The U.S. House of Representatives just passed a massive bill that puts our students and schools at risk by taking resources from states and working families to pay for permanent tax breaks for corporations and billionaires.

The biggest target in the legislation is Medicaid funding, which is the fourth-largest federal funding source for schools. Medicaid helps to fund school-based health staff who support all students, and ensures that students with disabilities get the support they need to achieve their academic potential.

The legislation also decreases funding to reduce air pollution at schools and for school meals. It undermines our public schools, which educate 90 percent of students, by diverting critical funding to private schools via a voucher tax scheme that doubles as a tax shelter for the wealthy. It hurts higher education students by increasing costs for them and their families, while decreasing protections for students that ensure their time and money are providing them with a high-quality higher education.

More broadly, the cuts to state resources will force our state to cut education, libraries and other public services or to raise taxes. Medicaid, for example, provides more than half of federal funding to states. All of this to primarily pay for tax cuts for the super wealthy.

I urge our senators to speak up for public schools and Medicaid and vote against this budget reconciliation bill.