

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & ALABAMA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Alabama families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 696,000 Alabamans without health insurance, a 20% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Alabama workers are paying \$1,327 more to insure their families – a 77% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$464,896,376 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Alabama over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled.

Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 70,320 uninsured children in Alabama. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Alabama's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 48,866 children in Alabama will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 31,079 children in Alabama will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Alabama received \$5,116,189 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 16,374 children in Alabama and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$88,466,796 to Alabama from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$20,762,290 to Alabama from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Alabama's Veterans and Troops. There are 426,322 veterans in Alabama and 3,823 brave Alabamans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 36,100 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Alabama, with 79,900 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Alabama has dropped by \$3,808 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$50,205,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Alabama. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$8,784,000 in vocational education funding in Alabama, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Alabama's wealthiest one percent \$54,419 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 352,400 small businesses here in Alabama. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Alabama families out in the cold. Average costs for Alabamans to heat their homes this winter are up 61% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Alabama families by \$4,125,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-five cents in Alabama since January 2001, an increase of approximately 55 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 619,087 Alabamans would suffer an average \$6,490 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Alabama's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$4,420,000 in Alabama. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$11,517,000 in funding from Alabama's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$7,695,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Alabama with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$9,964,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Alabama, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Alabama families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & ALASKA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Alaska families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. Last year an estimated 117,000 Alaskans were without health insurance. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Alaska workers are paying \$930 more to insure their families – a 55% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$24,706,985 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Alaska over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 17,880 uninsured children in Alaska. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Alaska's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 9,192 children in Alaska will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 9,818 children in Alaska will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Alaska received \$1,681,535 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 1,725 children in Alaska and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$46,797,591 to Alaska from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$11,020,760 to Alaska from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Alaska's Veterans and Troops. There are 67,299 veterans in Alaska and 5,726 brave Alaskans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 2,300 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Alaska, with 23,400 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Alaska has dropped by \$3,658 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$18,956,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Alaska. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$1,751,000 in vocational education funding in Alaska, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Alaska's wealthiest one percent \$42,970 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 66,600 small businesses here in Alaska. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Alaska families out in the cold. Average costs for Alaskans to heat their homes this winter are up 38% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Alaska families by \$2,633,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by sixty-four cents in Alaska since January 2001, an increase of approximately 39 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 44,408 Alaskans would suffer an average \$6,429 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Alaska's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$2,366,000 in Alaska. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$2,428,000 in funding from Alaska's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$1,110,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Alaska with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$953,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Alaska, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Alaska families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & ARIZONA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Arizona families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 1,219,000 Arizonans without health insurance, a 40% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Arizona workers are paying \$616 more to insure their families – a 31% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$307,090,111 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Arizona over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled.

Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 270,870 uninsured children in Arizona. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Arizona's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 67,196 children in Arizona will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 39,442 children in Arizona will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Arizona received \$5,561,230 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 13,215 children in Arizona and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$98,602,731 to Arizona from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$22,859,630 to Arizona from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Arizona's Veterans and Troops. There are 555,224 veterans in Arizona and 3,756 brave Arizonans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 28,700 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Arizona, with 124,600 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] In Arizona, 874,000 people live below the poverty level – an increase of 262,000 since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$56,889,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Arizona. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$13,848,000 in vocational education funding in Arizona, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Arizona's wealthiest one percent \$70,858 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 449,600 small businesses here in Arizona. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Arizona families out in the cold. Average costs for Arizonans to heat their homes this winter are up 38% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Arizona families by \$1,995,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-eight cents in Arizona since January 2001, an increase of approximately 53 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 621,922 Arizonans would suffer an average \$6,895 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Arizona's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$2,670,000 in Arizona. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$5,128,000 in funding from Arizona's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$9,542,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Arizona with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$10,911,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Arizona, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

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Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 494,000 Arkansans without health insurance, a 30% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Arkansas workers are paying \$937 more to insure their families – a 53% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$259,634,782 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Arkansas over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 67,690 uninsured children in Arkansas. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Arkansas' Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 29,540 children in Arkansas will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 19,602 children in Arkansas will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Arkansas received \$3,197,966 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 10,942 children in Arkansas and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$67,254,701 to Arkansas from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$14,838,073 to Arkansas from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Arkansas' Veterans and Troops. There are 268,352 veterans in Arkansas and 2,599 brave Arkansans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 42,500 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Arkansas, with 71,000 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] In Arkansas, a staggering 397,000 people live below the federal poverty level. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$34,460,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Arkansas. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$5,875,000 in vocational education funding in Arkansas, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

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Leaves Arkansas families out in the cold. Average costs for Arkansans to heat their homes this winter are up 61% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Arkansas families by \$3,148,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-one cents in Arkansas since January 2001, an increase of approximately 51 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

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Cuts Funding for Arkansas' Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$2,586,000 in Arkansas. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$8,540,000 in funding from Arkansas' Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$4,660,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Arkansas with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$5,559,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Arkansas, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

