



**American Bridge**  
**Trump Policy Brief: White House**  
**Budget Proposal FY2018**

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## TRUMP'S BUDGET: DRASTIC CUTS, BROKEN PROMISES

On March 16, 2017, President Trump revealed his FY 2018 Budget Blueprint, titled "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again." The proposal called for \$54 billion in additional defense spending "without adding to our federal deficit."

In an attempt to keep his \$54 billion promise, Trump's proposal called for commensurate cuts to most other departments, resulting in numerous broken campaign promises and widespread betrayal of his most loyal supporters.

- ✓ Despite owing his presidency to Midwestern states Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin, his budget proposal included massive cuts to programs vital to the region. He eliminated a program helping low-income Americans pay their heating bills; cut the heavily-utilized Community Development Block Grant program; and cut programs protecting the health of the Great Lakes and surrounding economies. The cuts were seen as a massive shift of federal resources away from the Rust Belt, where there is a relatively small military presence, to more military-heavy states.
- ✓ Trump relied heavily on votes in Appalachia, but his budget proposal eliminated the Appalachian Regional Commission, as well as the Chemical Safety Board, which last year investigated a chemical spill in West Virginia that temporarily left 300,000 residents without drinking water.
- ✓ Trump voters were disproportionately rural, but his budget proposal included massive cuts to rural water and wastewater programs; cuts to a program supporting rural businesses and jobs; cuts to a program benefiting rural airports; and elimination of the Delta Regional Authority, which fosters economic development in the Mississippi Delta region.
- ✓ Despite running on a platform of "bringing manufacturing back" to the United States, Trump's budget proposal cut a program benefitting thousands of small- and medium-sized manufacturers; eliminated a program supporting advanced car manufacturing, of which Ford has been a beneficiary; eliminated a program encouraging the development of advanced technology here in the United States; and cut job training programs.
- ✓ Trump once asked African-American voters to consider "what the hell" they "have to lose" by voting for him, but, according to his budget, the answer is "a lot." Trump's budget proposal would eliminate a program to help minority-owned businesses; cut funding for HBCUs; make cuts to programs aimed at providing relief to economically-distressed areas; and make numerous, massive cuts to affordable housing programs.
- ✓ Despite electoral reliance on seniors, Trump's budget proposal included cuts to programs seniors rely on. Trump's proposal cut job training programs for seniors seeking to enter the workforce, and even cut Meals on Wheels.
- ✓ Trump ran on a platform of keeping Americans safe from terrorism, but his budget proposal would cut two agencies that do just that. The TSA, created in the aftermath of 9/11 to prevent similar attacks in the future, would face cuts under the proposal, as would FEMA, whose mandate includes preventing and responding to disasters including acts of terror. Trump did find money to build a wall, however: he requested an initial \$2.6 billion down payment for a wall along the southern border. Security experts have noted the logical fallacies of Trump's plan to keep Americans safe through this combination of changes.

- ✓ Trump claims support from veterans, but his budget proposal would make cuts to rental assistance programs that have helped keep veterans in homes and off the streets.
- ✓ Other notable victims of Trump's budget cuts include low-income women, infants and children, communities hurt by climate change and rising sea levels, aspiring healthcare professionals, aspiring disadvantaged entrepreneurs, and Americans living near environmental hazards.

## **The Trump Administration's FY2018 Budget Would Balloon Defense Spending By \$54 Billion**

### **TRUMP'S BUDGET BLUEPRINT CALLED FOR A \$54 BILLION INCREASE IN DEFENSE SPENDING**

**The Trump Administration Requested An Additional \$54 Billion In Defense Spending Over FY2017 Levels.** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: Repeals the defense sequestration by restoring \$52 billion to DOD, as well as \$2 billion to other national defense programs outside DOD, for a \$54 billion total increase for national defense discretionary budget authority above the sequestration level budget cap. When the Budget Control Act (BCA) of 2011 was enacted, the defense sequestration was not meant to occur, yet it has never been fully repealed. This has resulted in nearly \$200 billion of national defense cuts since 2013 and over \$200 billion of further projected cuts through 2021, relative to the original BCA caps alone. Reversing this indiscriminate neglect of the last administration is not only a fulfillment of the President's promise, but it is also a requirement if this Nation's security is to be maintained. The military's depletion under President Obama is our foremost challenge. The President's 2018 Budget ends the arbitrary depletion of our strength and security, and begins to rebuild the U.S. Armed Forces." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

**Trump: "The Core Of My First Budget Blueprint Is The Rebuilding Of Our Nation's Military Without Adding To Our Federal Deficit."** According to a message to Congress from President Trump within the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The core of my first Budget Blueprint is the rebuilding of our Nation's military without adding to our Federal deficit. There is a \$54 billion increase in defense spending in 2018 that is offset by targeted reductions elsewhere. This defense funding is vital to rebuilding and preparing our Armed Forces for the future." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

**The Budget "Eliminates Hundreds Of Programs And Focuses Funding To Redefine The Proper Role Of The Federal Government."** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "In the chapters that follow, Budget highlights are presented for major agencies. Consistent with the President's approach to move the Nation toward fiscal responsibility, the Budget eliminates and reduces hundreds of programs and focuses funding to redefine the proper role of the Federal Government." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

**Trump's Proposal Broke Campaign Promises And Left Millions – Including Many Of His Most Loyal Supports – To Fend For Themselves**

## **DESPITE SUPPORT FROM MIDWESTERN VOTERS, TRUMP'S BUDGET PROPOSAL MADE MASSIVE CUTS TO PROGRAMS VITAL TO THE REGION**

### **Trump's Budget Eliminated LIHEAP, Home Heating Assistance Relied Upon By Millions Across The Rust Belt**

#### **The Proposal Eliminated The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).**

According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates the discretionary programs within the Office of Community Services, including the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), a savings of \$4.2 billion from the 2017 annualized CR level. Compared to other income support programs that serve similar populations, LIHEAP is a lower-impact program and is unable to demonstrate strong performance outcomes. CSBG funds services that are duplicative of other Federal programs, such as emergency food assistance and employment services, and is also a limited-impact program." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

**Detroit News: Trump's Budget Would Completely Eliminate The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program Helped Heat The Homes Of Millions Across The Rust Belt.** According to The Buffalo News, "President Trump looked to the Rust Belt for the votes that got him elected, but the budget proposal he released early Thursday looks as if it would result in a massive movement of federal funds away from the region and toward states with a bigger military presence. The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program -- which helps heat the homes of nearly 100,000 families in Erie County, along with millions more across the Rust Belt -- would be eliminated under Trump's budget." [Buffalo News, [3/16/17](#)]

**LIHEAP Particularly Helped Elderly And Low-Income Individuals In Northeastern And Upper Midwestern States Including Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio And Pennsylvania.** According to an opinion by University of Texas adjunct professor Scott Lilly in the Huffington Post, "Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (\$3.4 billion): LIHEAP helps elderly and low-income individuals particularly in Northeastern and Upper Midwestern states including Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania pay their heating and power bills." [Scott Lilly – Huffington Post, [3/16/17](#)]

#### **Michigan Relied On LIHEAP For \$175 Million In Federal Funding For Its Current-Year Budget, With Gov. Rick Snyder's 2018 Budget Proposal Anticipating \$188 Million For The Program.**

According to The Detroit News, "[Also] missing from the budget is support for the home-energy program for low-income households, for which Michigan relied on \$175 million in federal funding for its current-year budget. Gov. Rick Snyder's budget proposal for 2018 anticipates \$188 million for the program, which is used to pay for home heating credits, weatherization and crisis intervention." [Detroit News, [3/16/17](#)]

### **Trump's Budget Cut \$3 Billion The Community Development Block Grant Program, Long Relied Upon By Rust Belt Cities As A Source Of Federal Funds**

**The Proposal Cut \$3 Billion From The Community Development Block Grant Program.** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates funding for the Community Development Block Grant program, a savings of \$3 billion from the 2017 annualized CR level. The Federal Government has spent over \$150 billion on this block grant since its inception in 1974, but the program is not well-targeted to the poorest populations and has not demonstrated results. The Budget devolves community and economic development activities to the State and local level, and redirects Federal resources to other activities." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

**Buffalo News: Cities Across The Rust Belt Region “Have Long Relied On The Community Development Block Grant As Their One Reliable Source Of Federal Funds.”** According to The Buffalo News, “Cities across the region – including many, such as Buffalo, that have shrunk over the years – have long relied on the Community Development Block Grant as their one reliable source of federal funds. Buffalo-area municipalities will get more than \$21 million under the program this year, including \$12.5 million for the City of Buffalo. Cities use that money in a variety of ways. Buffalo often uses it for neighborhood development projects, whereas Dyster said Niagara Falls uses this funding for its after-school programs and housing stabilization. ‘It’s achieved a vast amount of good,’ said Dyster, adding that such projects likely won’t get done if Trump gets his way and the program is eliminated.” [Buffalo News, [3/16/17](#)]

- **Community Development Grants Delivered At Least \$111 Million To Michigan Cities And Localities, Including Nearly \$31.4 Million To Detroit And More Than \$30 Million For The State, In 2016 Alone.** According to The Detroit News, “Also left out of Trump’s budget are community development grants, which last year delivered at least \$111 million to Michigan cities and localities, including nearly \$31.4 million to Detroit and more than \$30 million for the state, according to data from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.” [Detroit News, [3/16/17](#)]
- **Washtenaw County, Michigan Received Nearly \$3 Million In Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnership and the Emergency Solutions Grant Funding, Leveraging \$20 Million In Additional Funds For Those Projects.** According to MLIVE, “[Washtenaw County Board Chairman Andy] LaBarre said Trump’s proposed budget cuts would take away essential federal funding for Community Development Block Grants, HOME Investment Partnership programs and the Emergency Solutions Grant program. For fiscal year 2017 alone, he said, the county received nearly \$3 million in such funding. ‘They let the county leverage \$20 million or more annually in additional funds for community projects and programs,’ LaBarre said of those \$3 million.” [MLIVE, [3/14/17](#)]

### **Trump’s Budget Cut Programs Vital To The Health Of The Great Lakes And Surrounding Economies**

*Trump’s Budget Eliminated The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative To Clean And Protect The Great Lakes*

**Trump’s Budget Would End The \$300 Million-A-Year Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.** According to The Detroit News, “Trump’s budget plan would slash the Environmental Protection Agency’s budget by nearly a third, including reductions for the agency’s enforcement and compliance office and ending the \$300 million-a-year Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, among other regional efforts.” [Detroit News, [3/16/17](#)]

**Columbus Dispatch: “Trump’s Budget Would Zero Out Federal Dollars Aimed At Cleaning And Protecting The Great Lakes,” A Program “Relied On By The Very States That Delivered Him The Presidency.”** According to The Columbus Dispatch, “In the first budget of his fledgling presidency, President Donald Trump slashed spending for an array of federal programs including one relied on by the very states that delivered him the presidency. Trump’s budget would zero out federal dollars aimed at cleaning and protecting the Great Lakes — one in a series of sweeping cuts to federal environmental programs. Among the states that he won in November were Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin: all Great Lakes states.” [Columbus Dispatch, [3/16/17](#)]

