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Speaker Ryan: Statement on President Trump's workforce development executive order

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WASHINGTON—Today, House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) issued the following statement in response to President Trump's executive order on workforce development and economic mobility:

"These actions taken by the president reaffirm that now is the time to face our poverty challenge head on—and it starts by developing our workforce.

"This is one of the best economic environments we've seen in years, yet businesses are having a hard time finding qualified workers. Combining work requirements with work supports is an effective strategy for helping Americans move from welfare into the labor force, as proven by states like Kansas and Maine. But that's just the start. We also need to ensure that we're measuring—and responding to—the effectiveness of programs so they best serve those they were designed for. We need to put families first, and give more power back to the states so they can adapt to their unique situations.

"Perhaps what's most important is that we prioritize empowering the individual, and ensure that the American Idea is available for anyone who wants to chase it. I look forward to continuing our work here in the House and with the Trump administration to get us one step closer to that reality."