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THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & CALIFORNIA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed California families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 6,961,000 Californians without health insurance, an 11% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, California workers are paying \$1,255 more to insure their families – an 81% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$2,462,720,506 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in California over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 1,380,800 uninsured children in California. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays California's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 421,277 children in California will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 271,523 children in California will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, California received \$41,539,958 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 98,432 children in California and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$429,646,815 to California from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$112,655,660 to California from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to California's Veterans and Troops. There are 2,310,967 veterans in California and 19,152 brave Californians currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 365,300 manufacturing jobs have been lost in California, with 865,300 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in California has dropped by \$777 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$522,695,000 in funding for job training and employment services in California. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$65,522,000 in vocational education funding in California, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving California's wealthiest one percent \$109,678 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 3,575,200 small businesses here in California. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves California families out in the cold. Average costs for Californians to heat their homes this winter are up 38% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for California families by \$22,127,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by \$1.22 in California since January 2001, an increase of approximately 85 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 3,088,379 Californians would suffer an average \$6,850 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for California's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$28,270,000 in California. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$56,007,000 in funding from California's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$60,668,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in California with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$94,526,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in California, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking California families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & COLORADO: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Colorado families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 788,000 Coloradans without health insurance, a 27% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Colorado workers are paying \$1,650 more to insure their families – a 107% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$261,719,066 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Colorado over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 176,230 uninsured children in Colorado. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Colorado's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 31,296 children in Colorado will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 20,267 children in Colorado will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Colorado received \$3,792,828 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 9,820 children in Colorado and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$88,508,658 to Colorado from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$22,392,512 to Colorado from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Colorado's Veterans and Troops. There are 427,957 veterans in Colorado and 2,933 brave Coloradans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 37,900 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Colorado, with 106,400 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Colorado has dropped by \$4,041 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$54,403,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Colorado. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$7,808,000 in vocational education funding in Colorado, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Colorado's wealthiest one percent \$81,453 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 534,300 small businesses here in Colorado. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Colorado families out in the cold. Average costs for Coloradans to heat their homes this winter are up 38% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Colorado families by \$7,715,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-one cents in Colorado since January 2001, an increase of approximately 49 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 400,029 Coloradans would suffer an average \$6,724 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Colorado's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$3,162,000 in Colorado. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$5,455,000 in funding from Colorado's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$7,781,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Colorado with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$7,705,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Colorado, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Colorado families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & CONNECTICUT: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Connecticut families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 394,000 people from Connecticut without health insurance, a 19% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Connecticut workers are paying \$1,147 more to insure their families – a 75% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$315,055,568 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Connecticut over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 72,480 uninsured children in Connecticut. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Connecticut's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 27,343 children in Connecticut will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 13,060 Connecticut children will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Connecticut received \$3,429,259 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 7,126 Connecticut children and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$81,257,248 to Connecticut from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$14,738,181 to Connecticut from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Connecticut's Veterans and Troops. There are 268,974 veterans in Connecticut and 1,910 brave Connecticut residents currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 41,200 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Connecticut, with 77,700 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Connecticut has dropped by \$1,180 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$35,604,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Connecticut. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$5,253,000 in vocational education funding in Connecticut, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Connecticut's wealthiest one percent \$191,911 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 341,400 small businesses here in Connecticut. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Connecticut families out in the cold. Average costs for Connecticut residents to heat their homes this winter are up 74% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Connecticut families by \$10,064,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by eighty-one cents in Connecticut since January 2001, an increase of approximately 53 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 408,863 Connecticut residents would suffer an average \$7,505 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Connecticut's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$4,842,000 in Connecticut. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$7,576,000 in funding from Connecticut's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$5,955,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Connecticut with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$8,397,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Connecticut, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Connecticut families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & DELAWARE: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Delaware families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 110,000 Delawareans without health insurance, a 53% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Delaware workers are paying \$945 more to insure their families – a 56% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$68,433,932 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Delaware over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 24,500 uninsured children in Delaware. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Delaware's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 9,175 children in Delaware will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 9,818 children in Delaware will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Delaware received \$1,681,535 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 2,197 children in Delaware and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$50,056,926 to Delaware from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$12,140,246 to Delaware from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Delaware's Veterans and Troops. There are 80,751 veterans in Delaware and 488 brave Delawareans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 5,000 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Delaware, with 15,300 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Delaware has dropped by \$5,411 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$8,416,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Delaware. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$2,345,000 in vocational education funding in Delaware, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Delaware's wealthiest one percent \$80,638 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 73,400 small businesses here in Delaware. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Delaware families out in the cold. Average costs for Delawareans to heat their homes this winter are up 61% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Delaware families by \$1,336,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy cents in Delaware since January 2001, an increase of approximately 48 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 104,202 Delawareans would suffer an average \$7,174 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Delaware's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$1,940,000 in Delaware. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$3,320,000 in funding from Delaware's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$1,398,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Delaware with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$1,452,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Delaware, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Delaware families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & FLORIDA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Florida families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 3,703,000 Floridians without health insurance, a 31% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Florida workers are paying \$1,367 more to insure their families – a 69% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$1,394,810,567 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Florida over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 733,000 uninsured children in Florida. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Florida's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 158,629 children in Florida will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 107,055 children in Florida will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Florida received \$16,479,849 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 35,530 children in Florida and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$226,594,450 to Florida from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$55,636,891 to Florida from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Florida's Veterans and Troops. There are 1,788,496 veterans in Florida and 20,634 brave Floridians currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 51,300 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Florida, with 304,100 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Florida has dropped by \$569 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$141,585,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Florida. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$36,373,000 in vocational education funding in Florida, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Florida's wealthiest one percent \$117,896 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 1,837,800 small businesses here in Florida. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Florida families out in the cold. Average costs for Floridians to heat their homes this winter are up 61% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Florida families by \$6,526,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by nearly a dollar in Florida since January 2001, an increase of approximately 69 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 2,367,379 Floridians would suffer an average \$6,826 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Florida's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$13,343,000 in Florida. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$18,254,000 in funding from Florida's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$29,098,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Florida with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$32,381,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Florida, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Florida families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & GEORGIA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Georgia families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 1,709,000 Georgians without health insurance, a 47% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Georgia workers are paying \$1,242 more to insure their families – a 74% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$709,586,851 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Georgia over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 293,750 uninsured children in Georgia. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Georgia's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 106,171 children in Georgia will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 63,794 children in Georgia will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Georgia received \$9,400,001 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 23,508 children in Georgia and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$133,817,187 to Georgia from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$33,600,613 to Georgia from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Georgia's Veterans and Troops. There are 760,324 veterans in Georgia and 5,418 brave Georgians currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 70,500 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Georgia, with 219,600 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Georgia has dropped by \$2,700 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$87,892,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Georgia. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$19,310,000 in vocational education funding in Georgia, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Georgia's wealthiest one percent \$76,382 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 813,100 small businesses here in Georgia. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Georgia families out in the cold. Average costs for Georgians to heat their homes this winter are up 61% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Georgia families by \$5,161,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by eighty-eight cents in Georgia since January 2001, an increase of approximately 73 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 834,435 Georgians would suffer an average \$6,621 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Georgia's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$6,683,000 in Georgia. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$16,894,000 in funding from Georgia's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$14,848,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Georgia with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$16,666,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Georgia, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Georgia families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & HAWAII: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Hawaii families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 116,000 Hawaiians without health insurance, an increase of 3,000 people since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Hawaii workers are paying \$1,024 more to insure their families – a 60% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$47,109,812 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Hawaii over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 17,310 uninsured children in Hawaii. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Hawaii's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 11,564 children in Hawaii will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 9,818 children in Hawaii will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Hawaii received \$1,681,535 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 3,049 children in Hawaii and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$52,784,582 to Hawaii from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$12,141,939 to Hawaii from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Hawaii's Veterans and Troops. There are 107,310 veterans in Hawaii and 926 brave Hawaiians currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 1,300 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Hawaii, with 13,000 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] In Hawaii, a staggering 108,000 people live below the federal poverty level. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$10,651,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Hawaii. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$2,828,000 in vocational education funding in Hawaii, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Hawaii's wealthiest one percent \$55,577 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 113,800 small businesses here in Hawaii. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Hawaii families out in the cold. Average costs for Hawaiians to heat their homes this winter are up 38% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Hawaii families by \$520,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by \$1.08 in Hawaii since January 2001, an increase of approximately 61 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 139,468 Hawaiians would suffer an average \$6,754 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Hawaii's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$3,061,000 in Hawaii. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$3,320,000 in funding from Hawaii's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$2,151,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Hawaii with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$4,126,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Hawaii, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Hawaii families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & IDAHO: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Idaho families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 222,000 Idahoans without health insurance, a 12% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Idaho workers are paying \$977 more to insure their families – a 57% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$64,407,859 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Idaho over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 45,120 uninsured children in Idaho. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Idaho's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 11,398 children in Idaho will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 9,818 children in Idaho will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Idaho received \$1,681,535 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 2,640 children in Idaho and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$55,955,426 to Idaho from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$13,935,337 to Idaho from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Idaho's Veterans and Troops. There are 133,184 veterans in Idaho and 1,486 brave Idahoans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 4,900 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Idaho, with 24,700 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] In Idaho, a staggering 139,000 people live below the federal poverty level. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$14,811,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Idaho. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$3,286,000 in vocational education funding in Idaho, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Idaho's wealthiest one percent \$51,747 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 144,900 small businesses here in Idaho. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Idaho families out in the cold. Average costs for Idahoans to heat their homes this winter are up 38% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Idaho families by \$3,009,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-four cents in Idaho since January 2001, an increase of approximately 51 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 153,475 Idahoans would suffer an average \$6,629 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Idaho's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$1,940,000 in Idaho. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$3,262,000 in funding from Idaho's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$2,336,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Idaho with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$2,452,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Idaho, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Idaho families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & ILLINOIS: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Illinois families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 1,802,000 Illinoisans without health insurance, an increase of 98,000 people since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Illinois workers are paying \$813 more to insure their families – a 50% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$1,224,600,616 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Illinois over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 385,610 uninsured children in Illinois. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Illinois' Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 127,687 children in Illinois will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 76,556 children in Illinois will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Illinois received \$13,804,325 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 39,640 children in Illinois and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$179,103,886 to Illinois from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$47,605,959 to Illinois from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Illinois' Veterans and Troops. There are 896,640 veterans in Illinois and 7,823 brave Illinoisans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 172,400 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Illinois, with 274,100 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Illinois has dropped by \$5,236 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$198,310,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Illinois. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$22,068,000 in vocational education funding in Illinois, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Illinois' wealthiest one percent \$108,809 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 1,087,700 small businesses here in Illinois. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Illinois families out in the cold. Average costs for Illinoisans to heat their homes this winter are up 62% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Illinois families by \$27,857,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by eighty-one cents in Illinois since January 2001, an increase of approximately 55 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 1,318,625 Illinoisans would suffer an average \$7,167 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Illinois' Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$17,877,000 in Illinois. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$29,668,000 in funding from Illinois' Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$21,635,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Illinois with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$35,325,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Illinois, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Illinois families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & INDIANA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Indiana families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 871,000 Indiana residents without health insurance, a 29% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Indiana workers are paying \$875 more to insure their families – a 66% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$569,911,402 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Indiana over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 161,260 uninsured children in Indiana. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Indiana's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 59,241 children in Indiana will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 24,063 children in Indiana will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Indiana received \$5,879,751 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 14,231 children in Indiana and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$107,479,773 to Indiana from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$22,858,554 to Indiana from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Indiana's Veterans and Troops. There are 550,872 veterans in Indiana and 3,377 brave Hoosiers currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 72,300 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Indiana, with 157,300 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Indiana has dropped by \$3,990 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$77,728,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Indiana. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$12,072,000 in vocational education funding in Indiana, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Indiana's wealthiest one percent \$61,570 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 473,500 small businesses here in Indiana. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Indiana families out in the cold. Average costs for Indiana residents to heat their homes this winter are up 62% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Indiana families by \$12,614,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by eighty-seven cents in Indiana since January 2001, an increase of approximately 62 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 726,691 Indiana residents would suffer an average \$7,158 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Indiana's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$9,526,000 in Indiana. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$9,145,000 in funding from Indiana's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$10,593,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Indiana with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$14,199,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Indiana, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Indiana families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & IOWA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Iowa families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. Last year an estimated 251,000 Iowans were without health insurance. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Iowa workers are paying \$947 more to insure their families – a 63% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$166,125,603 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Iowa over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 44,220 uninsured children in Iowa. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Iowa's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 17,358 children in Iowa will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 9,604 children in Iowa will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Iowa received \$2,683,536 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 7,735 children in Iowa and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$72,434,834 to Iowa from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$17,400,576 to Iowa from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Iowa's Veterans and Troops. There are 265,960 veterans in Iowa and 2,116 brave Iowans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 11,700 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Iowa, with 59,200 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Iowa has dropped by \$1,633 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$25,265,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Iowa. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$5,328,000 in vocational education funding in Iowa, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Iowa's wealthiest one percent \$51,413 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 257,800 small businesses here in Iowa. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Iowa families out in the cold. Average costs for Iowans to heat their homes this winter are up 62% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Iowa families by \$8,939,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-six cents in Iowa since January 2001, an increase of approximately 53 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 382,193 Iowans would suffer an average \$6,877 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Iowa's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$5,349,000 in Iowa. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$6,797,000 in funding from Iowa's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$5,033,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Iowa with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$8,318,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Iowa, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Iowa families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & KANSAS: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Kansas families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. Last year an estimated 290,000 Kansans were without health insurance. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Kansas workers are paying \$591 more to insure their families – a 31% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$205,225,513 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Kansas over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 50,050 uninsured children in Kansas. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Kansas' Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 22,019 children in Kansas will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 12,001 children in Kansas will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Kansas received \$2,777,819 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 7,931 children in Kansas and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$70,594,934 to Kansas from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$17,242,340 to Kansas from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Kansas' Veterans and Troops. There are 246,359 veterans in Kansas and 2,155 brave Kansans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 19,000 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Kansas, with 67,200 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Kansas has dropped by \$2,913 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$33,532,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Kansas. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$5,516,000 in vocational education funding in Kansas, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Kansas' wealthiest one percent \$66,345 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 242,500 small businesses here in Kansas. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Kansas families out in the cold. Average costs for Kansans to heat their homes this winter are up 62% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Kansas families by \$4,105,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by eighty-one cents in Kansas since January 2001, an increase of approximately 59 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 312,998 Kansans would suffer an average \$7,004 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Kansas' Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$3,568,000 in Kansas. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$5,126,000 in funding from Kansas' Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$4,656,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Kansas with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$5,636,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Kansas, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Kansas families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & KENTUCKY: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Kentucky families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. Last year an estimated 514,000 Kentuckians were without health insurance. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Kentucky workers are paying \$724 more to insure their families – a 44% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$516,906,039 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Kentucky over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 81,740 uninsured children in Kentucky. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Kentucky's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 45,981 children in Kentucky will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 28,374 children in Kentucky will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Kentucky received \$4,856,913 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 16,071 children in Kentucky and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$86,831,675 to Kentucky from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$18,350,518 to Kentucky from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Kentucky's Veterans and Troops. There are 359,845 veterans in Kentucky and 2,534 brave Kentuckians currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 47,900 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Kentucky, with 106,800 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Kentucky has dropped by \$3,565 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$49,804,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Kentucky. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$7,668,000 in vocational education funding in Kentucky, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Kentucky's wealthiest one percent \$50,114 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 339,200 small businesses here in Kentucky. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Kentucky families out in the cold. Average costs for Kentuckians to heat their homes this winter are up 61% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Kentucky families by \$6,564,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-seven cents in Kentucky since January 2001, an increase of approximately 55 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 549,437 Kentuckians would suffer an average \$6,438 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Kentucky's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$5,031,000 in Kentucky. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$10,588,000 in funding from Kentucky's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$7,040,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Kentucky with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$9,214,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Kentucky, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Kentucky families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & LOUISIANA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Louisiana families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. Last year an estimated 767,000 Louisianans were without health insurance. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Louisiana workers are paying \$1,256 more to insure their families – a 68% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$461,569,268 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Louisiana over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 101,070 uninsured children in Louisiana. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Louisiana's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 71,623 children in Louisiana will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 43,761 children in Louisiana will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Louisiana received \$6,605,996 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 21,982 children in Louisiana and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$92,146,253 to Louisiana from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$23,464,819 to Louisiana from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Louisiana's Veterans and Troops. There are 366,955 veterans in Louisiana and 2,516 brave Louisianans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 29,700 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Louisiana, with 80,000 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Louisiana has increased only \$906 since 2000 and health care and energy prices continue to climb. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$65,638,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Louisiana. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$9,236,000 in vocational education funding in Louisiana, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Louisiana's wealthiest one percent \$58,107 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 368,200 small businesses here in Louisiana. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Louisiana families out in the cold. Average costs for Louisianans to heat their homes this winter are up 61% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Louisiana families by \$4,217,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-three cents in Louisiana since January 2001, an increase of approximately 53 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 517,426 Louisianans would suffer an average \$6,358 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Louisiana's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$4,345,000 in Louisiana. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$14,744,000 in funding from Louisiana's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$7,688,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Louisiana with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$12,544,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Louisiana, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Louisiana families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & MAINE: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Maine families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 143,000 Mainers without health insurance, an increase of 5,000 people since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Maine workers are paying \$1,579 more to insure their families – a 93% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$138,938,759 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Maine over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 21,800 uninsured children in Maine. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Maine's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 11,652 children in Maine will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 9,818 children in Maine will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Maine received \$1,681,535 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 3,955 children in Maine and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$53,169,521 to Maine from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$12,169,735 to Maine from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Maine's Veterans and Troops. There are 143,726 veterans in Maine and 1,101 brave Mainers currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 20,900 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Maine, with 34,200 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Maine has dropped by \$566 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$13,629,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Maine. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$2,826,000 in vocational education funding in Maine, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Maine's wealthiest one percent \$51,221 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 151,000 small businesses here in Maine. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Maine families out in the cold. Average costs for Mainers to heat their homes this winter are up 74% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Maine families by \$6,520,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-four cents in Maine since January 2001, an increase of approximately 50 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 185,829 Mainers would suffer an average \$6,335 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Maine's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$3,060,000 in Maine. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$3,317,000 in funding from Maine's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$2,232,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Maine with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$4,028,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Maine, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Maine families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & MARYLAND: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Maryland families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 788,000 Marylanders without health insurance, a 44% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Maryland workers are paying \$1,411 more to insure their families – a 73% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts will impact hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities. In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 137,340 uninsured children in Maryland. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Maryland's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 49,347 children in Maryland will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 24,848 children in Maryland will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Maryland received \$5,210,438 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 10,347 children in Maryland and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$97,918,423 to Maryland from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$22,425,154 to Maryland from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Maryland's Veterans and Troops. There are 486,299 veterans in Maryland and 2,673 brave Marylanders currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 36,100 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Maryland, with 119,100 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Maryland has dropped by \$1,724 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$44,127,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Maryland. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$8,187,000 in vocational education funding in Maryland, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Maryland's wealthiest one percent \$84,303 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 516,700 small businesses here in Maryland. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Maryland families out in the cold. Average costs for Marylanders to heat their homes this winter are up 61% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Maryland families by \$7,706,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-four cents in Maryland since January 2001, an increase of approximately 51 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 532,812 Marylanders would suffer an average \$7,003 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Maryland's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$9,560,000 in Maryland. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$8,618,000 in funding from Maryland's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$9,419,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Maryland with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$11,206,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Maryland, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Maryland families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & MASSACHUSETTS: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Massachusetts families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 618,000 Bay Staters without health insurance, a 13% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Massachusetts workers are paying \$1,764 more to insure their families – a 116% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$875,250,585 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Massachusetts over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 87,950 uninsured children in Massachusetts. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Massachusetts' Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 51,439 children in Massachusetts will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 28,302 children in Massachusetts will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Massachusetts received \$6,383,004 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 12,846 children in Massachusetts and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$110,944,377 to Massachusetts from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$28,469,319 to Massachusetts from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Massachusetts' Veterans and Troops. There are 490,883 veterans in Massachusetts and 2,294 brave Massachusetts residents currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 104,800 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Massachusetts, with 179,200 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] In Massachusetts, a staggering 617,000 people live below the federal poverty line. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$65,970,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Massachusetts. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$8,294,000 in vocational education funding in Massachusetts, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Massachusetts' wealthiest one percent \$129,356 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 637,800 small businesses here in Massachusetts. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Massachusetts families out in the cold. Average costs for Bay Staters to heat their homes this winter are up 74% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Massachusetts families by \$20,133,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by sixty-seven cents in Massachusetts since January 2001, an increase of approximately 44 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 746,634 Massachusetts residents would suffer an average \$6,927 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Massachusetts' Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$13,420,000 in Massachusetts. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$15,655,000 in funding from Massachusetts' Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$10,999,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Massachusetts with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$22,210,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Massachusetts, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Massachusetts families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & MICHIGAN: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Michigan families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 1,133,000 Michiganders without health insurance, a 26% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Michigan workers are paying \$899 more to insure their families – a 95% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$1,074,921,081 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Michigan over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 159,730 uninsured children in Michigan. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Michigan's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 121,178 children in Michigan will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 61,006 children in Michigan will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Michigan received \$12,756,555 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 35,069 children in Michigan and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$150,552,980 to Michigan from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$36,175,538 to Michigan from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Michigan's Veterans and Troops. There are 836,948 veterans in Michigan and 7,088 brave Michiganders currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 210,600 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Michigan, with 365,600 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Michigan has dropped by \$7,989 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$205,478,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Michigan. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$18,839,000 in vocational education funding in Michigan, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Michigan's wealthiest one percent \$64,859 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 822,000 small businesses here in Michigan. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Michigan families out in the cold. Average costs for Michigianians to heat their homes this winter are up 62% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Michigan families by \$26,449,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by eighty-seven cents in Michigan since January 2001, an increase of approximately 61 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 1,201,403 Michigianians would suffer an average \$7,332 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Michigan's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$16,996,000 in Michigan. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$23,261,000 in funding from Michigan's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$17,234,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Michigan with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$26,543,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Michigan, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Michigan families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & MINNESOTA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Minnesota families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 431,000 Minnesotans without health insurance, an increase of 32,000 people since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Minnesota workers are paying \$379 more to insure their families – a 19% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$291,417,260 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Minnesota over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 86,060 uninsured children in Minnesota. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Minnesota's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 28,797 children in Minnesota will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 15,689 children in Minnesota will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Minnesota received \$4,649,215 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 10,332 children in Minnesota and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$90,255,426 to Minnesota from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$19,205,064 to Minnesota from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Minnesota's Veterans and Troops. There are 426,591 veterans in Minnesota and 4,393 brave Minnesotans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 48,500 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Minnesota, with 127,000 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Minnesota has dropped by \$2,201 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$44,018,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Minnesota. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$8,506,000 in vocational education funding in Minnesota, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Minnesota's wealthiest one percent \$75,428 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 491,700 small businesses here in Minnesota. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Minnesota families out in the cold. Average costs for Minnesotans to heat their homes this winter are up 62% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Minnesota families by \$19,054,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by sixty-two cents in Minnesota since January 2001, an increase of approximately 39 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 542,535 Minnesotans would suffer an average \$6,881 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Minnesota's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$7,265,000 in Minnesota. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$7,558,000 in funding from Minnesota's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$8,650,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Minnesota with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$11,711,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Minnesota, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Minnesota families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & MISSISSIPPI: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Mississippi families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 495,000 Mississippians without health insurance, a 30% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Mississippi workers are paying \$1,841 more to insure their families – a 118% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$234,612,141 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Mississippi over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 106,060 uninsured children in Mississippi. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Mississippi's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 42,238 children in Mississippi will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 24,805 children in Mississippi will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Mississippi received \$4,166,529 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 26,657 children in Mississippi and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$68,931,727 to Mississippi from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$15,205,264 to Mississippi from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Mississippi's Veterans and Troops. There are 240,110 veterans in Mississippi and 2,493 brave Mississippians currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 37,300 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Mississippi, with 99,600 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Mississippi has dropped by \$4,067 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$56,446,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Mississippi. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$6,113,000 in vocational education funding in Mississippi, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Mississippi's wealthiest one percent \$41,311 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 209,100 small businesses here in Mississippi. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Mississippi families out in the cold. Average costs for Mississippians to heat their homes this winter are up 61% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Mississippi families by \$3,536,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy cents in Mississippi since January 2001, an increase of approximately 50 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 381,997 Mississippians would suffer an average \$6,158 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Mississippi's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$3,561,000 in Mississippi. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$9,989,000 in funding from Mississippi's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$4,926,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Mississippi with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$7,125,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Mississippi, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Mississippi families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & MISSOURI: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Missouri families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 691,000 Missourians without health insurance, a 32% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Missouri workers are paying \$1,116 more to insure their families – a 79% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$580,312,030 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Missouri over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 124,490 uninsured children in Missouri. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Missouri's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 49,076 children in Missouri will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 26,849 children in Missouri will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Missouri received \$6,106,703 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 17,451 children in Missouri and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$109,845,866 to Missouri from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$22,496,769 to Missouri from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Missouri's Veterans and Troops. There are 554,532 veterans in Missouri and 3,647 brave Missourians currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 55,500 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Missouri, with 150,600 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Missouri has dropped by \$6,532 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$85,235,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Missouri. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$11,536,000 in vocational education funding in Missouri, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Missouri's wealthiest one percent \$71,012 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 495,300 small businesses here in Missouri. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Missouri families out in the cold. Average costs for Missourians to heat their homes this winter are up 62% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Missouri families by \$11,128,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy cents in Missouri since January 2001, an increase of approximately 51 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 732,277 Missourians would suffer an average \$6,742 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Missouri's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$10,958,000 in Missouri. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$17,379,000 in funding from Missouri's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$9,753,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Missouri with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$13,634,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Missouri, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Missouri families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & MONTANA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Montana families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 162,000 Montanans without health insurance, an increase of 12,000 people since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Montana workers are paying \$857 more to insure their families – a 50% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$56,311,360 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Montana over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 35,090 uninsured children in Montana. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Montana's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 11,398 children in Montana will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 9,818 children in Montana will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Montana received \$1,681,535 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 2,939 children in Montana and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$49,476,207 to Montana from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$11,532,894 to Montana from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Montana's Veterans and Troops. There are 102,605 veterans in Montana and 1,172 brave Montanans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 1,600 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Montana, with 14,600 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Montana has dropped by \$554 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$12,597,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Montana. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$2,586,000 in vocational education funding in Montana, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Montana's wealthiest one percent \$42,336 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 113,500 small businesses here in Montana. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Montana families out in the cold. Average costs for Montanans to heat their homes this winter are up 38% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Montana families by \$3,530,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by sixty-two cents in Montana since January 2001, an increase of approximately 42 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 116,137 Montanans would suffer an average \$6,576 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Montana's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$1,940,000 in Montana. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$3,108,000 in funding from Montana's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$1,569,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Montana with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$1,858,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Montana, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Montana families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & NEBRASKA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Nebraska families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 208,000 Nebraskans without health insurance, a 35% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Nebraska workers are paying \$1,096 more to insure their families – a 57% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$110,611,845 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Nebraska over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 28,240 uninsured children in Nebraska. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Nebraska's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 13,354 children in Nebraska will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 9,818 children in Nebraska will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Nebraska received \$1,681,535 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 5,080 children in Nebraska and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$64,248,520 to Nebraska from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$11,293,280 to Nebraska from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Nebraska's Veterans and Troops. There are 159,486 veterans in Nebraska and 1,754 brave Nebraskans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 11,300 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Nebraska, with 30,400 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Nebraska has increased only \$300 since 2000, while health care and energy prices continue to climb. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$15,020,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Nebraska. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$3,154,000 in vocational education funding in Nebraska, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Nebraska's wealthiest one percent \$59,474 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 159,300 small businesses here in Nebraska. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Nebraska families out in the cold. Average costs for Nebraskans to heat their homes this winter are up 62% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Nebraska families by \$4,421,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by eighty-one cents in Nebraska since January 2001, an increase of approximately 55 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, Nebraskans would suffer an average \$6,730 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Nebraska's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$2,022,000 in Nebraska. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$4,378,000 in funding from Nebraska's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$2,974,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Nebraska with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$3,873,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Nebraska, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Nebraska families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & NEVADA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Nevada families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 425,000 Nevadans without health insurance, a 24% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Nevada workers are paying \$1,379 more to insure their families – an 81% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$113,416,710 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Nevada over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled.

Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 104,340 uninsured children in Nevada. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Nevada's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 21,889 children in Nevada will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 11,505 children in Nevada will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Nevada received \$1,681,535 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 2,754 children in Nevada and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$65,652,048 to Nevada from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$14,780,472 to Nevada from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Nevada's Veterans and Troops. There are 243,716 veterans in Nevada and 1,945 brave Nevadans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, the number of unemployed Nevadans is up 21 percent with 58,200 currently looking for a job – and increase of 9,991. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Nevada has dropped by \$1,723 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$17,894,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Nevada. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$5,239,000 in vocational education funding in Nevada, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Nevada's wealthiest one percent \$131,849 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 204,200 small businesses here in Nevada. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Nevada families out in the cold. Average costs for Nevadans to heat their homes this winter are up 38% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Nevada families by \$937,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by nearly a dollar in Nevada since January 2001, an increase of approximately 57 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 238,476 Nevadans would suffer an average \$6,963 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Nevada's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$1,940,000 in Nevada. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$3,320,000 in funding from Nevada's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$3,832,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Nevada with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$4,054,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Nevada, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Nevada families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & NEW HAMPSHIRE: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed New Hampshire families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 135,000 New Hampshirites without health insurance, a 31% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, New Hampshire workers are paying \$1,903 more to insure their families – a 109% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$81,684,276 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in New Hampshire over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 20,160 uninsured children in New Hampshire. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays New Hampshire's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 9,112 children in New Hampshire will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 9,818 New Hampshire children will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, New Hampshire received \$1,681,535 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 1,632 New Hampshire children and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$52,909,552 to New Hampshire from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$12,075,565 to New Hampshire from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to New Hampshire's Veterans and Troops. There are 131,074 veterans in New Hampshire and 1,193 brave New Hampshire residents currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 28,000 manufacturing jobs have been lost in New Hampshire, with 26,400 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] In New Hampshire, a staggering 72,000 people live below the federal poverty level. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$10,116,000 in funding for job training and employment services in New Hampshire. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$2,828,000 in vocational education funding in New Hampshire, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving New Hampshire's wealthiest one percent \$99,061 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 142,400 small businesses here in New Hampshire. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves New Hampshire families out in the cold. Average costs for New Hampshireites to heat their homes this winter are up 74% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for New Hampshire families by \$3,810,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by sixty-eight cents in New Hampshire since January 2001, an increase of approximately 46 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 153,356 New Hampshire residents would suffer an average \$7,010 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for New Hampshire's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$3,950,000 in New Hampshire. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$3,320,000 in funding from New Hampshire's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$2,201,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in New Hampshire with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$2,669,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in New Hampshire, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking New Hampshire families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & NEW JERSEY: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed New Jersey families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 1,324,000 New Jerseyans without health insurance, a 30% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, New Jersey workers are paying \$613 more to insure their families – a 38% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$846,118,259 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in New Jersey over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 250,500 uninsured children in New Jersey. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays New Jersey's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 61,054 children in New Jersey will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 41,155 children in New Jersey will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, New Jersey received \$8,199,705 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 14,717 children in New Jersey and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$129,756,137 to New Jersey from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$29,705,232 to New Jersey from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to New Jersey's Veterans and Troops. There are 582,916 veterans in New Jersey and 3,794 brave New Jerseyans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 105,200 manufacturing jobs have been lost in New Jersey, with 189,400 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] In New Jersey, 643,000 people live below the poverty level – an increase of 14,000 since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$82,140,000 in funding for job training and employment services in New Jersey. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$12,424,000 in vocational education funding in New Jersey, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving New Jersey's wealthiest one percent \$101,181 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 812,200 small businesses here in New Jersey. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves New Jersey families out in the cold. Average costs for New Jerseyans to heat their homes this winter are up 74% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for New Jersey families by \$18,690,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-one cents in New Jersey since January 2001, an increase of approximately 52 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 959,308 New Jerseyans would suffer an average \$7,598 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for New Jersey's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$16,152,000 in New Jersey. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$17,185,000 in funding from New Jersey's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$14,769,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in New Jersey with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$20,271,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in New Jersey, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking New Jersey families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & NEW MEXICO: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed New Mexico families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. Last year an estimated 396,000 New Mexicans were without health insurance. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$83,875,506 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in New Mexico over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 93,590 uninsured children in New Mexico. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays New Mexico's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 25,449 children in New Mexico will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 18,669 children in New Mexico will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, New Mexico received \$2,629,797 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 7,451 children in New Mexico and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$58,837,319 to New Mexico from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$13,278,571 to New Mexico from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to New Mexico's Veterans and Troops. There are 180,173 veterans in New Mexico and 1,304 brave New Mexicans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 4,900 manufacturing jobs have been lost in New Mexico, with 36,500 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in New Mexico has increased only \$947 since 2000, while health care and energy prices continue to climb [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$28,304,000 in funding for job training and employment services in New Mexico. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$4,578,000 in vocational education funding in New Mexico, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving New Mexico's wealthiest one percent \$43,628 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 153,800 small businesses here in New Mexico. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves New Mexico families out in the cold. Average costs for New Mexicans to heat their homes this winter are up 38% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for New Mexico families by \$2,497,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-eight cents in New Mexico since January 2001, an increase of approximately 55 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 212,527 New Mexicans would suffer an average \$6,241 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for New Mexico's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$1,940,000 in New Mexico. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$3,525,000 in funding from New Mexico's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$3,205,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in New Mexico with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$4,249,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in New Mexico, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking New Mexico families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & NEW YORK: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed New York families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. Last year an estimated 2,559,000 New Yorkers were without health insurance. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, New York workers are paying \$982 more to insure their families – a 66% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$2,364,817,687 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in New York over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 384,720 uninsured children in New York. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays New York's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 325,445 children in New York will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 182,491 children in New York will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, New York received \$26,349,783 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 49,127 children in New York and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$251,903,927 to New York from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$67,233,155 to New York from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to New York's Veterans and Troops. There are 1,171,898 veterans in New York and 9,396 brave New Yorkers currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 181,300 manufacturing jobs have been lost in New York, with 378,100 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in New York has increased only \$144 since 2000, while health care and energy prices continue to climb. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$252,453,000 in funding for job training and employment services in New York. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$29,725,000 in vocational education funding in New York, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving New York's wealthiest one percent \$140,335 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 1,891,900 small businesses here in New York. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves New York families out in the cold. Average costs for New Yorkers to heat their homes this winter are up 74% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for New York families by \$61,027,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by nearly a dollar in New York since January 2001, an increase of approximately 66 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 2,131,703 New Yorkers would suffer an average \$7,229 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for New York's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$43,629,000 in New York. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$54,510,000 in funding from New York's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$32,811,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in New York with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$70,453,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in New York, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking New York families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & NORTH CAROLINA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed North Carolina families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 1,371,000 North Carolinians without health insurance, a 27% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, North Carolina workers are paying \$1,560 more to insure their families – an 87% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$784,654,550 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in North Carolina over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 266,110 uninsured children in North Carolina. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays North Carolina's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 77,003 North Carolina children will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 44,666 North Carolina children will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, North Carolina received \$7,809,292 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 19,003 North Carolina children and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$128,794,856 to North Carolina from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$31,268,675 to North Carolina from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to North Carolina's Veterans and Troops. There are 767,048 veterans in North Carolina and 5,056 brave North Carolinians currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 194,100 manufacturing jobs have been lost in North Carolina, with 222,900 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in North Carolina has dropped by \$1,717 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$104,376,000 in funding for job training and employment services in North Carolina. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$17,976,000 in vocational education funding in North Carolina, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving North Carolina's wealthiest one percent \$59,305 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 734,000 small businesses here in North Carolina. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves North Carolina families out in the cold. Average costs for North Carolinians to heat their homes this winter are up 61% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for North Carolina families by \$9,095,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-nine cents in North Carolina since January 2001, an increase of approximately 57 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 1,027,180 North Carolinians would suffer an average \$6,647 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for North Carolina's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$7,134,000 in North Carolina. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$16,468,000 in funding from North Carolina's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$14,374,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in North Carolina with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$14,379,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in North Carolina, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking North Carolina families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & NORTH DAKOTA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed North Dakota families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 76,000 North Dakotans without health insurance, an increase of 5,000 people since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, North Dakota workers are paying \$539 more to insure their families – a 31% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$34,658,035 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in North Dakota over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 14,810 uninsured children in North Dakota. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays North Dakota's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 8,559 children in North Dakota will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 9,818 children in North Dakota will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, North Dakota received \$1,681,535 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 2,353 children in North Dakota and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$48,530,232 to North Dakota from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$12,118,993 to North Dakota from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to North Dakota's Veterans and Troops. There are 55,374 veterans in North Dakota and 656 brave North Dakotans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, the number of unemployed North Dakotans is up 26 percent with 11,900 currently looking for a job – and increase of 2,443. [BLS, 2/07] In North Dakota, a staggering 65,000 people live below the federal poverty level. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$10,978,000 in funding for job training and employment services in North Dakota. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$1,751,000 in vocational education funding in North Dakota, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving North Dakota's wealthiest one percent \$37,117 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 61,700 small businesses here in North Dakota. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves North Dakota families out in the cold. Average costs for North Dakotans to heat their homes this winter are up 62% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for North Dakota families by \$3,835,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by sixty-three cents in North Dakota since January 2001, an increase of approximately 41 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 80,304 North Dakotans would suffer an average \$6,472 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for North Dakota's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$1,940,000 in North Dakota. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$3,110,000 in funding from North Dakota's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$1,084,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in North Dakota with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$1,286,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in North Dakota, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking North Dakota families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & OHIO: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Ohio families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 1,394,000 Ohioans without health insurance, a 12% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Ohio workers are paying \$831 more to insure their families – a 57% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$941,563,092 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Ohio over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 242,040 uninsured children in Ohio. