

Budd Supports Republicans' Skin-and-Bones Plan

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If you want to siphon off money from the poorest Americans to the richest 1%, you need a pro. So, when Republicans [picked Florida Senator Rick Scott](#) to head their Senate Campaign Committee, his history [overseeing the largest Medicare/Medicaid fraud in history](#) wasn't a bug, it was a feature.

In 1994, Scott was CEO of [the world's largest healthcare company](#). Under his leadership, it [falsified patient records and inflated Medicare/Medicaid billings](#). When the Justice Department uncovered the fraud, Columbia/HCA [pleaded guilty to 14 felonies](#), coughed up \$1.7 billion ([the largest fine ever paid until then](#)) and [forced Scott to resign](#).

Scott brought his particular set of skills to his new assignment and created what I call Republicans' "Skin-and-Bones Plan." Unless they pass it, Scott wrote, ["Republicans don't deserve to govern."](#)

The "Skin" part [hikes taxes](#) on working families' income and seniors' currently exempt Social Security benefits. Scott says even combat soldiers need more ["skin in the game"](#) so he wants to tax what we pay them to fight and die for us! Seriously?

The "Bones" part defunds police, firefighters and teachers by [ending federal support for state and local governments](#). It [sunsets every federal program in five years unless Congress restores them](#). You can kiss Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid goodbye if Republicans win after campaigning on Scott's plan to end them.

[Because Republicans are campaigning on it](#). RNC Chairwoman Ronna McDaniel and Senators Marco Rubio, Ron Johnson, Joni Ernst, Mike Braun, and Tommy Tuberville endorsed it. So did [North Carolina Republican senate candidate Ted Budd](#). Are you paying attention, North Carolina? Don't say you weren't warned.

Democrats brought us [Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid](#). and the Affordable Care Act. [Republicans have wanted to end them for years](#). If they win in November, they'll do what they've always done: give rich donors more tax breaks, and leave the rest of us "Skin-and-Bones."

Michael P. Rush
Leland