

JUL 02 2025

Edwards,Michelle

CITY CLERK

**From:** Sakbun,Brandon  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 2, 2025 9:43 AM  
**To:** Nation,Todd; Boland,Tammy; Loudermilk,Cheryl; Chalos,James; Hinton,Kandace; Dinkel,Anthony; Thompson,Amanda; DeBaun,Curtis; Azar, George  
**Cc:** Barrett,Kevin; Scott,Darrick; Umbaugh,Jay; Sanders,Lance; Marvel,Jordan; Thome,Jessica; Maurer,Marcus; Edwards,Michelle  
**Subject:** One Big Beautiful Bill Direct Impacts to Local Public Safety  
**Importance:** High

All,

I write to you with grave concern after the Senate amendments to the "One Big Beautiful Bill."

Please consider writing our congressman and senators about the following issues.

According to independent analysis:

1. Eliminates the COPS Hiring Program, which previously provided ~\$324 million in FY 2024 to fund officer recruitment, training, and retention—now cut entirely.
2. Dismantles the COPS Office entirely—no more tribal or community policing support, technical assistance, or program funding (~\$500 million).
3. Cuts DOJ community programs, including civil-rights oversight, diversion initiatives, and behavioral crisis grants—a \$180 million loss.

What does this mean for THPD?

1. Expect fewer federal grants for local police training, community engagement, opioid/prevention efforts, hiring, and modernization projects.
2. Federal support will pivot toward border and immigration enforcement rather than neighborhood policing.
3. Many departments will need to offset losses via local budgets, reallocations, or state grants—potentially straining municipal finances.

From a THFD perspective:

1. Cutting Supplemental Payments: The bill would eliminate or dramatically restrict enhanced Medicaid funding mechanisms, including the supplemental and directed payments that help EMS, rural hospitals, and other providers cover costs beyond standard Medicaid rates.
2. Provider Tax Cap: It also lowers the cap for provider taxes (a key source of supplemental Medicaid funding) from 6% to 3.5% in expansion states—reducing state flexibility to raise additional money matched by federal funds.
3. Certification from Experts: EMS advocates are warning that "local governments may have to pay to maintain current EMS service levels" if these enhanced payments disappear

What does this mean for THFD?

1. Ambulances will face LOWER reimbursements which jeopardizes our EMS N/R fund.

2. Expect a substantial increase on the fee for the few (less than 20%) private insurance ambulance runs

Some other concerns include:

Elimination of CBDG funding, HOME Investment funding, and reduction in Section 8 housing funds. This would cripple our TH Redevelopment Department and lead to a mandatory reduction from 5 staff to maybe 3. Nonprofits like Reach Services and Ryves Hall will also be under pressure for survival.

Elimination of discretionary grants from the DOT due to spending caps. This includes the RASIE Grant, Safe Streets for All Grant, and Rural Pilot Program grant. All of which we have applied for.

I will brief these in detail at the July 10<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting.



**Brandon Sakbun**

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