

U.S. Senator

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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July 25, 2012

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## **Harkin Report Details National, State-by-State Impact of Sequestration on Education, Health, and Labor Programs**

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA), Chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education, and Related Agencies, today released the first comprehensive report on the potential impact of sequestration on dozens of education, health and labor programs under the subcommittee's jurisdiction. The report provides national and state-by-state estimates of the number of jobs that could be lost and the number of individuals who could be affected by cuts in services if sequestration went into effect on Jan. 2, 2013.

"Some members of Congress warn that defense contracting firms will lay off employees if sequestration goes into effect. They say nothing of the tens of thousands of teachers, police officers and other public servants in communities all across America who would also lose their jobs. A laid-off teacher is just as unemployed as a laid-off defense contractor," **said Chairman Harkin.** "This report proves why we need a balanced approach to deficit reduction that not only prevents sequestration, but protects America's families."

### **Among the highlights of the report:**

\* States and local communities would lose \$2.7 billion in federal funding for just three critical education programs alone -- Title I, special education State grants, and Head Start -- that serve a combined 30.7 million children. Nationwide, these cuts would force roughly 46,000 employees to either lose their jobs or rely on cash-strapped states and localities to pick up their salaries instead.

\* In health, approximately 660,000 fewer people would be tested for HIV, 49,000 fewer women would be screened for cancer, and 212,000 fewer children would be vaccinated.

\* At a time when the unemployment rate is still above 8 percent, 1.6 million fewer adults, dislocated workers and at-risk youth would receive job training, education and employment services; and the families of 80,000 fewer children would receive child care subsidies, making it harder for parents to find work.

The report is online, and most of the data are available on a state-by-state basis. For example, you can click on Iowa and see that sequestration would result in about 4,700 fewer people being admitted to substance abuse treatment programs and 500 fewer veterans receiving job assistance.

**Harkin's report, "Under Threat: Sequestration's Impact on Nondefense Jobs and Services," can be found [here](#).**

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