- **Waterfront Cleanup Efforts In Ohio, Wisconsin, And Michigan Would Suffer From Cuts To Federal Great Lakes Funding.** According to The Buffalo News, “The president also called for eliminating the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, which funded the Buffalo River cleanup that led to the riverfront’s revival as a place to live, play and work. [...] Without more federal Great Lakes

funding, the cleanup likely would not be extended to other local places that need it, such as the Niagara River, Scajaquada Creek and Cayuga Creek, said Jill Jedlicka, executive director of Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper. Cutting that money also means cutting in the states that fueled Trump's victory, Dyster said. Waterfront cleanup efforts in Ashtabula, Ohio, Sheboygan, Wisc., and Detroit would suffer.” [Buffalo News, [3/16/17](#)]

- **In 2014, Residents Of Toledo, Ohio Were Urged Not To Drink From Their Water Source, Lake Erie, For Three Days Because Of Algal Bloom Contamination.** According to The Columbus Dispatch, “In August 2014, residents of Toledo whose water source is Lake Erie, were urged not to drink the water for three days because of algal bloom contamination. ‘President Trump's budget proposal is a betrayal for our health and environment,’ said Scott Slesinger, legislative director of the Natural Resources Defense Council. ‘It would walk America away from cleaner air, safer drinking water, a stronger economy and a healthier planet. It deserves to be dead-on-arrival in Congress. And it will be.’” [Columbus Dispatch, [3/16/17](#)]

*Republicans In Congress Spoke Out Against The Cuts To The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative*

**Senate Great Lakes Task Force Chairperson Debbie Stabenow: “Trump’s Budget Is Worse Than We Thought For The Great Lakes. We’ve Got To Make Sure This Does Not Pass Congress.”** According to The Detroit News, “‘Trump’s budget is worse than we thought for the Great Lakes,’ said Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Lansing, who co-chairs the Senate’s Great Lakes Task Force. ‘We’ve got to make sure this does not pass Congress.’” [Detroit News, [3/16/17](#)]

**Trump Supporting Republican Reps. Chris Collins And Rep. Tom Reed Said They Would Oppose Plans To Cut Great Lakes Funding As Well As Other Provisions Of The Trump Budget.** According to The Buffalo News, “Two of Trump's supporters -- Rep. Chris Collins, R-Clarence, and Rep. Tom Reed, R-Corning -- said they would oppose plans to cut Great Lakes funding, as well as other provisions of the Trump budget. ‘I am unsure of the final numbers regarding the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, but Western New Yorkers can rest assured I am monitoring the situation closely and will be ready to fight tooth and nail to protect the program’s funding,’ Collins said prior to the release of Trump's budget proposal.” [Buffalo News, [3/16/17](#)]

**Senate Great Lakes Task Force Co-Chair Rob Portman Indicated He Would Work To Preserve The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.** According to The Detroit News, “Her Republican co-chair, Ohio Sen. Rob Portman, also vowed Thursday to preserve [Great Lakes Restoration Initiative] program and its funding, noting a recent report showing the initiative’s work generates more than \$80 billion in benefits in health, tourism, fishing and recreation in the region.” [Detroit News, [3/16/17](#)]

- **Portman: The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Was “A Successful Public Private Partnership” That Helped Both The Economy And The Environment, Generating More Than \$80 Billion In Benefits In Health, Tourism, Fishing And Recreation.** According to The Columbus Dispatch, “Several in Congress, including GOP Sen. Rob Portman and Democratic Sen. Sherrod Brown, already had condemned the idea of a severe cutback to Lake Erie cleanup. In a statement early today, Portman called the initiative ‘a successful public private partnership’ that has helped both the economy and the environment. He said a recent study found that the initiative's work generates more than \$80 billion in benefits in health, tourism, fishing and recreation.” [Columbus Dispatch, [3/16/17](#)]

*Trump’s Budget Called For A Quarter Billion In Cuts To The National Oceanic And Atmospheric Administration, Which Also Provided Protection To The Great Lakes*

**Trump's Budget Proposed To Cut \$250 Million In Grants And Programs At The National Oceanic And Atmospheric Administration, Which Supported Coastal And Marine Management, Research And Education.** According to The Detroit News, "Another proposed cut to funding targets \$250 million in grants and programs at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration supporting coastal and marine management, research and education, including the Sea Grant program. That could hurt the Michigan Sea Grant — a cooperative program of the University of Michigan and Michigan State University that focuses on the protection of the Great Lakes and coastal resources. The program received \$1.8 million through NOAA last year and employs 23 people across the state, according to UM." [Detroit News, [3/16/17](#)]

**NOAA Provided \$1.8 Million For The Michigan Sea Grant, Which Created Local Jobs And Focused On The Protection Of The Great Lakes And Coastal Resources.** According to The Detroit News, "Another proposed cut to funding targets \$250 million in grants and programs at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration supporting coastal and marine management, research and education, including the Sea Grant program. That could hurt the Michigan Sea Grant — a cooperative program of the University of Michigan and Michigan State University that focuses on the protection of the Great Lakes and coastal resources. The program received \$1.8 million through NOAA last year and employs 23 people across the state, according to UM." [Detroit News, [3/16/17](#)]

*20 Percent Of Michigan Jobs, And Billions Of Dollars In Economic Activity Each Year, Rely On The Great Lakes*

**UM School Of Natural Resources And Environment Professor James Diana: "Twenty Percent Of All Jobs In Michigan, Billions Of Dollars Spent On Boating, Fishing And Other Recreation, As Well As Our Quality Of Life All Depend On The Great Lakes And Their Ecosystem."** According to The Detroit News, "'Twenty percent of all jobs in Michigan, billions of dollars spent on boating, fishing and other recreation, as well as our quality of life all depend on the Great Lakes and their ecosystem,' James Diana, director of Michigan Sea Grant and a professor at the UM School of Natural Resources and Environment, said in a statement. 'A small investment in Michigan Sea Grant is magnified many times by the wise decisions made by citizens with the aid of our education, outreach and research on the Great Lakes.'" [Detroit News, [3/16/17](#)]

**Observers In Rust Belt States Saw Trump's Budget Proposal As "A Massive Movement Of Federal Funds Away From The Region And Toward States With A Bigger Military Presence"**

**Buffalo News: The Rust Belt Got Trump Elected, But His Budget Proposal "Looks As If It Would Result In A Massive Movement Of Federal Funds Away From The Region And Toward States With A Bigger Military Presence."** According to The Buffalo News, "President Trump looked to the Rust Belt for the votes that got him elected, but the budget proposal he released early Thursday looks as if it would result in a massive movement of federal funds away from the region and toward states with a bigger military presence. The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program -- which helps heat the homes of nearly 100,000 families in Erie County, along with millions more across the Rust Belt -- would be eliminated under Trump's budget." [Buffalo News, [3/16/17](#)]

**Niagara Falls Mayor Paul Dyster: The Trump Budget Plan "Can Be Read As A Regional Shift Of Resources From One Part Of The Country To Another."** According to The Buffalo News, "Adding it all up, Niagara Falls Mayor Paul Dyster said the Trump budget plan can be read in two ways. 'It can be read as a regional shift of resources from one part of the country to another,' said Dyster, who is no fan of the Trump proposals. 'And it can also be seen as a shift from one set of priorities that were seen as important to another.'" [Buffalo News, [3/16/17](#)]

*Michigan, Pennsylvania, Ohio And Wisconsin All Ranked In The Bottom Half Of Lowest Per-Capita Defense Spending*

**The Historic \$54 Billion Military Increase Was Most Likely To Help The States That Already Benefited Most From Military Spending, Such As Virginia, Hawaii And Alabama, According To Budget Experts.** According to The Buffalo News, “The military – which has a comparatively small presence in New York and the Great Lakes states but a strong footprint in the South and West– is set to get a historic \$54 billion increase. Budget experts said that increase is most likely to help the states that already benefit most from military spending, such as Virginia, Hawaii and Alabama.” [Buffalo News, [3/16/17](#)]

**Michigan Had The Lowest Per-Capita Defense Spending In The Nation.** According to The Buffalo News, “Similarly, Rust Belt states tend to get less than other states in defense spending. Research released this week by the Pew Charitable Trusts showed that Michigan had the lowest per-capita defense spending in the nation. New York ranked third from the bottom. Pennsylvania, Ohio and Wisconsin also ranked in the bottom half of states.” [Buffalo News, [3/16/17](#)]

- **Pennsylvania, Ohio And Wisconsin Ranked In The Bottom Half Of Lowest Per-Capita Defense Spending.** According to The Buffalo News, “Similarly, Rust Belt states tend to get less than other states in defense spending. Research released this week by the Pew Charitable Trusts showed that Michigan had the lowest per-capita defense spending in the nation. New York ranked third from the bottom. Pennsylvania, Ohio and Wisconsin also ranked in the bottom half of states.” [Buffalo News, [3/16/17](#)]

## **DESPITE SUPPORT FROM APPALACHIAN VOTERS, TRUMP’S BUDGET PROPOSAL MADE MASSIVE CUTS TO PROGRAMS VITAL TO THE REGION**

### **Trump’s Budget Eliminated The Appalachian Regional Commission Supporting Economic Development, Job Training, And Infrastructure**

**Trump’s Budget Would Eliminate The Appalachian Regional Commission Economic Development Partnership Between Ohio And 12 Other Appalachian States, Which Worked To Invest In Regional Business Development, Worker Education And Training And Infrastructure.** According to The Columbus Dispatch, “Overall, it would dramatically reduce discretionary spending so defense spending could be increased by about \$54 billion. It would also eliminate the Appalachian Regional Commission, a federal-state-local partnership aimed at serving as a regional economic development agency. The agency, established by Congress in 1965, includes Ohio and 12 other Appalachian states and aims to invest in business development in the region; in worker education and training; and in infrastructure.” [Columbus Dispatch, [3/16/17](#)]

**The Atlantic: The Elimination Of The Appalachian Regional Commission Was Notable Because, Encompassing All Of West Virginia And Parts Of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, The Carolinas, And Tennessee, The Region Largely Supported Trump.** According to The Atlantic, “On page five of his blueprint Trump proposes the elimination of funding for 19 independent agencies—those that exist outside of federal departments headed by a Cabinet secretary. One of those agencies is the Appalachian Regional Commission, a federal-state partnership focused on economic development in a region encompassing all of West Virginia and parts of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Alabama, Georgia, Maryland, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. Its inclusion is notable, because it serves a region that largely supported Trump, and which he has promised to revive economically.” [The Atlantic, [3/16/17](#)]



- **The Appalachian Regional Commission Had Helped Poor Kentucky Counties For Five Decades.** According to a column by Tom Eblen in The Lexington Herald Leader, “Trump even wants to kill the Appalachian Regional Commission, which for five decades has helped prop up poor Kentucky counties enslaved to the boom-and-bust coal industry.” [Tom Eblen – Lexington Herald Leader, [3/16/17](#)]
- **Kentucky Received More Than \$9 Million In Grants From The Appalachian Regional Commission In 2016.** According to a column by Tom Eblen in The Lexington Herald Leader, “The 13-state ARC spends a lot of money for desperately needed infrastructure in Kentucky’s small towns and rural communities, including roads, water and sewer systems. For example, Olive Hill in Carter County this month got a \$243,000 ARC grant to replace corroded water lines, which were leaking nearly half the system’s water supply and raising health concerns. The ARC’s website lists 37 grants totaling more than \$9 million that were made to Kentucky communities during fiscal 2016. They included \$500,000 for rural dental education; \$370,000 for teacher training; \$500,000 for a sewer project in Pike County and \$500,000 for career education as part of the Appalachian Technology Initiative.” [Tom Eblen – Lexington Herald Leader, [3/16/17](#)]