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Ohio's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 115,446 children in Ohio will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 59,457 children in Ohio will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Ohio received \$12,407,972 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 38,021 children in Ohio and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$160,977,546 to Ohio from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$36,427,471 to Ohio from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Ohio's Veterans and Troops. There are 1,051,684 veterans in Ohio and 6,347 brave Ohioans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 200,800 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Ohio, with 334,700 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Ohio has dropped by \$3,130 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$189,268,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Ohio. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$20,584,000 in vocational education funding in Ohio, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Ohio's wealthiest one percent \$55,960 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 899,600 small businesses here in Ohio. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Ohio families out in the cold. Average costs for Ohioans to heat their homes this winter are up 62% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Ohio families by \$24,644,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by eighty cents in Ohio since January 2001, an increase of approximately 54 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 1,365,518 Ohioans would suffer an average \$6,973 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Ohio's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$22,252,000 in Ohio. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$24,482,000 in funding from Ohio's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$19,553,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Ohio with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$32,639,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Ohio, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Ohio families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & OKLAHOMA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Oklahoma families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. Last year an estimated 647,000 Oklahomans were without health insurance. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Oklahoma workers are paying \$1,070 more to insure their families – a 58% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$314,441,236 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Oklahoma over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 130,780 uninsured children in Oklahoma. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Oklahoma's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 30,644 children in Oklahoma will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 23,146 children in Oklahoma will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Oklahoma received \$4,132,146 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 13,915 children in Oklahoma and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$78,895,074 to Oklahoma from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$19,114,300 to Oklahoma from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Oklahoma's Veterans and Troops. There are 355,312 veterans in Oklahoma and 2,935 brave Oklahomans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 26,300 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Oklahoma, with 68,000 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] In Oklahoma, a staggering 458,000 people live below the federal poverty level. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$33,786,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Oklahoma. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$7,121,000 in vocational education funding in Oklahoma, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Oklahoma's wealthiest one percent \$56,444 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 324,000 small businesses here in Oklahoma. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Oklahoma families out in the cold. Average costs for Oklahomans to heat their homes this winter are up 61% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Oklahoma families by \$3,792,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-eight cents in Oklahoma since January 2001, an increase of approximately 59 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 436,212 Oklahomans would suffer an average \$6,603 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Oklahoma's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$3,193,000 in Oklahoma. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$7,865,000 in funding from Oklahoma's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$6,004,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Oklahoma with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$6,119,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Oklahoma, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Oklahoma families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & OREGON: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Oregon families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 579,000 Oregonians without health insurance, a 34% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Oregon workers are paying \$1,073 more to insure their families – a 65% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$222,940,377 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Oregon over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 99,680 uninsured children in Oregon. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Oregon's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 31,166 children in Oregon will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 21,277 children in Oregon will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Oregon received \$3,299,708 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 8,792 children in Oregon and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$75,410,892 to Oregon from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$16,410,052 to Oregon from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Oregon's Veterans and Troops. There are 366,780 veterans in Oregon and 3,149 brave Oregonians currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 18,000 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Oregon, with 102,300 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Oregon has dropped by \$4,617 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$69,990,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Oregon. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$7,014,000 in vocational education funding in Oregon, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Oregon's wealthiest one percent \$59,996 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 341,200 small businesses here in Oregon. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Oregon families out in the cold. Average costs for Oregonians to heat their homes this winter are up 38% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Oregon families by \$5,980,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by nearly a dollar in Oregon since January 2001, an increase of approximately 60 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 428,043 Oregonians would suffer an average \$6,948 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Oregon's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$4,465,000 in Oregon. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$5,008,000 in funding from Oregon's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$6,086,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Oregon with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$7,355,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Oregon, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Oregon families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & PENNSYLVANIA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Pennsylvania families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 1,287,000 Pennsylvanians without health insurance, a 23% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Pennsylvania workers are paying \$1,099 more to insure their families – an 85% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$1,730,592,816 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Pennsylvania over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 281,080 uninsured children in Pennsylvania. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Pennsylvania's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 132,680 children in Pennsylvania will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 70,884 children in Pennsylvania will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Pennsylvania received \$13,541,830 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 32,282 children in Pennsylvania and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$170,175,112 to Pennsylvania from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$39,959,677 to Pennsylvania from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Pennsylvania's Veterans and Troops. There are 1,145,918 veterans in Pennsylvania and 7,470 brave Pennsylvanians currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 189,200 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Pennsylvania, with 290,300 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Pennsylvania has dropped by \$ 79 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$154,188,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Pennsylvania. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$21,775,000 in vocational education funding in Pennsylvania, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Pennsylvania's wealthiest one percent \$76,936 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 983,800 small businesses here in Pennsylvania. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Pennsylvania families out in the cold. Average costs for Pennsylvanians to heat their homes this winter are up 74% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Pennsylvania families by \$32,780,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by eighty-one cents in Pennsylvania since January 2001, an increase of approximately 56 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 1,683,556 Pennsylvanians would suffer an average \$7,106 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Pennsylvania's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$15,657,000 in Pennsylvania. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$26,590,000 in funding from Pennsylvania's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$21,142,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Pennsylvania with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$44,709,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Pennsylvania, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Pennsylvania families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & RHODE ISLAND: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Rhode Island families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 125,000 Rhode Islanders without health insurance, a 62% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Rhode Island workers are paying \$1,019 more to insure their families – a 60% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$170,154,922 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Rhode Island over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 20,260 uninsured children in Rhode Island. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Rhode Island's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 13,050 children in Rhode Island will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 9,818 children in Rhode Island will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Rhode Island received \$1,681,535 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 3,150 children in Rhode Island and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$51,017,661 to Rhode Island from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$11,520,422 to Rhode Island from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Rhode Island's Veterans and Troops. There are 91,160 veterans in Rhode Island and 578 brave Rhode Islanders currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 18,800 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Rhode Island, with 29,800 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Rhode Island has increased only \$574 since 2000, while health care and energy prices continue to climb. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$11,429,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Rhode Island. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$2,828,000 in vocational education funding in Rhode Island, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Rhode Island's wealthiest one percent \$66,270 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 100,000 small businesses here in Rhode Island. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Rhode Island families out in the cold. Average costs for Rhode Islanders to heat their homes this winter are up 74% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Rhode Island families by \$3,314,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by sixty-nine cents in Rhode Island since January 2001, an increase of approximately 45 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 134,197 Rhode Islanders would suffer an average \$6,909 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Rhode Island's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$2,654,000 in Rhode Island. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$3,472,000 in funding from Rhode Island's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$1,840,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Rhode Island with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$3,448,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Rhode Island, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Rhode Island families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & SOUTH CAROLINA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed South Carolina families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 741,000 South Carolinians without health insurance, a 54% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, South Carolina workers are paying \$1,343 more to insure their families – a 77% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$443,800,850 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in South Carolina over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 102,060 uninsured children in South Carolina. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays South Carolina's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 47,860 children in South Carolina will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 26,701 South Carolina children will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, South Carolina received \$4,444,833 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 12,248 children in South Carolina and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$86,534,018 to South Carolina from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$18,168,552 to South Carolina from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to South Carolina's Veterans and Troops. There are 413,551 veterans in South Carolina and 2,976 brave South Carolinians currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 74,300 manufacturing jobs have been lost in South Carolina, with 142,300 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in South Carolina has dropped by \$2,543 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$78,241,000 in funding for job training and employment services in South Carolina. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$9,062,000 in vocational education funding in South Carolina, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving South Carolina's wealthiest one percent \$45,306 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 339,900 small businesses here in South Carolina. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves South Carolina families out in the cold. Average costs for South Carolinians to heat their homes this winter are up 61% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for South Carolina families by \$3,276,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-three cents in South Carolina since January 2001, an increase of approximately 55 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 525,679 South Carolinians would suffer an average \$6,625 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for South Carolina's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$4,050,000 in South Carolina. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$9,660,000 in funding from South Carolina's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$7,091,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in South Carolina with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$7,853,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in South Carolina, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking South Carolina families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & SOUTH DAKOTA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed South Dakota families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 95,000 South Dakotans without health insurance, a 17% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, South Dakota workers are paying \$620 more to insure their families – a 33% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$56,986,975 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in South Dakota over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 18,080 uninsured children in South Dakota. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays South Dakota's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 10,366 children in South Dakota will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 9,818 children in South Dakota will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, South Dakota received \$1,681,535 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 2,827 children in South Dakota and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$47,897,052 to South Dakota from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$11,181,474 to South Dakota from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to South Dakota's Veterans and Troops. There are 73,400 veterans in South Dakota and 1,206 brave South Dakotans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 1,000 manufacturing jobs have been lost in South Dakota, with 14,200 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] In South Dakota, 96,000 people live below the poverty level – an increase of 29,000 since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$10,803,000 in funding for job training and employment services in South Dakota. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$1,909,000 in vocational education funding in South Dakota, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving South Dakota's wealthiest one percent \$61,454 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 77,600 small businesses here in South Dakota. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves South Dakota families out in the cold. Average costs for South Dakotans to heat their homes this winter are up 62% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for South Dakota families by \$3,114,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by sixty-nine cents in South Dakota since January 2001, an increase of approximately 46 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 97,839 South Dakotans would suffer an average \$6,328 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for South Dakota's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$1,940,000 in South Dakota. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$3,001,000 in funding from South Dakota's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$1,307,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in South Dakota with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$1,616,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in South Dakota, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking South Dakota families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & TENNESSEE: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Tennessee families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 836,000 Tennesseans without health insurance, a 36% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Tennessee workers are paying \$1,551 more to insure their families – a 92% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$836,241,893 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Tennessee over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 144,840 uninsured children in Tennessee. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Tennessee's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 52,221 children in Tennessee will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 31,963 children in Tennessee will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Tennessee received \$5,737,796 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 16,445 children in Tennessee and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$97,898,357 to Tennessee from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$20,601,584 to Tennessee from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Tennessee's Veterans and Troops. There are 540,777 veterans in Tennessee and 5,516 brave Tennesseans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 77,100 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Tennessee, with 143,000 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Tennessee has dropped by \$1,341 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$82,356,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Tennessee. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$11,394,000 in vocational education funding in Tennessee, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Tennessee's wealthiest one percent \$67,281 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 513,000 small businesses here in Tennessee. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Tennessee families out in the cold. Average costs for Tennesseans to heat their homes this winter are up 61% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Tennessee families by \$6,649,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-three cents in Tennessee since January 2001, an increase of approximately 54 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 748,720 Tennesseans would suffer an average \$6,590 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Tennessee's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$5,742,000 in Tennessee. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$12,373,000 in funding from Tennessee's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$9,988,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Tennessee with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$10,112,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Tennessee, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Tennessee families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & TEXAS: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Texas families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 5,516,000 Texans without health insurance, a 16% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Texas workers are paying \$1,193 more to insure their families – a 68% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$1,586,784,434 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Texas over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 1,366,710 uninsured children in Texas. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Texas' Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 299,348 children in Texas will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 182,914 children in Texas will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Texas received \$27,461,832 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 67,327 children in Texas and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$277,028,279 to Texas from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$70,936,283 to Texas from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Texas' Veterans and Troops. There are 1,681,748 veterans in Texas and 31,389 brave Texans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 148,400 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Texas, with 521,900 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Texas has dropped by \$2,441 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$319,381,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Texas. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$47,930,000 in vocational education funding in Texas, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Texas' wealthiest one percent \$88,159 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 1,988,900 small businesses here in Texas. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Texas families out in the cold. Average costs for Texans to heat their homes this winter are up 61% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Texas families by \$10,858,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-seven cents in Texas since January 2001, an increase of approximately 58 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 2,005,409 Texans would suffer an average \$6,604 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Texas' Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$18,066,000 in Texas. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$30,243,000 in funding from Texas' Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$37,817,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Texas with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$51,889,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Texas, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Texas families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & UTAH: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Utah families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 420,000 Utahans without health insurance, a 50% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Utah workers are paying \$1,168 more to insure their families – a 72% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$99,231,473 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Utah over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 96,170 uninsured children in Utah. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Utah's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 15,244 children in Utah will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 9,818 children in Utah will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Utah received \$2,145,458 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 5,518 children in Utah and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$63,395,325 to Utah from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$14,113,118 to Utah from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Utah's Veterans and Troops. There are 151,129 veterans in Utah and 1,211 brave Utahans currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 4,700 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Utah, with 34,300 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Utah has dropped by \$230 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$25,774,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Utah. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$5,627,000 in vocational education funding in Utah, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Utah's wealthiest one percent \$65,715 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 224,300 small businesses here in Utah. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Utah families out in the cold. Average costs for Utahans to heat their homes this winter are up 38% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Utah families by \$3,585,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by eighty cents in Utah since January 2001, an increase of approximately 60 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 183,631 Utahans would suffer an average \$6,818 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Utah's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$2,083,000 in Utah. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$3,245,000 in funding from Utah's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$4,020,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Utah with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$4,125,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Utah, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Utah families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & VERMONT: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Vermont families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 73,000 Vermonters without health insurance, a 40% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Vermont workers are paying \$1,685 more to insure their families – a 117% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$30,792,081 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Vermont over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 8,420 uninsured children in Vermont. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Vermont's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 7,696 children in Vermont will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 9,818 children in Vermont will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Vermont received \$1,681,535 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 1,569 children in Vermont and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$49,315,415 to Vermont from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$11,259,424 to Vermont from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Vermont's Veterans and Troops. There are 57,802 veterans in Vermont and 416 brave Vermonters currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 10,800 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Vermont, with 14,000 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] In Vermont, a staggering 48,000 people live below the federal poverty level. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$7,993,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Vermont. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$1,751,000 in vocational education funding in Vermont, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Vermont's wealthiest one percent \$70,014 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 79,000 small businesses here in Vermont. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Vermont families out in the cold. Average costs for Vermonters to heat their homes this winter are up 74% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Vermont families by \$2,856,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-seven cents in Vermont since January 2001, an increase of approximately 52 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 77,126 Vermonters would suffer an average \$6,691 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Vermont's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$1,940,000 in Vermont. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$3,320,000 in funding from Vermont's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$1,059,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Vermont with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$1,687,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Vermont, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Vermont families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & VIRGINIA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Virginia families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 1,011,000 Virginians without health insurance, a 24% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Virginia workers are paying \$973 more to insure their families – a 47% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$647,480,380 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Virginia over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 170,100 uninsured children in Virginia. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Virginia's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 49,657 children in Virginia will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 32,063 children in Virginia will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Virginia received \$6,414,756 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 13,696 children in Virginia and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$116,654,666 to Virginia from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$26,199,787 to Virginia from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Virginia's Veterans and Troops. There are 750,951 veterans in Virginia and 5,832 brave Virginians currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 62,900 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Virginia, with 117,500 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Virginia has dropped by \$1,111 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$52,347,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Virginia. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$12,220,000 in vocational education funding in Virginia, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Virginia's wealthiest one percent \$91,862 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 621,700 small businesses here in Virginia. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Virginia families out in the cold. Average costs for Virginians to heat their homes this winter are up 61% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Virginia families by \$9,387,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-one cents in Virginia since January 2001, an increase of approximately 51 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 779,947 Virginians would suffer an average \$6,742 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Virginia's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$8,089,000 in Virginia. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$10,055,000 in funding from Virginia's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$12,629,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Virginia with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$12,363,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Virginia, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Virginia families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & WASHINGTON: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Washington families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 866,000 Washingtonians without health insurance, an increase of 74,000 people since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Washington workers are paying \$1,411 more to insure their families – a 74% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$339,898,605 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Washington over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 128,210 uninsured children in Washington. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Washington's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 45,951 children in Washington will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 26,195 children in Washington will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Washington received \$5,591,988 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 11,102 children in Washington and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$108,560,105 to Washington from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$26,886,129 to Washington from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Washington's Veterans and Troops. There are 632,927 veterans in Washington and 6,760 brave Washingtonians currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 39,900 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Washington, with 167,700 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Washington has increased only \$383 since 2000, while health care and energy prices continue to climb. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$92,868,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Washington. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$11,183,000 in vocational education funding in Washington, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Washington's wealthiest one percent \$116,004 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 561,300 small businesses here in Washington. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Washington families out in the cold. Average costs for Washingtonians to heat their homes this winter are up 38% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Washington families by \$9,836,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by nearly a dollar in Washington since January 2001, an increase of approximately 64 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 639,128 Washingtonians would suffer an average \$7,108 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Washington's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$6,874,000 in Washington. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$7,396,000 in funding from Washington's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$10,483,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Washington with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$12,403,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Washington, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Washington families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & WEST VIRGINIA: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed West Virginia families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 322,000 West Virginians without health insurance, a 29% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, West Virginia workers are paying \$694 more to insure their families – a 42% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$236,064,339 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in West Virginia over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 35,790 uninsured children in West Virginia. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays West Virginia's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 21,256 children in West Virginia will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 16,719 children in West Virginia will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, West Virginia received \$2,456,684 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 7,610 children in West Virginia and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$61,331,517 to West Virginia from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$15,393,097 to West Virginia from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to West Virginia's Veterans and Troops. There are 188,102 veterans in West Virginia and 1,420 brave West Virginians currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 13,700 manufacturing jobs have been lost in West Virginia, with 41,500 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] In West Virginia, a staggering 265,000 people live below the federal poverty level. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$23,611,000 in funding for job training and employment services in West Virginia. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$3,502,000 in vocational education funding in West Virginia, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving West Virginia's wealthiest one percent \$30,509 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 123,300 small businesses here in West Virginia. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves West Virginia families out in the cold. Average costs for West Virginians to heat their homes this winter are up 61% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for West Virginia families by \$4,343,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by nearly a dollar in West Virginia since January 2001, an increase of approximately 65 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 285,222 West Virginians would suffer an average \$6,785 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for West Virginia's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$6,162,000 in West Virginia. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$7,031,000 in funding from West Virginia's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$3,095,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in West Virginia with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$5,079,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in West Virginia, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking West Virginia families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & WISCONSIN: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Wisconsin families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 534,000 Wisconsinites without health insurance, a 32% increase since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Wisconsin workers are paying \$825 more to insure their families – a 56% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$355,013,266 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Wisconsin over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 92,040 uninsured children in Wisconsin. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Wisconsin's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 54,452 children in Wisconsin will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 18,394 children in Wisconsin will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Wisconsin received \$5,661,778 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 13,538 children in Wisconsin and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$98,298,345 to Wisconsin from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$22,798,398 to Wisconsin from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Wisconsin's Veterans and Troops. There are 474,594 veterans in Wisconsin and 3,052 brave Wisconsinites currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, 78,900 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Wisconsin, with 151,500 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] Family income in Wisconsin has dropped by \$6,347 since 2000, while health care and energy prices are climbing. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$54,865,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Wisconsin. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$10,356,000 in vocational education funding in Wisconsin, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Wisconsin's wealthiest one percent \$66,842 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 435,900 small businesses here in Wisconsin. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Wisconsin families out in the cold. Average costs for Wisconsinites to heat their homes this winter are up 62% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Wisconsin families by \$17,152,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-four cents in Wisconsin since January 2001, an increase of approximately 48 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 656,243 Wisconsinites would suffer an average \$7,040 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Wisconsin's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$10,686,000 in Wisconsin. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$7,642,000 in funding from Wisconsin's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$9,356,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Wisconsin with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$13,454,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Wisconsin, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Wisconsin families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET & WYOMING: More of the Same Misplaced Priorities

