



## **President Trump's Fiscal Year 2018 Budget: Another Broken Promise to Working People, Students, and Families**

On May 23, 2017, the Trump Administration released a Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) Proposed Budget that prioritizes tax cuts for the wealthy over children, students, workers, and older Americans. It includes a \$57 billion cut to non-defense spending and sizable reductions to most federal agencies. President Trump proposes significant cuts to funding at the Department of Education (ED), Health and Human Services (HHS), Department of Labor (DOL), and Agriculture (USDA), and eliminates select independent agencies altogether which support education, job training through community service, and workplace safety.

### **EDUCATION**

President Trump and Secretary DeVos' budget proposes a 13.5 percent cut to ED, totaling more than \$9 billion in cuts. The President's proposal undermines early learning, implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), and higher education. The budget diverts federal dollars toward private school vouchers and slashes investments in critical programs that support high-need students. Additionally, President Trump proposes to make college less affordable for working families by eliminating the subsidy on undergraduate federal student loans, and cutting financial aid and support programs for low-income students. President Trump's budget:

- Eliminates Preschool Development Grants to states;
- Uses \$270 million to fund private school vouchers through the Education Innovation and Research (EIR) program authorized in ESSA, despite vouchers being debated and rejected by Congress during consideration of ESSA;
- Cuts \$578 million in Title I-A to support services for disadvantaged students, resulting in dramatically reduced funding allocations to high poverty school districts;
- Directs \$1 billion in Title I to a new competitive grant authority not contemplated by Congress in ESSA and designed to advance the DeVos education agenda;
- Reduces IDEA funding by \$113 million, jeopardizing special education services for students with disabilities;
- Eliminates funding for Special Olympics Education programs;
- Eliminates Title II-A of ESSA, which provides federal funding for teacher supports and class size reduction;
- Eliminates Title IV-A of ESSA, which provides funding for STEM, arts education, and student health and safety;
- Eliminates Title IV-B of ESSA, which provides funding for afterschool programs serving low-income students and families;
- Eliminates or reduces more than 20 additional programs including the Striving Readers literacy program and Impact Aid which supports school districts with federally-connected students;
- Cuts Perkins Career and Technical Education (CTE) program funding by 15%;
- Cuts more than \$250 million for TRIO and GEAR UP, programs that support first generation college students through outreach to low-income and minority middle and high school students;

- Slashes almost \$4 billion from the Pell Grant program reserve, funding that makes college affordable for low-income students;
- Eliminates the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, which attracts our nation's best and brightest talent to public service;
- Eliminates the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant program that targets campus-based financial aid to college students with demonstrated need;
- Costs student borrowers \$39 billion in additional interest charges over the next ten years by eliminating the subsidy on undergraduate federal student loans; and
- Dramatically reduces the federal investment in the Federal Work Study programs which helps make college more affordable for low-income students.

## **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

President Trump's budget includes deep cuts to programs that support healthy communities and achieve quality, affordable care for all Americans. The budget:

- Fails to provide the investments included in the 2016 bipartisan reauthorization of the Older Americans Act;
- Eliminates the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) which helps low-income families with the cost of home heating and cooling;
- Eliminates the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) which supports community action agencies and other non-profits in their efforts to reduce poverty in their communities;
- Cuts the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health by 40 percent, which will eliminate research and training in high hazard industries such as construction, agriculture, fishing and forestry;
- Includes \$250 billion in savings over ten years on an unspecified Affordable Care Act repeal and replacement proposal;
- Reduces funding for Child Care and Development Block Grant program (CCDBG) by \$95 million. CCDBG, an already cash-strapped program, provides child care subsidies to low-income families—nationwide, 8.6 million children are eligible, but the program only serves 1.5 million; and
- Cuts funding for the Head Start program by \$85 million, which helps low-income children under 5 receive health, education, and social services.

## **LABOR**

President Trump proposes a 20 percent cut to the DOL, reducing the Department's current \$12.1 billion discretionary funding by \$2.4 billion. This budget will undermine the President's commitment to get working people back on the job by cutting federal funding for critical training programs that help workers who are out of work get the skills they need for the good paying jobs of today and tomorrow. The budget:

- Reduces support for federal job training by 40% for adults, dislocated workers and youth, and shifts these costs to the states, while retaining assistance to states for apprenticeships;
- Ends the Senior Community Service and Employment Program, a community service and work-based job training program for older Americans;
- Closes some Job Corps Centers, diminishing the number of youth served through Job Corps' comprehensive career development program for at-risk youth;
- Eliminates funding to counter the worst forms of child labor through the Bureau of International and Labor Affairs;
- Eliminates \$11 million in OSHA safety training grants for high hazard industries;

- Transfers the DOL's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs into the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, resulting in a combined agency with mismatched missions and reduced effectiveness;
- Leaves workers vulnerable to disease and injury on the job by underinvesting in critical worker protection agencies such as OSHA and MSHA;
- Cuts funding for the National Labor Relations Board by 8%, which slows the resolution of labor disputes and unfair labor practices; and
- Proposes a misguided paid family leave program for new parents that overburdens the strained unemployment insurance system, leaves out 75% of those who need to be covered, and falls short of the standards for paid leave set out in existing state paid leave laws and pending federal legislation.

## **AGRICULTURE**

Child nutrition programs serve to ensure that children have access to healthy and nutritious meals in school, during the summer and in child care settings. Unfortunately, the Trump budget fails to acknowledge how other federal nutrition programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, complement child nutrition programs by reducing paperwork burdens on schools and families. While the Trump budget provides \$6.15 billion for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), at the same time, the budget:

- Drastically cuts funding for SNAP, which will have an immediate impact on the eligibility of students for school meal programs;
- Eliminates the WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program; and
- Eliminates the School Meal Equipment Grants.

## **INDEPENDENT AGENCIES**

President Trump proposes to completely eliminate 20 independent agencies within the federal government, including:

- The Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board which identifies the root cause of major industrial catastrophes;
- The Corporation for National and Community Service which provides grants to states and communities to support volunteerism, including the America Corps Program;
- The Institute of Museum and Library Services which is the primary source of federal support for 123,000 libraries and 35,000 museums;
- The National Endowment for the Arts which promotes equal access to the arts in every community across America;
- The National Endowment for the Humanities which provides funding for humanities research, preservation, digital development, education, endowment building, films, exhibitions, and public programming; and
- The Institute for Peace which helps the U.S. military to prevent and manage international conflicts to avoid violence and help stabilize international environments where American military and civilians are living and working.