**A Spokesperson For West Virginia Senator Shelley Moore Capito Spoke Out Against The Cuts To The Appalachian Regional Commission.** According to the Boston Globe, “The cuts targeting rural areas sparked some concern among Republican lawmakers Thursday. West Virginia Senator Shelley Moore Capito pushed back against the proposed elimination of the Appalachian Regional Commission. A Capito spokeswoman said the program ‘is essential to redeveloping economically distressed regions of West Virginia, especially the coal communities that have been devastated by years of regulatory overreach. The commission also plays an important role in Senator Capito’s efforts to expand critical broadband infrastructure.’” [Boston Globe, [3/16/17](#)]

*Trump’s Military Spending Increase Was Enough To Fund The Appalachian Regional Commission For More Than 300 Years*

**Trump’s Proposed \$54 Billion Increase In Military Spending Could Fund The Appalachian Regional Commission For More Than 300 Years.** According to The Washington Post, “In his budget outline for 2018 unveiled Thursday, none of the rural development agencies — the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Delta Regional Authority, the Northern Border Regional Commission — would receive any money. In effect, it would eliminate these programs, which are completely subsidized by the federal government. In the context of Trump’s other budget goals, the money at stake is paltry. What the rural development agencies spend in a year is a third of 1 percent of Trump’s proposed \$54 billion bump in the military budget. The cost of Trump’s increase in military spending could fund them for more than 300 years.” [Washington Post, [3/17/17](#)]

*Trump’s Proposal To Eliminate The Appalachian Regional Commission Would Affect 37 Million People*

**Trump’s Proposal To Eliminate The Appalachian Regional Commission Would Affect 37 Million People.** According to The Washington Post, “More than 37 million people would be affected in the 698 counties where the agencies work — in Appalachia, the Mississippi basin, and rural northern New England — places where the poverty rate is 33 percent higher than the national average. By proposing to zero out these programs, the president’s budget would eliminate a key effort to help to some of the nation’s poorest regions.” [Washington Post, [3/17/17](#)]

*The Appalachian Regional Commission Created Jobs While Generating More Money Than It Cost*

**The Appalachian Regional Commission Devotes About \$175 Million Each Year To Projects That Rural Communities Badly Need But Cannot Not Afford.** According to The Washington Post, “In rural Appalachia, people are so poor that there is a federal program dedicated to lifting them out of poverty. Through the Appalachian Regional Commission, the government pitches in on projects that these rural communities badly need but can’t quite afford — everything from fixing roads, to building computer labs, to training workers, to opening health clinics. These efforts have become so widely admired that in recent years Congress launched, with bipartisan backing, sister agencies to help other rural regions stuck in generational cycles of poverty. Together the programs spend about \$175 million each year bringing jobs and opportunities to places that long have felt left behind.” [Washington Post, [3/17/17](#)]

**The Appalachian Regional Commission Created Or Maintained More Than 23,000 Jobs In 2015 Alone.** According to The Washington Post, “In 2015 alone, the ARC says it created or retained more than 23,000 jobs. The agency often uses its funds to get projects off the ground, attracting outside sponsors to help pay for the bulk of the work. According to its annual report to Congress, for every dollar it spends it brings in about \$8 in private investment from companies and nonprofit organizations.” [Wonkblog – Washington Post, [3/17/17](#)]

- **As The Shrinking Coal Industry Created A Job Shortage, The Appalachian Regional Commission Spent Millions In Appalachia Helping Residents Find New Careers.** According to The Washington Post, “Other efforts more directly combat rural unemployment by paying for training programs or helping people attend college. In Appalachia, for instance, the shrinking coal industry has created a job shortage, and the ARC has spent millions in recent years helping residents find new careers. In Maysville, Ky, it sponsored classes to teach people how to become drone operators. In Cedar Bluff, Va., it helped a community college offer classes in cybersecurity.” [Wonkblog – Washington Post, [3/17/17](#)]

**The Appalachian Regional Commission Brought In About \$8 In Private Investment For Every Dollar It Spent.** According to The Washington Post, “In 2015 alone, the ARC says it created or retained more than 23,000 jobs. The agency often uses its funds to get projects off the ground, attracting outside sponsors to help pay for the bulk of the work. According to its annual report to Congress, for every dollar it spends it brings in about \$8 in private investment from companies and nonprofit organizations.” [Wonkblog – Washington Post, [3/17/17](#)]

### **Trump’s Budget Cut Funding For The Chemical Safety Board, Which Last Year Investigated A West Virginia Chemical Spill Affecting Over 300,000**

**Trump’s Proposal Cut The U.S. Chemical Safety Board, Which In 2016 Probed A West Virginia Chemical Spill That Temporarily Left Over 300,000 Without Usable Water.** According to the Boston Glob, “Also on the chopping block: funding for the Appalachian Regional Commission, which seeks to boost economic development in a region that strongly supported Trump. Into the dustbin, too, would go the US Chemical Safety Board, an agency that has open investigations in Mississippi, Florida, Texas, and Kansas, and last September wrapped up a probe of a West Virginia chemical spill that left more than 300,000 people without usable water for a time.” [Boston Globe, [3/17/17](#)]

**DESPITE SUPPORT FROM RURAL VOTERS, TRUMP’S PROPOSED BUDGET MADE MASSIVE CUTS TO PROGRAMS RURAL VOTERS RELY ON**

## **Trump's Proposed Budget Cut Nearly \$500 Million From Rural Water And Waste Infrastructure Programs**

**The Trump Administration Proposed Cutting \$498 Million From The Water And Wastewater Loan And Grant Program.** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates the duplicative Water and Wastewater loan and grant program, a savings of \$498 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. Rural communities can be served by private sector financing or other Federal investments in rural water infrastructure, such as the Environmental Protection Agency's State Revolving Funds." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

- **Washington Post: The Program "Helps With Rural Water And Waste Infrastructure."** According to the Washington Post, "The administration plans to eliminate its water and waste-disposal loan and grant program, which helps with rural water and waste infrastructure, for a savings of nearly \$500 million. It also will seek to eliminate aspects of the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, which supports business development and job opportunities, because the administration called it 'duplicative.' That cut would save \$95 million." [Washington Post, [3/16/17](#)]

## **Trump's Proposed Budget Cut Nearly \$100 Million From A Program Supporting Rural Businesses And Jobs**

**The Trump Administration Proposed Cutting \$95 Million From The Rural Business And Cooperative Service.** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Reduces duplicative and underperforming programs by eliminating discretionary activities of the Rural Business and Cooperative Service, a savings of \$95 million from the 2017 annualized CR level." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

- **Washington Post: The Program "Supports Business Development And Job Opportunities."** to the Washington Post, "The administration plans to eliminate its water and waste-disposal loan and grant program, which helps with rural water and waste infrastructure, for a savings of nearly \$500 million. It also will seek to eliminate aspects of the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, which supports business development and job opportunities, because the administration called it 'duplicative.' That cut would save \$95 million." [Washington Post, [3/16/17](#)]

## **Trump's Proposed Budget Cut \$175 Million From A Program Benefiting Rural Airports**

**Trump's Budget Blueprint Included \$175 Million In Cuts To The Essential Air Service, Which Subsidizes Commercial Flights To Rural Airports.** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates funding for the Essential Air Service (EAS) program, which was originally conceived of as a temporary program nearly 40 years ago to provide subsidized commercial air service to rural airports. EAS flights are not full and have high subsidy costs per passenger. Several EAS-eligible communities are relatively close to major airports, and communities that have EAS could be served by other existing modes of transportation. This proposal would result in a discretionary savings of \$175 million from the 2017 annualized CR level." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

## **Trump's Proposed Budget Eliminated The Delta Regional Authority, Which Fosters Economic Development In The Mississippi Delta Region**

**The Proposal Eliminated The Delta Regional Authority.** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The Budget also proposes to eliminate funding for other independent agencies, including: [...] the Delta Regional Authority" [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

- **The Delta Regional Authority "Works To Improve Regional Economic Opportunity By Helping To Create Jobs, Build Communities, And Improve The Lives Of The 10 Million People Who Reside" In The Mississippi Delta Region.** According to the Delta Regional Authority, "The Delta Regional Authority works to improve regional economic opportunity by helping to create jobs, build communities, and improve the lives of the 10 million people who reside in the 252 counties and parishes of the eight-state Delta region. Led by the Delta Regional Authority Board-comprised of the Federal Co-Chairman, appointed by the President and confirmed by the U.S. Senate, and the governors of the eight states-the Delta Regional Authority fosters local and regional partnerships that address economic and social challenges to ultimately strengthen the Delta economy and the quality of life for Delta residents." [DRA.gov, accessed [3/17/17](#)]

**Delta Regional Authority Federal Co-Chairperson Christopher Masingill: "You Cannot Advocate For Infrastructure Development And Economic Security In Rural America Without Also Supporting The Mechanisms, Such As DRA, That Make Those Projects A Reality."** According to The Washington Post, "Many of these projects accomplish the same goals that Trump has emphasized: promoting manufacturing jobs and building the infrastructure that attracts businesses and supports local entrepreneurs. 'You cannot advocate for infrastructure development and economic security in rural America without also supporting the mechanisms, such as DRA, that make those projects a reality,' said Christopher Masingill, the federal co-chairman of the Delta Regional Authority, which sponsors projects in rural counties near the lower Mississippi River." [Wonkblog – Washington Post, [3/17/17](#)]

## **DESPITE RUNNING ON A CAMPAIGN PLATFORM OF BRINGING MANUFACTURING JOBS BACK TO THE UNITED STATES, TRUMP MADE CUTS TO PROGRAMS BENEFITING MANUFACTURERS AND PROVIDING JOB TRAINING**

### **Trump Repeatedly Pledged To "Bring Manufacturing Back" To The United States**

**Trump, August 2016: I Will "Bring Jobs Back, Bring Manufacturing Back, Get You Your Other Jobs."** At a rally in Jacksonville, Florida, Trump said he would, "Bring jobs back, bring manufacturing back, get you your other jobs" [Rally, Jacksonville, FL, 8/3/16]

**Trump, February 2016: I Will "Bring Manufacturing Back."** At a rally in Kiawah Island, South Carolina, Trump said he would, "Bring smartness back to this country, negotiation, honesty; Get deals that are great, bring manufacturing back." [Rally, Kiawah Island, SC, 2/18/16]

**Trump, October 2016: With A Reform Of The Federal Bureaucracy, We Can Bring "Manufacturing To North Carolina, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, And So Many Other Places."** "In order to bring back manufacturing to NC, OH, MI, PA, and so many other places we'll undertake a major reform of our federal bureaucracy." [Rally, Fletcher, NC, 10/21/16]