Democrats believe that on every issue our nation faces, we must pursue policies that take our country in a new direction. The Bush Administration's FY 2008 budget fails on that score; it continues with more of the same wrong priorities of the past six years that have failed Wyoming families and the American people. It is fiscally reckless, adding trillions to the deficit over the next 10 years, and morally irresponsible, slashing funding for key priorities, such as health care and education, critical to America's middle class. Democrats are fighting for a budget that reflects the values of America's working families. We are working to restore fiscal responsibility and to deliver results to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, affordable health care and energy prices, and strong public schools.

Cuts Vital Health Care Programs. There are 82,000 Wyomingites without health insurance, an increase of 6,000 people since 2000. [CPS, 8/06] Since 2000, Wyoming workers are paying \$992 more to insure their families – a 58% increase. [KFF, 9/06; MEPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget slashes critical health insurance programs, including cutting Medicare by \$66 billion and Medicaid by \$25 billion over 5 years. The Medicare cuts result in \$21,865,523 in cuts to hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities in Wyoming over the next 5 years. [AHA, 2/07] In addition, while the President's budget would slightly increase the federal contribution to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), preliminary estimates indicate it is between \$7 to \$10 billion less than is needed to merely continue covering the children already enrolled. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the 13,530 uninsured children in Wyoming. [KFF, 2005]

