department of Health and Human Services, which provides health care for offenders reentering the community, will all lead to a cycle of recidivism, placing a greater burden on corrections staff.

WE MUST GET ACTIVE TO STOP THESE ATTACKS ON CORRECTIONS.

If we want to stop these attacks on corrections professionals, we need to Get Organized. That means going to a union meeting. It means engaging your co-workers and getting them involved. And it means signing up for PEOPLE or becoming a PEOPLE MVP.

**The bigger we are, the more power we
have to say working people shouldn't
just get by – we demand to thrive.**



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