**Trump, April 2016: Manufacturing Has "Been Taken Out By China And Mexico," But "I'm Going To Stop Them, They're Going To Have Consequences."** "Bring back manufacturing - it's crazy, it's all been taken out by China and Mexico, I'm going to stop them, they're going to have consequences." [Rich Zeoli Radio Show, 4/25/16]

## **Trump's Proposal Cut A Program Benefiting Thousands Of Small- And Medium-Sized Manufacturers**

### **The Proposal Cut Federal Funding For The Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Program.**

According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Saves \$124 million by discontinuing Federal funding for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program, which subsidizes up to half the cost of State centers, which provide consulting services to small- and medium-size manufacturers. By eliminating Federal funding, MEP centers would transition solely to non-Federal revenue sources, as was originally intended when the program was established." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

- **MEP Is A Public-Private Partnership Serving Small- And Medium-Sized Manufacturers In All 50 States, Last Year Working With Over 25,000 Manufacturers And Helping To Create And Retain Over 86,000 Jobs.** According to the National Institute of Standards and Technology, "MEP is a public-private partnership with Centers in all 50 states and Puerto Rico dedicated to serving small and medium-sized manufacturers. Last year, MEP Centers interacted with 25,445 manufacturers, leading to \$9.3 billion in sales, \$1.4 billion in cost savings, \$3.5 billion in new client investments, and helped create and retain more than 86,602 jobs." [NIST.gov, accessed [3/16/17](#)]

## **Trump's Budget Eliminated A Program Supporting Advanced Car Manufacturing Here In The United States, Of Which Ford Has Been A Major Beneficiary**

**The Proposal Eliminated The Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing Program.** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, the Title 17 Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program, and the Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing Program because 20 Department of Energy the private sector is better positioned to finance disruptive energy research and development and to commercialize innovative technologies." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

- **The ATVM Program Supports "The Production Of Fuel-Efficient, Advanced Technology Vehicles And Components In The United States."** According to the U.S. Department of Energy, "The Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing (ATVM) Program was established by Congress in 2007 to support the production of fuel-efficient, advanced technology vehicles and components in the United States. To date, the program has made over \$8 billion in loans." [U.S. Department of Energy, "Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loan Program (ATVM)," [2014](#)]
- **Ford Has Been A Major Beneficiary Of The Program.** According to the U.S. Department of Energy, Ford received a \$5.9 billion loan in 2009 and "Modernized 13 facilities in 6 states for the manufacture of fuel-efficient vehicles and components, including Ecoboost engine." [U.S. Department of Energy, "Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loan Program (ATVM)," [2014](#)]

*Trump: "They Can't Keep Taking Ford And Other Car Manufacturers Out Of The Country"*

**Trump: "They Can't Keep Taking Ford And Other Car Manufacturers Out Of The Country."** At a rally in Grand Rapids Michigan, Trump said, "They can't keep taking Ford and other car manufacturers out of the country; People in MI remember that I've been talking about this for years; Ford promises me that

they're going to do something big in MI, not Mexico at the beginning of the year; It's going to be great" [Donald Trump, Rally, Grand Rapids, MI, 12/9/16]

### **Trump's Proposal Eliminated A Program Encouraging The Development Of Advanced Technology In The United States**

**The Proposal Eliminated The Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy.** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, the Title 17 Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program, and the Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing Program because 20 Department of Energy the private sector is better positioned to finance disruptive energy research and development and to commercialize innovative technologies." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

- **ARPA-E Was Created To Foster New Energy Technology Projects In The United States.** According to ARPA-E, "In 2007, Congress passed and President George W. Bush signed into law The America COMPETES Act, which officially authorized ARPA-E's creation. In 2009, Congress appropriated and President Barack Obama allocated \$400 million to the new Agency, which funded ARPA-E's first projects. Since 2009, ARPA-E has funded over 400 potentially transformational energy technology projects. Many of these projects have already demonstrated early indicators of technical success. For example, ARPA-E awardees have: Developed a 1 megawatt silicon carbide transistor the size of a fingernail; Engineered microbes that use hydrogen and carbon dioxide to make liquid transportation fuel; Pioneered a near-isothermal compressed air energy storage system. Technical achievements like these have spurred millions of dollars in follow-on private-sector funding to a number of ARPA-E projects. In addition, many ARPA-E awardees have formed start-up or spin-off companies or partnered with other parts of the government and industry to advance their technologies." [ARPA-E.Energy.gov, accessed [3/17/17](#)]

### **Trump's Budget Proposal Cut Job Training Programs**

**The Proposal Would Close Job Corps Centers.** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Improves Job Corps for the disadvantaged youth it serves by closing centers that do a poor job educating and preparing students for jobs." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

- **Job Corps "Is A No-Cost Education And Vocational Training Program Administered By The U.S. Department Of Labor That Helps Young People Ages 16 Through 24 Improve The Quality Of Their Lives Through Vocational And Academic Training."** According to Job Corps, "Job Corps is a no-cost education and vocational training program administered by the U.S. Department of Labor that helps young people ages 16 through 24 improve the quality of their lives through vocational and academic training. Funded by Congress, Job Corps has been training young adults for meaningful careers since 1964. Job Corps is committed to offering all students a safe, drug-free environment where they can take advantage of the resources provided. Job Corps' mission is to set highly motivated young people on a pathway to education and training for successful careers in the nation's fastest-growing industries." [JobCorps.gov, accessed [3/16/17](#)]

**The Proposal "Decreases Federal Support For Job Training And Employment Service Formula Grants."** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Decreases Federal support for job training and employment service formula grants, shifting

more responsibility for funding these services to States, localities, and employers.” [White House Office of Management and Budget, “America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again,” [3/16/17](#)]

## **CANDIDATE TRUMP SAID BLACK VOTERS HAD NOTHING TO LOSE BY VOTING FOR HIM, BUT HIS BUDGET SAYS OTHERWISE**

### **Trump: “You’re Living In Poverty, Your Schools Are No Good, You Have No Jobs, 58 Percent Of Your Youth Is Unemployed – What The Hell Do You Have To Lose?”**

**Trump To African American Voters: “You’re Living In Poverty, Your Schools Are No Good, You Have No Jobs, 58 Percent Of Your Youth Is Unemployed – What The Hell Do You Have To Lose?”**

TRUMP: “What do you have to lose by trying something new like Trump? What do you have to lose? I say it again. What do you have to lose? Look, what do you have to lose? You’re living in poverty, your schools are no good, you have no jobs, 58 percent of your youth is unemployed – what the hell do you have to lose?” [Donald Trump, Rally, Dimondale, MI, 8/19/16]

### **Trump’s Budget Eliminated The Minority Business Development Agency Benefiting Minority-Owned Businesses**

**The Proposal Eliminated The Minority Business Development Agency.** According to the Office of Management and Budget’s FY2018 Budget Blueprint, “The President’s 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates the Minority Business Development Agency, which is duplicative of other Federal, State, local, and private sector efforts that promote minority business entrepreneurship including Small Business Administration District Offices and Small Business Development Centers.” [White House Office of Management and Budget, “America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again,” [3/16/17](#)]

- **The MDBA “Promotes The Growth Of Minority-Owned Business Through The Mobilization And Advancement Of Public And Private Sector Programs, Policy, And Research.”** According to the Minority Business Development Agency, “MBDA is an agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce that promotes the growth of minority-owned business through the mobilization and advancement of public and private sector programs, policy, and research.” [MBDA.gov, accessed [3/17/16](#)]

### **Trump’s Budget Cut Funding For Historically Black Colleges And Universities, Even After Promising To “Ensure Funding” As Part Of His “New Deal For Black America”**

**Trump Promised During The Campaign That He Would “Ensure Funding” For HBCUs As A Part Of His “New Deal For Black America.”** According to Politico, “On the campaign trail, Trump promised to ‘ensure funding’ for historically black schools in his ‘New Deal for Black America,’ part of his campaign’s outreach to minorities. Omarosa Manigault, the ‘Apprentice’ star-turned-White-House-aide, has spearheaded the drafting of the executive order, which is expected to be issued by the end of February — Black History Month.” [Politico, [2/27/17](#)]

**Trump’s First Presidential Budget Called For “Maintaining” \$492 Million In Appropriations For HBCUs And Minority-Serving Institutions, Which Would Actually Reduce Appropriated Combined Discretionary Spending By Nearly \$100 Million.** According to The Washington Post, “After meetings with the Trump administration last month, leaders of historically black colleges and universities expressed cautious optimism that the increased funding they requested might actually make it into the White House budget. It did not. Instead, Trump’s first presidential budget released Thursday calls for ‘maintaining’ \$492 million in appropriations for HBCUs and minority-serving institutions. Combined discretionary spending for

those schools, however, is actually \$577 million right now. The White House directed questions about the discrepancy to the Education Department, which did not respond to requests for comment.” [Washington Post, [3/16/17](#)]

- **Trump’s Budget Made No Mention Of Any Federal Investment In Scholarships, Technology Or Campus Infrastructure For Historically Black Colleges That Leaders Requested.** According to The Washington Post, “After meetings with the Trump administration last month, leaders of historically black colleges and universities expressed cautious optimism that the increased funding they requested might actually make it into the White House budget. It did not. [...] There is no mention in the budget of any federal investment in scholarships, technology or campus infrastructure for historically black colleges that leaders requested. And instead of expanding Pell grants for low-income students to cover summer courses as they had asked, the budget raids nearly \$4 billion from the program’s reserves. ‘Less than three weeks ago, this administration claimed it is a priority to advocate for HBCUs but, after viewing this budget proposal, those calls ring hollow,’ Rep. Alama Adams (D-N.C.), a graduate of the largest HBCU, North Carolina A&T State University, said in a statement.” [Washington Post, [3/16/17](#)]

### **Trump’s Budget Proposal Made Cuts To Programs Aimed At Providing Relief To Economically-Distressed Neighborhoods**

**The Proposal Eliminated Community Development Financial Institutions Fund Grants.** According to the Office of Management and Budget’s FY2018 Budget Blueprint, “The President’s 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates funding for Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund grants, a savings of \$210 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. The CDFI Fund was created more than 20 years ago to jump-start a now mature industry where private institutions have ready access to the capital needed to extend credit and provide financial services to underserved communities.” [White House Office of Management and Budget, “America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again,” [3/16/17](#)]

- **CDIF Fund Grants Help Provide Capital To Projects In Economically-Distressed Communities.** According to CDIFFund.gov, “The Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI Fund) plays an important role in generating economic growth and opportunity in some of our nation’s most distressed communities. By offering tailored resources and innovative programs that invest federal dollars alongside private sector capital, the CDFI Fund serves mission-driven financial institutions that take a market-based approach to supporting economically disadvantaged communities. These mission-driven organizations are encouraged to apply for CDFI Certification and participate in CDFI Fund programs that inject new sources of capital into neighborhoods that lack access to financing.” [CDIFFund.gov, accessed [3/16/17](#)]

**The Proposal Eliminated The Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation.** According to the Office of Management and Budget’s FY2018 Budget Blueprint, “The Budget also proposes to eliminate funding for other independent agencies, including: [...] the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation.” [White House Office of Management and Budget, “America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again,” [3/16/17](#)]

