

ABC's *Good Morning America*

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[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: President's Tax & Spending Bill Facing Backlash]

ROBIN ROBERTS: Now to a Republican lawmaker facing backlash at a town hall over the President's tax and spending bill after a new estimate found it will add more than \$4 trillion to the nation's debt. Our chief White House correspondent Mary Bruce is tracking the latest. Good morning, Mary.

MARY BRUCE: Good morning to you, Robin. Well, this was a tense and chaotic scene. Congressman Mike Flood, like other Republicans, is back in his home district, and trying to tout President Trump's agenda. But last night in Lincoln, Nebraska, the crowd was not buying it. They were frustrated and furious and did not hold back. Overnight, Congressman Mike Flood facing a barrage of push back as he tries to sell his constituents on President Trump's agenda.

CROWD: Vote him out! Vote him out!

BRUCE: The Nebraska Republican getting an earful for his support of Trump's massive tax and spending bill.

CONGRESSMAN MIKE FLOOD (R-NE): There's been a lot of misinformation out there about the bill. [CROWD BOOS]

BRUCE: Flood attempting to walk the audience through the health care provisions in the bill, but the crowd interrupting and jeering him.

FLOOD: I can tell you we're going to see an influx of money into Nebraska hospitals. [CROWD BOOS]

BRUCE: One constituent calling for calm.

LEFTIST QUESTIONER AT FLOOD TOWN HALL: I implore you to be quiet so that we can hear his responses. Remember, Mike's coming up for re-election and we'd really like to know what his responses are.

BRUCE: The bill, the cornerstone of Trump's agenda, is projected to cost more than 10 million Americans to lose their health care coverage over the next decade due to its cuts to Medicaid.

FLOOD: If you choose not to work, you do not get free health care. [CROWD BOOS] You do not get free health care. [CROWD BOOS]

BRUCE: A new analysis by the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office now estimates the

legislation will add more than \$4 trillion to the national debt over the next decade, up from the previous estimate of \$3.4 trillion. The increase due in part to the roughly \$4 trillion in tax cuts, mostly for the wealthiest Americans included in the final bill.

CROWD: Tax the rich! Tax the rich!

BRUCE: But it wasn't just the legislation sparking outrage. One man pointing to the January 6 attack on the Capitol and Trump's pardon of more than 1,500 people involved.

LIBERAL QUESTIONER AT FLOOD TOWN HALL: You said in Seward you are not a fascist. Your actions state otherwise. [CROWD CHEERS] Have you ever spoken out against this administration?

[SCREEN WIPE]

[CROWD BOOS]

FLOOD: Sir, I want to be very clear with you. [SCREEN WIPE] Give me a chance to answer the question, I'd be happy to. Fascists don't hold town halls with open question and answer series. [CROWD BOOS]

BRUCE: Now, the congressman was pressed on everything from the controversy over Jeffrey Epstein to the President's firing of the top official in charge of the jobs report and cuts to the education department. Now, after a contentious 90 minutes, that town hall ending with chants of "vote him out." George?

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS: Mary Bruce, thanks.