Betrays Wyoming's Children. Over the past six years, Republicans have underfunded the No Child Left Behind Act by \$71 billion nationwide. Under the President's budget, 8,150 children in Wyoming will go without promised help in reading and math. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] Similarly, under the President's budget, 9,818 children in Wyoming will fail to receive afterschool services promised under the No Child Left Behind Act. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/07] The President's budget also slashes funding for the Safe and Drug-Free School Program by 71 percent. Last year, Wyoming received \$1,681,535 in Safe and Drug-Free School funding. [Education Department, 2/07] Finally, Head Start is a vital program for 1,792 children in Wyoming and yet the President's budget once again underfunds the program, cutting it by 1.5 percent below the 2007 level. [HHS, 2/07]

Does Not Do Enough to Protect America Here At Home. The President's budget slashes first responder funding in the Homeland Security Department by 42 percent below this year's level. For example, the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funds to first responders and awarded \$45,356,826 to Wyoming from 2003 to 2006, is slashed by 64 percent in FY 2008. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also cuts the Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP), which awarded \$10,616,846 to Wyoming from 2004 to 2006, by 30 percent. [DHS, 1/07] The budget also slashes funding for the COPS program by 94 percent.

Fails to Honor Promises to Wyoming's Veterans and Troops. There are 54,941 veterans in Wyoming and 979 brave Wyomingites currently serving their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. [DOD, 12/31/06] The President's budget shortchanges veterans' health care, providing an increase in FY 2008, cutting funds in FY 2009 and 2010 (below the proposed FY 2008 level) and freezing funding for VA health care thereafter. This generally flat funding is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq that could overwhelm the VA health care system. The President's budget imposes new health care fees on 1.3 million veterans and may increase TRICARE health premiums for many of the nation's military retirees under 65.

Cuts Job Training and Employment Assistance. Since President Bush took office, the number of unemployed Wyomingites has remained high with 8,900 people currently looking for a job. [BLS, 2/07] In Wyoming, a staggering 52,000 people live below the federal poverty level. [CPS, 8/06] And yet the President's budget eliminates \$9,260,000 in funding for job training and employment services in Wyoming. [FFIS, 2/07] And the President's new block grant is unlikely to make up for this loss of funding. The President's budget also eliminates \$1,751,000 in vocational education funding in Wyoming, which has played a critical role in preparing students at high schools and community colleges for today's job market. [FFIS, 2/07]

Creates Trillions Of Dollars In New Deficits That Threaten Our Economy. The national debt has increased to \$8.7 trillion, increasing our borrowing from foreign countries. The President's budget squanders trillions of dollars on permanent tax cuts for the wealthy – giving Wyoming's wealthiest one percent \$123,888 in tax breaks in 2010. [CTJ, 10/06]

Cuts Small Business Administration Funding. Small businesses employ nearly half of all workers and create three out of four new jobs, but the President cuts the Small Business Administration by 25 percent from last year's request and 45 percent from 2001. The budget cuts 17 out of 25 core programs, including key business counseling and outreach programs such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs and technical assistance programs. These cuts take us in the wrong direction as we work to expand and add to the 60,000 small businesses here in Wyoming. [SBA, 2006]

Leaves Wyoming families out in the cold. Average costs for Wyomingites to heat their homes this winter are up 38% from 2001. [EIA, 2/07] Yet, the Bush Administration cuts low-income home energy assistance (LIHEAP) for Wyoming families by \$1,436,000, slashing help to working Americans to pay their energy bills. [FFIS, 2/07] Further, the President is cutting by 40 percent the Weatherization Assistance Program, denying help to an estimated 40,000 low-income Americans who are on waiting lists to reduce their energy bills by purchasing storm windows and insulation to improve their home's energy efficiency.

Gives No Relief to Working Families Struggling with Still High Gas Prices. Gas prices have increased by seventy-four cents in Wyoming since January 2001, an increase of approximately 55 percent. [EIA, 2/07 & 1/01; AAA Fuel Gauge Report, 2/07] Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will be more affordable for America's families in the future and that America's families are not at the whim of overseas oil cartels. But the President's total budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same as it was in 2001, and stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence

Revives Attack on Social Security. Social Security provides millions of Americans a secure retirement after a lifetime of hard work, but the President once again proposes to privatize Social Security. This would cut Social Security benefits for the middle class and add trillions to the national debt. If the President's plan were in place today, 57,757 Wyomingites would suffer an average \$6,847 benefit cut annually. [Ways & Means Committee, 9/06]

Cuts Funding for Wyoming's Environmental Programs, Including the Clean Water Program. For the seventh year in a row, the Bush budget proposes significantly cutting funding for programs that protect public health and the environment. It slashes funding for the states' Clean Water revolving loan funds, which help improve wastewater treatment, by \$1,940,000 in Wyoming. [FFIS, 2/07] The President's budget also cuts the nation's funding for environmental justice programs that protect the health of low-income and minority communities from environmental toxins by nearly \$2 million or 28 percent below the 2007 level.

Cuts Funding For Vital Community Revitalization. The budget eliminates \$3,320,000 in funding from Wyoming's Community Services Block Grant, which works to lessen poverty in communities, and cuts \$857,000 in funding from the Social Services Block Grant, which provides people in Wyoming with social services directed toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. [FFIS, 2/07] The budget slashes \$852,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding in Wyoming, which provides critically-important funding for affordable housing, employment counseling, and transitional assistance. [FFIS, 2/07]

Democrats are committed to a new direction for America in which the interests of hardworking Wyoming families take priority over the special interests. That kind of honest leadership is needed to bring real solutions to the American people, along with economic prosperity, a strong national defense, health care that works for everyone, fiscal responsibility, and strong public schools.