- **The Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation “Provides Financial Support, Technical Assistance, And Training For Community-Based Revitalization Efforts.”** According to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Neighborhood Reinvestmetn Corporation, “Provides financial support, technical assistance, and training for community-based revitalization efforts Nature of Program: The Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation (NRC) seeks to promote reinvestment in urban, suburban and rural communities by local financial institutions working cooperatively with residents and local government. It funds 235 organizations, monitors their



progress, and provides grants and consulting services.” [Department of Housing and Urban Development, accessed [3/17/17](#)]

## **Trump’s Budget Proposal Made Numerous, Massive Cuts To Affordable Housing Programs**

**The Proposal Cut \$3 Billion From The Community Development Block Grant Program.** According to the Office of Management and Budget’s FY2018 Budget Blueprint, “The President’s 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates funding for the Community Development Block Grant program, a savings of \$3 billion from the 2017 annualized CR level. The Federal Government has spent over \$150 billion on this block grant since its inception in 1974, but the program is not well-targeted to the poorest populations and has not demonstrated results. The Budget devolves community and economic development activities to the State and local level, and redirects Federal resources to other activities.” [White House Office of Management and Budget, “America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again,” [3/16/17](#)]

- **Community Development Grants Cleaned Up Abandoned Properties In Low-Income Neighborhoods.** According to The Washington Post, “The Trump administration has considered more than \$6 billion in cuts at the Department of Housing and Urban Development, according to preliminary budget documents obtained by The Washington Post. The plan would squeeze public housing support and end most federally funded community development grants, which provide services such as meal assistance and cleaning up abandoned properties in low-income neighborhoods.” [Washington Post, [3/8/17](#)]

**The Proposal Eliminated Funding For The HOME Investment Partnerships Program, Choice Neighborhoods, And The Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program.** According to the Office of Management and Budget’s FY2018 Budget Blueprint, “The President’s 2018 Budget: [...] Promotes fiscal responsibility by eliminating funding for a number of lower priority programs, including the HOME Investment Partnerships Program, Choice Neighborhoods, and the Self-help Homeownership Opportunity Program, a savings of over \$1.1 billion from the 2017 annualized CR level. State and local governments are better positioned to serve their communities based on local needs and priorities.” White House Office of Management and Budget, “America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again,” [3/16/17](#)]

- **Washington Post: These Programs “Help Redevelop Low-Income Neighborhoods And Encourage Homeownership.”** According to The Washington Post, “Also recommended for elimination are the HOME Investment Partnerships Program, the Choice Neighborhoods program and the Self-help Homeownership Opportunity Program. Cutting those programs — which help redevelop low-income neighborhoods and encourage homeownership — will shave an additional \$1.1 billion from HUD.” [Washington Post, [3/16/17](#)]

**The Proposal Cut Section 4 Capacity Building For Community Development And Affordable Housing.** According to the Office of Management and Budget’s FY2018 Budget Blueprint, “The President’s 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates funding for Section 4 Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing, a savings of \$35 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. This program is duplicative of efforts funded by philanthropy and other more flexible private sector investments.” [White House Office of Management and Budget, “America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again,” [3/16/17](#)]

- **The Section 4 Program “Enhances The Capacity And Ability Of Community Development Corporations (CDCs) And Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) To Carry Out Community Development And Affordable Housing Activities That Benefit Low-Income Persons.”** According to HUD Exchange, “The Capacity Building for Affordable Housing and Community Development Program, also known as the Section 4 program, was originally

authorized under Section 4 of the HUD Demonstration Act of 1993 (Pub. L. 103-120, 107 Stat. 1148, 42 U.S.C. 9816 note), as amended. The program enhances the capacity and ability of community development corporations (CDCs) and community housing development organizations (CHDOs) to carry out community development and affordable housing activities that benefit low-income persons.” [HUD Exchange, accessed [3/16/17](#)]

### *Cuts To Public Housing Could Put Residents In Physical Danger*

**New York City Council Member Ritchie Torres: “The Budget Cuts Will Lead To More Public Health Hazards In Public Housing.”** According to the Associated Press, “New York City Council Member Ritchie Torres said public housing in his city is so financially and physically fragile that it cannot safely absorb the shock of a 14 percent reduction in HUD’s budget. ‘The budget cuts will lead to more public health hazards in public housing,’ Torres, chair of the council’s committee on public housing, said in an interview Thursday. ‘It will lead to more leaking and molded conditions in public housing. It will lead to more neglect of the physical infrastructure.’” [Associated Press, [3/9/17](#)]

**Legal Aid Society Chief Lawyer Judith Goldiner: “Capital Disinvestment Leads To Deterioration.”** According to The New York Times, “‘If we don’t do something about these developments, we’re going to lose them,’ said Judith Goldiner, a chief lawyer with the Legal Aid Society, which represents public housing tenants in litigation against the housing authority. ‘Capital disinvestment leads to deterioration. Some units here, some units there, leads to a lot of units.’” [New York Times, [8/11/14](#)]

**Retired School Crossing Guard And Tenant Leader Roxanne Reid: “I’m Afraid The Whole Building Might Fall.”** According to The New York Times, “At Baruch, apartments need windows with better seals, facades need work to protect pedestrians from falling pieces of broken brick, and cracked walkways need repaving. In one 12-story building at Castle Hill, an entire vertical line of apartments shows cracks, residents said. ‘I’m afraid the whole building might fall,’ said Roxanne Reid, 58, a retired school crossing guard and tenant leader at the housing project.” [New York Times, [8/11/14](#)]

### *The U.S. Would Need 7.4 Million More Affordable Rental Homes And Apartments To House Everyone Living At Or Below The Poverty Line*

**The Number Of Affordable And Available Rental Homes For Households With Incomes At Or Below The Poverty Line Or Below 30% The Area Median Income Was 7.4 Million Less Than Necessary.** According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition report “The Gap: A Shortage of Affordable Homes,” “Each year, the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) measures the availability of rental housing affordable to extremely low income (ELI) households and other income groups (see Box 1). This year’s analysis is slightly different from previous years in that NLIHC adopted the federal government’s new statutory definition for ELI, which are households whose income is at or below either the poverty guideline or 30% of their area median income (AMI), whichever is higher. [...] As a result, there are only 4 million affordable and available rental homes for the 11.4 million ELI renter households. This results in a shortage of 7.4 million affordable and available rental homes for ELI households, or only 35 for every 100 ELI renter households.” [National Low Income Housing Coalition, [March 2017](#)]

## **TRUMP’S BUDGET MADE CUTS TO PROGRAMS SENIORS RELY ON**

### **Trump’s Budget Proposal Cut The Meals On Wheels Program**

**The Proposal Cut \$3 Billion From The Community Development Block Grant Program.** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates funding for the Community Development Block Grant program, a savings of \$3 billion from the 2017 annualized CR level. The Federal Government has spent over \$150 billion on this block grant since its inception in 1974, but the program is not well-targeted to the poorest populations and has not demonstrated results. The Budget devolves community and economic development activities to the State and local level, and redirects Federal resources to other activities." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

- **The Community Development Block Grant Program Funds Meals On Wheels.** According to CNN, "The budget blueprint suggests cutting funds for the Department of Housing and Urban Development by about \$6.2 billion, a 13.2% decrease from its 2017 funding level. Almost half of those savings will come by eliminating the \$3 billion Community Development Block Grant program, which provides money for a variety of community development and anti-poverty programs, including Meals on Wheels." [CNN, [3/17/17](#)]

### **Trump's Budget Proposal Cut A Job Training Program For Seniors Seeking To Enter The Workforce**

**The Proposal Cut \$434 Million From Job Training Programs, Including The Senior Community Service Employment Program Meant For "Transitioning Low-Income Unemployed Seniors Into Unsubsidized Jobs."** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Reduces funding for ineffective, duplicative, and peripheral job training grants. As part of this, eliminates the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), for a savings of \$434 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. SCSEP is ineffective in meeting its purpose of transitioning low-income unemployed seniors into unsubsidized jobs. As many as one-third of participants fail to complete the program and of those who do, only half successfully transition to unsubsidized employment." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

## **TRUMP RAN ON A CAMPAIGN PLATFORM OF KEEPING AMERICANS SAFE FROM TERRORISM, BUT HIS BUDGET PROPOSAL MADE DEEP CUTS TO AGENCIES THAT DO JUST THAT**

### **Trump Promised To Keep Americans "Safe From Terrorism"**

**Trump, November 2016: "Every Child In America Has A Right To Grow Up In Safety And Peace. We Will Also Keep You Safe From Terrorism."** At a rally in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, Trump said, "Every child in America has the right to grow up in safety and peace. We will also keep you safe from terrorism." [Donald Trump Rally, Eau Claire, WI, 11/1/16]

### **Trump's Budget Proposal Cut \$80 Million From TSA, Created After 9/11 To Prevent Similar Terrorist Attacks In The Future**

**The Proposal Cut \$80 Million From The TSA.** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates and reduces unauthorized and underperforming programs administered by TSA in order to strengthen screening at airport security checkpoints, a savings of \$80 million from the 2017 annualized CR level. These savings include reductions to the Visible Intermodal Prevention and Response program, which achieves few Federal law enforcement

priorities, and elimination of TSA grants to State and local jurisdictions, a program intended to incentivize local law enforcement patrols that should already be a high priority for State and local partners. In addition, the Budget reflects TSA's decision in the summer of 2016 to eliminate the Behavior Detection Officer program, reassigning all of those personnel to front line airport security operations. Such efforts refocus TSA on its core mission of protecting travelers and ensuring Federal security standards are enforced throughout the transportation system." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

- **TSA Was Created In The Wake Of The 9/11 Terrorist Attacks To Prevent Similar Attacks In The Future.** According to TSA.gov, "On the morning of September 11, 2001, nearly 3,000 people were killed in a series of coordinated terrorist attacks in New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia. The attacks resulted in the creation of the Transportation Security Administration, designed to prevent similar attacks in the future. Driven by a desire to help our nation, tens of thousands of people joined TSA and committed themselves to strengthening our transportation systems while ensuring the freedom of movement for people and commerce." [TSA.gov, accessed [3/15/17](#)]

### **Trump's Budget Proposal Cut FEMA, Which Helps Prevent And Respond To Disasters Including Acts Of Terror**

**The Proposal Cut \$667 Million From FEMA.** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates or reduces State and local grant funding by \$667 million for programs administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that are either unauthorized by the Congress, such as FEMA's Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program, or that must provide more measurable results and ensure the Federal Government is not supplanting other stakeholders' responsibilities, such as the Homeland Security Grant Program. For that reason, the Budget also proposes establishing a 25 percent non-Federal cost match for FEMA preparedness grant awards that currently require no cost match. This is the same cost-sharing approach as FEMA's disaster recovery grants. The activities and acquisitions funded through these grant programs are primarily State and local functions."

