

KEY REPUBLICANS VOTE TO UNDERCUT CHILDREN, FARMERS, STUDENTS, FAMILIES

As the fiscally irresponsible Republican budget moves through Congress, key Republicans are taking votes that show the stark differences between Democratic middle-class priorities and Republican special interest priorities. Democrats are going to use this treasure trove of votes – starting with last week’s committee votes outlined below – to illustrate that Republicans have the wrong priorities.



AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE: Cut \$844 million from the food stamp program, which could kick 300,000 families out of the program and leave 40,000 children ineligible for free school lunches. The number of malnourished Americans grew over 2 million in the past year.

- **Key Republicans who voted for these cuts:** Rep. Richard Pombo (CA), Rep. Robin Hayes (NC), Rep. Marilyn Musgrave (CO), Rep. Charles Boustany (LA), Rep. Gil Gutknecht (MN)

EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE COMMITTEE: Voted to cut \$14.5 billion from student aid programs. This vote would increase the interest rates and fees that some students pay and would be the largest cut in the history of the student loan program.

- **Key Republicans who voted for this cut:** Rep. Marilyn Musgrave (CO), Rep. Charles Boustany (LA), Rep. Ric Keller (FL), Rep. Judy Biggert (IL), Rep. Mike Castle (DE)

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE: Voted to cut \$4.9 billion from child support programs that help collect money from “deadbeat dads.”

- **Key Republicans who voted for this cut:** Rep. Nancy Johnson (CT), Rep. Chris Chocola (IN), Rep. Melissa Hart (PA)

ENERGY AND COMMERCE:

Cut \$9.5 billion from Medicaid.

- **Key Republicans who voted for this cut:** Rep. Fred Upton (MI), Rep. Fossella (NY), Rep. Bass (NH), Rep. Ferguson (NJ), Rep. Tim Murphy (PA)

Brown Amendment that would have substituted savings from HMO payments under Medicare Rx Drugs for \$9.5 billion in Medicaid cuts.

- **Key Republicans who voted against this amendment:** Rep. Heather Wilson (NM), Rep. Fred Upton (MI), Rep. Fossella (NY), Rep. Bass (NH), Rep. Ferguson (NJ), Rep. Tim Murphy (PA)

Voted against full funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program – home heating bills are expected to be 30% to 50% higher this winter.

- **Key Republicans who voted against full funding amendment:** Rep. Bass (NH), Rep. Ferguson (NJ), Rep. Tim Murphy (PA), Rep. Fred Upton (MI), Rep. Fossella (NY) (Fossella on final passage only)

RESOURCES COMMITTEE: Voted to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) to oil and gas drilling. This vote also opens the outer continental shelf to offshore drilling.

- **Republicans who voted for this provision:** Rep. Rick Renzi (R-AZ), Rep. Walter Jones (NC)