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Trump Budget Would Harm Wisconsinites, Push Massive Costs onto Wisconsin

(Madison, WI) – President Trump’s budget slashes nutrition, health care, and other important assistance that helps hundreds of thousands of Wisconsin residents meet basic needs – food on the table, a roof over their heads, and access to health care – while giving new tax breaks to the powerful special interests who rig the system for their own benefit.

The budget unveiled today stands in stark contrast to the commitments the President made during his campaign to help those left behind by today’s economy. It would also shift massive costs to Wisconsin at a time when our state is already struggling to meet needs for education, transportation, and other services Wisconsin residents rely on.

For example, the President’s budget would:

- Slash the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as food stamps) by \$193 billion over ten years – targeting the elderly, working families, and workers struggling to find a job. In addition, his budget would shift to Wisconsin about \$250 million a year in the cost of SNAP benefits, which have been a longtime federal responsibility.
- Cut \$600 billion from Medicaid over ten years – on top of the already-massive cuts in Medicaid and subsidies for private coverage included in the House-passed bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act that President Trump supports and incorporates into his budget. Compared to the House bill, these additional cuts would further increase the number of uninsured Wisconsinites and would shift additional, significant Medicaid costs to Wisconsin, on top of the \$1 billion cost shift in the House health bill.
- Cut disability programs by \$72 billion, including Social Security Disability Insurance for workers with disabilities and their families, and Supplemental Security Income, which provides income assistance to poor individuals, including children, with disabilities. These cuts break the President’s promise not to cut Social Security.

- Deeply cut investments that expand opportunity and spur long-term economic growth, from job training to education to scientific research. The budget would slash funding for this part of the budget by \$54 billion in 2018 alone. These cuts would grow far deeper over the decade, climbing to more than 40 percent compared to 2017, after adjusting for inflation. The proposed cuts would take funding for this part of the budget to its lowest level since the Hoover Administration, as a share of the economy.

At the same time, the President is proposing massive tax cuts largely for the wealthy and corporations that would likely cost several trillion dollars over the coming decade, if honestly measured. The budget relies on unrealistic economic assumptions and gimmicks to hide that the President's tax cuts would dramatically increase deficits and debt.

As Congress prepares to advance its own budget plans, our delegation must not simply oppose the Trump budget. They must oppose any Congressional budget plan that follows the same architecture and slashes support for children and families. They must oppose cuts to assistance that helps hundreds of thousands of Wisconsinites achieve a basic living standard. They must oppose cuts to investments in long-run economic growth and basic public services. And, they must oppose massive tax cuts for special interests that rig the system for their own benefit.

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The Wisconsin Council on Children and Families is a multi-issue policy research and advocacy organization promoting statewide policies that ensure a safe and healthy future for every child in Wisconsin. For more information, visit www.wccf.org.