- **FEMA "Coordinates The Federal Government's Role In Preparing For, Preventing, Mitigating The Effects Of, And Recovering From All Domestic Disasters [...] Including Acts Of Terror."** According to FEMA.gov, "The Federal Emergency Management Agency coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror." [FEMA.gov, accessed [3/15/17](#)]
- **FEMA Hosts A Program To Help States And Municipalities Counter Violent Extremism.** According to ABC, "TSA would lose more than \$500 million in funding, while the Federal Emergency Management Agency would face an approximately \$370 million cut, reducing grant funding for emergency preparedness and countering violent extremism (a program to help states and communities prepare for and prevent extremist threats)." [ABC, [3/8/17](#)]
- **FEMA Conducts Research Into Bio-Surveillance Threats.** According to the Chicago Tribune, "At FEMA, a corner of the federal government whose budgets were beefed up after the 2001 terrorist attacks and Hurricane Katrina, the proposed cuts would slash some programs whose effectiveness has long come under criticism. Research into bio-surveillance threats and other research and development work that gets tens of millions of dollars in federal funding a year would take a 28 percent hit, examples of programs the budget proposal describes as 'having failed to show meaningful results.'" [Chicago Tribune, [3/7/17](#)]

## **While Trump's Budget Made Cuts To The TSA And FEMA, It Also Called For An Initial \$2.6 Billion To Pay For A Wall Along The Mexican Border**

**The Proposal Called For \$2.6 Billion “To Plan, Design, And Construct A Physical Wall Along The Southern Border.”** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, “The President's 2018 Budget: Secures the borders of the United States by investing \$2.6 billion in high-priority tactical infrastructure and border security technology, including funding to plan, design, and construct a physical wall along the southern border as directed by the President's January 25, 2017 Executive Order. This investment would strengthen border security, helping stem the flow of people and drugs illegally crossing the U.S. borders.” White House Office of Management and Budget, “America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again,” [3/16/17](#)]

## **Trump Has Defended The Need For The Wall In Terms Of Keeping Terrorists, Drug Dealers, And Criminals Out Of The United States...**

**Trump's Border Wall Executive Order Claimed The Wall Would Protect Americans From Drug And Human Trafficking And Terrorists.** According to Politico, “According to the executive order the president signed in late January, the wall is supposed ‘to prevent illegal immigration, drug and human trafficking, and acts of terrorism.’” [Politico, [2/28/17](#)]

**Trump Launched His Campaign Railing Against Mexico For Sending “Drugs,” “Crime,” And “Rapists,” And Promising To Build A Wall To Keep Them Out.** According to a transcript in the Washington Post, Donald Trump said, “Thank you. It's true, and these are the best and the finest. When Mexico sends its people, they're not sending their best. They're not sending you. They're not sending you. They're sending people that have lots of problems, and they're bringing those problems with us. They're bringing drugs. They're bringing crime. They're rapists. And some, I assume, are good people. But I speak to border guards and they tell us what we're getting. And it only makes common sense. It only makes common sense. They're sending us not the right people. [...] I would build a great wall, and nobody builds walls better than me, believe me, and I'll build them very inexpensively, I will build a great, great wall on our southern border. And I will have Mexico pay for that wall.” [Washington Post, transcript of Donald Trump speech, [6/16/15](#)]

## **...But Trump's Border Wall Would Be More Symbolic Than Effective In Preserving National Security**

*The 30-Foot Fences Currently In Place Along The Border Have Inspired Smugglers To Dig Underground Tunnels, Not Abandon Their Efforts To Cross*

**New York Times: Fences Up To 30 Feet High Currently At The Border Have “Done Little To Deter Enterprising Drug Smugglers” Who Have Just Gone Underground, Digging Tunnels To Exploit A Gap In Homeland Security That “Renders Talk Of A Wall Moot.”** According to the New York Times, “While Donald J. Trump, the Republican presidential nominee, has made building a wall at the border a central element of his campaign, the fence here that reaches up to 30 feet has done little to deter enterprising drug smugglers. It has simply helped push them underground. Border Patrol agents cannot hear smugglers digging and do not know how many tunnels there are, a gap in border security that homeland security experts say renders talk of a wall moot.” [New York Times, [9/1/16](#)]

- **New York Times: “The American Government Has Poured Hundreds Of Millions Of Dollars Into Research In The Hopes Of Finding A Way To Detect Tunnels, But Most Of These Efforts Have Ended In Disappointment.”** According to the New York Times, “The American government has poured hundreds of millions of dollars into research in hopes of finding a

way to detect tunnels, but most of these efforts have ended in disappointment. Most recently, the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security concluded that none of the current methods used to detect underground tunnels were ‘necessarily suited to Border Patrol agents’ operational needs.’” [New York Times, [9/1/16](#)]

*DHS: There Is “No Credible Intelligence To Suggest Terrorist Organizations Are Actively Plotting To Cross The Southwest Border”*

**The Department Of Homeland Security: There Is “No Credible Intelligence To Suggest Terrorist Organizations Are Actively Plotting To Cross The Southwest Border.”** According to Politico, “Yet there is no evidence that any terrorists have ever entered the U.S. through the Mexican land boundary, and the Department of Homeland Security has long held that it has ‘no credible intelligence to suggest terrorist organizations are actively plotting to cross the southwest border.’” [Politico, [2/28/17](#)]

- **Over 80% Of Those Engaged In Terrorist Activities Have Been U.S. Citizens Or Permanent Residents And Of The 154 Foreign Born Terrorists From 1975 – 2015, Only One Was Mexican.** According to Politico, “In fact, most terrorists active in the United States are homegrown. Since 9/11, over 80 percent of individuals who were charged with or died while engaging in jihad-related terrorist activities in this country have been U.S. citizens or permanent residents. As for those terrorists who are foreign born, according to a list compiled by Alex Nowrasteh, of 154 foreign-born people who committed or plotted terrorist attacks on U.S. soil from 1975 through 2015, only 1 was Mexican.” [Politico, [2/28/17](#)]

*Trump’s Claims That Undocumented Immigrants Pose A Unique Threat To Public Safety Are Not Supported By The Facts*

**University Of California-Irvine Professor Rubén Rumbaut Found That “Without Exception,” Incarceration Rates Among Young Men Were The Lowest For Immigrants For Every Ethnic Group, Especially Among Mexicans, Salvadorans, And Guatemalans.** According to an appendix written by University of California-Irvine professor Rubén Rumbaut for the Police Foundation, “Moreover, data from the census and a wide range of other empirical studies show that for every ethnic group without exception, incarceration rates among young men are lowest for immigrants, even those who are the least educated. This holds true especially for the Mexicans, Salvadorans, and Guatemalans, who make up the bulk of the undocumented population.” [Rubén Rumbaut – Police Foundation, archived [7/24/15](#)]

**Northwestern University Managerial Economics And Decision Sciences Assistant Professor Jörg Spenkuch Found That There Was “Essentially No Correlation Between Immigrants And Violent Crime.”** According to The Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University, “‘When you look at opinion surveys, three-quarters of Americans believe that immigration increases crime,’ says Jörg Spenkuch, an assistant professor of managerial economics and decision sciences at Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management. In a recent paper, Spenkuch investigated the validity of this assumption. [...] The results of his analysis are clear: ‘There’s essentially no correlation between immigrants and violent crime,’ he asserts.” [Kellogg School of Management, [6/2/14](#)]

**Cato Institute Immigration Policy Analyst Alex Nowrasteh Said There Was “No Way” To “Mess With The Numbers” To Disprove That Undocumented Immigrants Commit Less Crime Than Native-Born Americans.** According to The New York Times, “A central point of an executive order President Trump signed on Wednesday — and a mainstay of his campaign speeches — is the view that undocumented immigrants pose a threat to public safety. But several studies, over many years, have concluded that immigrants are less likely to commit crimes than people born in the United States. And experts say the available evidence does not support the idea that undocumented immigrants commit a

disproportionate share of crime. ‘There’s no way I can mess with the numbers to get a different conclusion,’ said Alex Nowrasteh, immigration policy analyst at the libertarian Cato Institute, which advocates more liberal immigration laws.” [New York Times, [1/26/17](#)]

**According To A 2007 National Bureau Of Economic Research Paper, Immigrants Had “Much Lower” Incarceration Rates Than The Native Born Population.** According to a National Bureau of Economic Research working paper by Wellesley College economist Kristin F. Butcher and Rutgers University economist Anne Morrison Piehl, “The perception that immigration adversely affects crime rates led to legislation in the 1990s that particularly increased punishment of criminal aliens. In fact, immigrants have much lower institutionalization (incarceration) rates than the native born - on the order of one-fifth the rate of natives.” [National Bureau of Economic Research, [July 2007](#)]

**FiveThirtyEight: That Immigrants Commit Crimes At Lower Rates “Isn’t Surprising” Because Non-Citizens “Face Possible Deportation If They Are Convicted Of A Violent Crime, Meaning Such Crimes Carry A Higher Risk.”** According to FiveThirtyEight, “Most research, however, has found that immigrants, including undocumented immigrants, commit violent crimes at lower rates than native-born Americans. That isn’t surprising — non-citizens, even those here legally, face possible deportation if they are convicted of a violent crime, meaning such crimes carry a higher risk than they do for the U.S. born.” [FiveThirtyEight, [2/22/17](#)]

*Despite Trump’s Claims, Drugs Are Not Pouring Through The Border At Record Rates*

**Washington Post: “Trump’s Assertion That ‘Drugs Pour Through Our Southern Border At A Record Clip’ Is Not Supported By The Available Data.”** According to the Washington Post, “We’re also letting drugs pour through our southern border at a record clip. At a record clip. And it shouldn’t be allowed to happen. In a debate performance characterized by personal insults, outlandish claims and a threat to jail his opponent in the event that he won the presidency, it was easy to overlook Donald Trump’s claim, above, about the flow of drugs into the U.S. Broadly speaking, Trump’s assertion that ‘drugs pour through our southern border at a record clip’ is not supported by the available data. Drug seizures at the southwest border are the best barometer for measuring the amount of drugs flowing into the country from Mexico and points south. Data from U.S. Customs and Border Protection shows that the total amount of drugs seized at the Southwest border (along California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas) has dropped precipitously over the past five years, from roughly 2.5 million pounds of drugs in 2011 to about 1.5 million pounds in 2015.” [Washington Post, [10/10/16](#)]

**Experts Noted That Prioritizing Security Along Land Borders Would Open Up Maritime Borders, Increasing The Need For Guarding Ports And Coastlines**

**Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff: The Trump Administration Proposal Is Like “Putting An Extra Lock On The Front Door And None On The Back Door. [...] You Are Not Really Protecting The House.”** According to the New York Times, “‘It’s a little bit like putting an extra lock on the front door and none on the back door,’ said Michael Chertoff, who led the Homeland Security Department for four years. ‘You are not really protecting the house.’” [New York Times, [3/9/17](#)]

**Politico: Loy And Other Experts Have Argued That “Hiring More Border Agents And Building A Wall Are Likely To Increase The Need For Guarding Ports And Coastlines.”** According to Politico, “Loy and others argue that hiring more border agents and building a wall are likely to increase the need for guarding ports and coastlines. And they contend that the Coast Guard, which intercepted more than 6,000 illegal migrants in 2016, is already overtaxed in interdicting illegal drugs and people from Central and South America while defending ports of entry from terrorist attack. Under its current budget, they say, it can’t afford to buy the new helicopters and ships it needs.” [Politico, [3/7/17](#)]

**Retired Coast Guard Commander Stephen Flynn: “As You Harden The Land Border You Open Up The Maritime Border. [...] It Makes No Sense. You Are Going To Have This Balloon Effect.”**

According to Politico, “‘As you harden the land border you open up the maritime border,’ argued Stephen Flynn, a retired Coast Guard commander who is director of the Global Resilience Institute at Northeastern University. ‘It makes no sense. You are going to have this balloon effect.’” [Politico, [3/7/17](#)]

**TRUMP’S BUDGET PROPOSAL CUT RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS THAT HELP KEEP VETERANS IN HOMES AND OFF THE STREETS**

**Exit Polls Suggested Veterans Voted For Trump By About A 2 To 1 Margin.** According to The Washington Post, “Swing-state counties with especially high numbers of veterans helped propel Donald Trump to the White House, suggesting that his attacks this summer on a Gold Star family did not dampen support for him in military communities. In a number of counties in Ohio, North Carolina and Florida, Trump beat Hillary Clinton by wider margins than his Republican predecessors performed against Obama in the last two presidential races. All three swing states have rich military traditions and numerous counties in which thousands or tens of thousands of veterans live. Exit polls suggest veterans voted for Trump by about a 2 to 1 margin, reflecting the typical Republican bent of this group of voters.” [Washington Post, [11/10/16](#)]

**The Proposal Cut Rental Assistance Programs.** According to the Office of Management and Budget’s FY2018 Budget Blueprint, “The President’s 2018 Budget: [...] Provides over \$35 billion for HUD’s rental assistance programs and proposes reforms that reduce costs while continuing to assist 4.5 million low-income households.” [White House Office of Management and Budget, “America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again,” [3/16/17](#)]

**As Of 2014, Rental Assistance Helped 343,000 Veterans Afford Housing, Plus 121,000 Of Their Children.** According to the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, “Rental assistance helped 343,000 veterans afford housing in March 2014, the most recent data available. Some 52 percent were elderly and 21 percent were non-elderly veterans with disabilities. Some 121,000 children lived in assisted families that included a veteran. Ten percent of veterans with rental assistance were female.” [Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, [11/10/14](#)]

**HUD Awarded More Than 85,000 Housing Choice Vouchers To Provide Rental Assistance For Homeless Veterans.** According to a press release by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, “The HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program combines Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance for homeless Veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). VA provides these services for participating Veterans at VA medical centers (VAMCs) and community-based outreach clinics. [...] HUD has awarded funding for approximately 10,000 HUD-VASH vouchers each year in 2008-2010 and 2012-2015. Congress appropriated \$50 million in 2011 to serve approximately 7,000 voucher families and \$60 million in 2016 to serve approximately 8,000 families. In addition, HUD has held three competitions, in 2010, 2014, and 2015, to competitively award a total of over 2,600 project-based HUD-VASH vouchers. Since 2008, a total of over 85,000 vouchers have been awarded.” [Housing and Urban Development, archived [3/15/17](#)]

- **HUD-VASH Served More Than 111,000 Homeless Veterans.** According to a press release by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, “Since 2010, the Obama Administration and 19 federal agencies and offices that form the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) launched the nation's first comprehensive strategy to prevent and end homelessness. Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness serves as a roadmap for how the federal government will work with state and local communities to confront the root causes of homelessness,



especially among former servicemen and women. More than 79,000 vouchers have been awarded and approximately 111,000 homeless veterans have been served through the HUD-VASH program since 2008. Rental assistance and supportive services provided through HUD-VASH are a critical resource for local communities in ending homelessness among our nation's veterans." [Housing and Urban Development, [11/14/16](#)]

## **OTHER VICTIMS OF TRUMP'S BUDGET INCLUDE LOW-INCOME WOMEN AND CHILDREN, LOW-INCOME STUDENTS, COMMUNITIES HURT BY CLIMATE CHANGE, ASPIRING HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS, ASPIRING ENTREPRENEURS, AND AMERICANS LIVING NEAR ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS**

### **Trump's Proposal Cut Funding For WIC, The Supplemental Nutrition Program For Women, Infants, And Children**

**The Trump Administration's Budget Proposal Provided \$6.2 Billion For The Supplemental Nutrition Program For Women, Infants, And Children (WIC).** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Provides \$6.2 billion to serve all projected participants in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). WIC provides grants to States for supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant and postpartum women, infants, and children who are at nutritional risk." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

- **WIC Received \$6.4 Billion In Fiscal Year 2017.** According to The Washington Post, "The administration plans to spend \$6.2 billion on the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, down from \$6.4 billion in 2017." [Washington Post, [3/16/17](#)]

### **Trump's Budget Proposal Cut K-12 Enrichment Programs, Federal Work-Study, And Grants To College Students With "Exceptional Financial Need"**

**The Proposal Eliminated The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Program That "Supports Before And After-School Programs As Well As Summer Programs."** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers program, which supports before and after-school programs as well as summer programs, resulting in savings of \$1.2 billion from the 2017 annualized CR level. The program lacks strong evidence of meeting its objectives, such as improving student achievement." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

- **The Program Was Created To Provide Students At High-Poverty And Low-Performing Schools With Academic Enrichment Opportunities.** According to the U.S. Department of Education, "The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers program is authorized under Title IV, Part B, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. The purpose of this important program is to create community learning centers that provide academic enrichment opportunities for children, particularly students who attend high poverty and low-performing schools, to meet State and local student standards in core academic subjects, to offer students a broad array of enrichment activities that can complement their regular academic programs, and to offer literacy and other educational services to the families of participating children." [U.S. Department of Education, [February 2003](#)]

**Trump's Budget Proposal Called For Nearly \$200 Million In Cuts To The Federal TRIO And Gear Up Programs, "Which Help Disadvantaged Students In Middle And High Schools Prepare For College."** According to The Washington Post, "A host of programs aimed at low-income students are slated for cuts. Federal work-study funds that help students work their way through college would be reduced 'significantly.' The proposal also calls for nearly \$200 million in cuts to federal TRIO and Gear Up programs, which help disadvantaged students in middle and high schools prepare for college." [Washington Post, [3/16/17](#)]

**The Proposal Made Unspecified Cuts To The Federal Work-Study Program.** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Reduces Federal Work-Study significantly and reforms the poorly-targeted allocation to ensure funds go to undergraduate students who would benefit most." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

- **"Federal Work-Study Provides Part-Time Jobs For Undergraduate And Graduate Students With Financial Need, Allowing Them To Earn Money To Help Pay Education Expenses."** According to Federal Student Aid, "Federal Work-Study provides part-time jobs for undergraduate and graduate students with financial need, allowing them to earn money to help pay education expenses. The program encourages community service work and work related to the student's course of study." [Studentaid.Ed.Gov, accessed [3/16/17](#)]

**The Proposal Eliminated the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Program.** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant program, a less well targeted way to deliver need-based aid than the Pell Grant program, to reduce complexity in financial student aid and save \$732 million from the 2017 annualized CR level." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

- **Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants Are Given To Undergraduates "With Exceptional Financial Need."** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "A Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) is a grant for undergraduate students with exceptional financial need." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

### **Trump's Budget Proposal Cut Programs Helping Communities Impacted By Climate Change And Sea Level Rise**

**The Proposal Cut Over \$250 Million From The National Oceanic And Atmospheric Administration.** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Zeroes out over \$250 million in targeted National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) grants and programs supporting coastal and marine management, research, and education including Sea Grant, which primarily benefit industry and State and local stakeholders. These programs are a lower priority than core functions maintained in the Budget such as surveys, charting, and fisheries management." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

- **Washington Post: The Cuts Would Eliminate "Coastal Research Programs That Prepare Communities For Rising Sea And Worsening Storms."** According to The Washington Post, "The Commerce cuts would eliminate \$ 250 million in coastal research programs that prepare

communities for rising seas and worsening storms, including the popular \$73 million Sea Grant program, which works with universities in 33 states.” [Washington Post, [3/16/17](#)]

### **Trump’s Budget Proposal Eliminated Health Professional And Nurse Training Programs**

**The Proposal Eliminated \$403 Million In Health Professional And Nurse Training Programs.** The President’s 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates \$403 million in health professions and nursing training programs, which lack evidence that they significantly improve the Nation’s health workforce. The Budget continues to fund health workforce activities that provide scholarships and loan repayments in exchange for service in areas of the United States where there is a shortage of health professionals.” [White House Office of Management and Budget, “America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again,” [3/16/17](#)]

### **Trump’s Budget Proposal Cut Programs Designed To Help Disadvantaged Aspiring Entrepreneurs**

**The Proposal Cut \$12 Million From PRIME Technical Assistance Grants, Regional Innovation Clusters, And Growth Accelerators.** According to the Office of Management and Budget’s FY2018 Budget Blueprint, “The President’s 2018 Budget: [...] Achieves \$12 million in cost savings from the 2017 annualized CR level through identifying and eliminating those SBA grant programs where the private sector provides effective mechanisms to foster local business development and investment. Eliminations include PRIME technical assistance grants, Regional Innovation Clusters, and Growth Accelerators.” [White House Office of Management and Budget, “America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again,” [3/16/17](#)]

- **SBA Technical Assistance Grants “Provide Training And Technical Assistance To Disadvantaged Micro-Entrepreneurs.”** According to the Small Business Administration, “Technical Assistance Grant : Provide training and technical assistance to disadvantaged micro-entrepreneurs.” [SBA.gov, accessed [3/16/17](#)]

### **Trump’s Budget Proposal Cut Programs Helping Americans Living Near EPA Superfund Sites And Others Subject To Regional Environmental Hazards**

**The Proposal Cut The EPA’s Superfund Budget By \$330 Million.** According to the Office of Management and Budget’s FY2018 Budget Blueprint, “The President’s 2018 Budget: [...] Reins in Superfund administrative costs and emphasizes efficiency efforts by funding the Hazardous Substance Superfund Account at \$762 million, \$330 million below the 2017 annualized CR level. The agency would prioritize the use of existing settlement funds to clean up hazardous waste sites and look for ways to remove some of the barriers that have delayed the program’s ability to return sites to the community.” [White House Office of Management and Budget, “America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again,” [3/16/17](#)]

- **The Bridgeton Landfill Near St. Louis, Currently On Fire And At Risk Of Coming In Contact With Uranium Residue At The Adjacent West Lake Landfill, Is An Example Of An EPA Superfund Site.** According to St. Louis Public Radio, “The underground fire that has been smoldering at the Bridgeton Landfill since at least December 2010 is still there. So is the World War II-era nuclear weapons waste at the adjacent West Lake Landfill. [...] The West Lake Landfill was listed on the National Priorities List in 1990, making it a Superfund site under the regulatory authority of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The landfill contains World War II-era uranium processing residues, illegally dumped there by a local contractor for the Cotter Corp., a former uranium processing company, in 1973.” [St. Louis Public Radio, [10/20/15](#)]

**The Proposal Eliminated “Funding For Specific Regional Efforts Such As The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, The Chesapeake Bay, And Other Geographic Programs.”** According to the

Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates funding for specific regional efforts such as the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, the Chesapeake Bay, and other geographic programs. These geographic program eliminations are \$427 million lower than the 2017 annualized CR levels. The Budget returns the responsibility for funding local environmental efforts and programs to State and local entities, allowing EPA to focus on its highest national priorities." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

**The Proposal Eliminated "More Than 50 EPA Programs" Totaling \$347 Million.** According to the Office of Management and Budget's FY2018 Budget Blueprint, "The President's 2018 Budget: [...] Eliminates more than 50 EPA programs, saving an additional \$347 million compared to the 2017 annualized CR level. Lower priority and poorly performing programs and grants are not funded, nor are duplicative functions that can be absorbed into other programs or that are State and local responsibilities. Examples of eliminations in addition to those previously mentioned include: Energy Star; Targeted Airshed Grants; the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program; and infrastructure assistance to Alaska Native Villages and the Mexico Border." [White House Office of Management and Budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," [3/16/17](#)]

## Critics Of Trump's Misguided Budget Proposal Included Many Members Of His Own Party

### REPUBLICAN LAWMAKERS EXPRESSED CONCERN WITH THE DRASTIC CUTS WITHIN TRUMP'S BUDGET PROPOSAL

#### **Sen. Susan Collins: There Are "Serious Problems" With President Donald Trump's Budget.**

According to the Island Packet, "Maine Sen. Susan Collins says there are 'serious problems' with President Donald Trump's proposed budget. Collins, a Republican, says she is particularly troubled by proposed cuts to the National Institutes of Health. She says the cuts would jeopardize biomedical research that is important for developing treatments of diseases such as Alzheimer's Disease. She also says she's worried by the proposed elimination of the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery grant program that helps rebuild infrastructure." [Island Packet, [3/16/17](#)]

**Sen. Marco Rubio: "I Do Not Support The Proposed 28 Percent Cut To Our International Affairs Budget And Diplomatic Efforts Led By The State Department. [...] These Programs Are Integral To Our National Security, And Cuts At These Levels Undermine America's Ability To Keep Our Citizens Safe."** According to Politico, "Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), who serves on both the Appropriations and Foreign Relations panels, also criticized the cuts to the State Department budget, although he backed other parts of Trump's proposal. 'I do not support the proposed 28 percent cut to our international affairs budget and diplomatic efforts led by the State Department,' Rubio said in a statement. 'These programs are integral to our national security, and cuts at these levels undermine America's ability to keep our citizens safe.'" [Politico, [3/16/17](#)]

#### **Rep. Harold Rogers: "I Am Disappointed That Many Of The Reductions And Eliminations Proposed In The President's Skinny Budget Are Draconian, Careless And Counterproductive."**

According to the New York Times, "'While we have a responsibility to reduce our federal deficit, I am disappointed that many of the reductions and eliminations proposed in the president's skinny budget are draconian, careless and counterproductive,' said Representative Harold Rogers, Republican of Kentucky and a former chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. 'We will certainly review this budget proposal, but Congress ultimately has the power of the purse.'" [New York Times, [3/16/17](#)]

**Rep. K. Michael Conaway Raised Concerns That Trump's Budget Would Hurt Farmers During Already Tough Times.** According to the Washington Post, "The same could be said for Republicans from rural and agriculture-heavy states that stand to lose big under Trump's proposed cuts. House Agriculture Committee Chairman K. Michael Conaway (R-Tex.) raised concerns that farmers could be hit hard at a time when farm income is already down 50 percent compared with four years ago." [Washington Post, [3/16/17](#)]

**Rep. Ed Royce: "I Am Very Concerned That Deep Cuts To Our Diplomacy Will Hurt Efforts To Combat Terrorism, Distribute Critical Humanitarian Aid, And Promote Opportunities For American Workers."** According to Politico, "I am very concerned that deep cuts to our diplomacy will hurt efforts to combat terrorism, distribute critical humanitarian aid, and promote opportunities for American workers," said Rep. Ed Royce (R-Calif.), chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, of dramatic reductions in the State Department and foreign aid budgets. "Especially when the United States is fighting ISIS and millions are at risk of starvation around the world." [Politico, [3/16/17](#)]

**Rep. Steve Stivers: "A \$54 Billion Trade From Domestic To Defense Spending — And I Consider Myself A Defense Hawk — I Think That Some Of The Cuts Are A Little Drastic In Certain Places."** According to Politico, "I think the president's proposal is not our starting point," said Rep. Steve Stivers of Ohio, chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee, which is tasked with safeguarding the House majority. "A \$54 billion trade from domestic to defense spending — and I consider myself a defense hawk — I think that some of the cuts are a little drastic in certain places." [Politico, [3/16/17](#)]

**Rep. Frank Lucas: "I Respect The President For Making Tough Choices. But I Need My County [Farm Service Agency] Offices, And I Need To Make Sure We Have The Ability To Feed Ourselves And Make Sure Nobody Goes Hungry."** According to Politico, "I've been here 22 years. I've seen a whole bunch of presidential budgets submitted," said Rep. Frank Lucas of Oklahoma. "It's still the House and Senate Budget committees that decide, and ultimately, it's the Appropriations Committee and whatever happens in the fall that decides." Lucas added, "I respect the president for making tough choices. But I need my county [Farm Service Agency] offices, and I need to make sure we have the ability to feed ourselves and make sure nobody goes hungry." [Politico, [3/16/17](#)]

**Rep. Steve Womack: "I Think It's Unwise To Be Taking Those Kinds Of Cuts In The NIH At This Stage Of The Game."** According to Politico, "When you're looking at a nearly \$6 billion cut to the NIH, that one kind of stands out to me," said Rep. Steve Womack (R-Ark.), who sits on the Appropriations subcommittee that oversees NIH funding. "In that particular category, NIH has the potential — with a certain investment — to bend the cost curve on fighting many diseases. ... I think it's unwise to be taking those kinds of cuts in the NIH at this stage of the game." Womack said Trump's plan would be "asking the Appropriations Committee to do some things that may not be politically possible in the framework that we have to work with." [Politico, [3/16/17](#)]

## **NEWSPAPERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY ALSO REPORTED ON THEIR CONCERNS, MOST FOCUSING ON THE IMPACTS THE BUDGET WOULD HAVE ON LOW-INCOME AMERICANS**

**Washington Post Wonkblog Headline: "If You're A Poor Person In America, Trump's Budget Is Not For You."** [Wonkblog – Washington Post, [3/16/17](#)]

**Bloomberg Headline: "Trump Budget Plan Declares War On 'War On Poverty' Programs."** [Bloomberg, [3/16/17](#)]

**Vice Headline: "How Trump's Vicious Budget Would Hurt Science, Poor People, And The Arts."** [Vice, [3/16/17](#)]

**Texas Tribune: “Trump Budget Cuts Would Hit Texas Education Service Programs Hard.”** [Texas Tribune, [3/16/17](#)]

**Houston Chronicle Headline: “Trump Budget Would Hit Texas Hard.”** [Houston Chronicle Headline, [3/16/17](#)]

**Penn Live Headline: “Drink Water In Pennsylvania? Trump's Budget Puts Your Health At Risk, Regulator Says.”** [Penn Live, [3/16/17](#)]

**News Journal Headline: “Trump Budget Proposal Would Cut Deep In Delaware.”** [News Journal Headline, [3/16/17](#)]

**Kansas City Star Headline: “Trump Budget Proposal Would Hit Low-Income Kansas Citizens The Hardest.”** [Kansas City Star, [3/16/17](#)]

**Detroit News Headline: “Trump’s Budget Plan Hurts Michigan, Great Lakes Cleanup.”** [Detroit News Headline, [3/16/17](#)]

**Lexington Herald Leader Headline: “As Trump Returns To Kentucky, His Budget Cuts Target People Who Voted For Him.”** [Lexington Herald Leader, [3/16/17](#)]

**Politico Headline: “Trump’s Budget Ripped From Bannon’s Nationalistic Playbook.”** [Politico, [3/16/17](#)]

**NPR: “Advocates For The Poor Say The Budget Plan The Trump Administration Rolled Out On Thursday Would Be A Kick In The Shins For Low-Income Americans.”** According to NPR, “Advocates for the poor say the budget plan the Trump administration rolled out on Thursday would be a kick in the shins for low-income Americans.” [NPR, [3/17/17](#)]

**Boston Globe: “Some Of The Biggest Losers In Trump’s Budget Are The Rural Communities That Fueled His Stunning White House Victory.”** According to the Boston Globe, “Some of the biggest losers in President Trump’s proposed budget are the rural communities that fueled his stunning White House victory. Funding that keeps rural airports open, grants that help build rural water and sewer projects, and money for long-distance Amtrak lines that serve rural communities would all disappear under Trump’s budget blueprint released Thursday. Trump also wants to kill the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, which helps people, including seniors on fixed incomes and the working poor, to pay their heating bills. It’s a particularly prized resource in New England, with its brutal winters. Also on the chopping block: funding for the Appalachian Regional Commission, which seeks to boost economic development in a region that strongly supported Trump. Into the dustbin, too, would go the US Chemical Safety Board, an agency that has open investigations in Mississippi, Florida, Texas, and Kansas, and last September wrapped up a probe of a West Virginia chemical spill that left more than 300,000 people without usable water for a time.” [Boston Globe, [3/16/17](#)]

**New York Times: Trump’s Budget Slashed Programs That The Low Income Workers In His Coalition Depend On.** According to the New York Times, “The approach is a risky gamble for Mr. Trump, whose victory in November came in part by assembling a coalition that included low-income workers who rely on many of the programs that he now proposes to slash. For now, the president and his advisers appear willing to take that risk by casting the administration as better caretakers of taxpayers’ money.” [New York Times, [3/16/17](#)]

**Washington Post: Trump's Budget Cuts Would Hurt 37 Million Rural Americans.** According to the Washington Post, "In the context of Trump's other budget goals, the money at stake is paltry. What the rural development agencies spend in a year is a third of 1 percent of Trump's proposed \$54 billion bump in the military budget. The cost of Trump's increase in military spending could fund them for more than 300 years. More than 37 million people would be affected in the 698 counties where the agencies work — in Appalachia, the Mississippi basin, and rural northern New England — places where the poverty rate is 33 percent higher than the national average. By proposing to zero out these programs, the president's budget would eliminate a key effort to help to some of the nation's poorest regions." [Washington Post, [3/17/17](#)]

**The Atlantic: Trump's Budget Cuts "Could Set Back Scientific And Technological Breakthroughs That Spur Innovation And Create Jobs As Well As Jeopardize, Or Even Eliminate Entirely, Government Programs Designed To Support American Manufacturing."** According to the Atlantic, "Donald Trump won the White House after promising to bring back jobs to the United States and revive American manufacturing. But the president's budget blueprint, released on Thursday, calls for federal funding cuts that could set back scientific and technological breakthroughs that spur innovation and create jobs as well as jeopardize, or even eliminate entirely, government programs designed to support American manufacturing." [Atlantic, [3/16/17](#)]

**Dan Rather: "People Will Die Because Of [Trump's] Budget."** According to the Washington Examiner, "Veteran journalist and former CBS News anchor Dan Rather predicted dire outcomes if the White House's federal budget proposal were to take effect, including death. 'Rather than investing in what will truly make America great, this philosophy pounds its chest with false bravado,' Rather said in a Facebook note. 'People will die because of this budget. People will suffer. Diseases will spread, and cures will not be found. ... our nation will be much darker and more dangerous.'" [Washington Examiner, [3/16/17](#)]