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## **PRESIDENT TRUMP'S FY17 PLAN ADDS INSULT TO INJURY**

*Following the massive cuts to domestic spending for FY18, President Trump's requests for FY17 cut funding to programs Americans rely in daily*

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**Washington, DC** – On Friday, the White House Office of Management and Budget sent a list of proposed budget cuts to the Appropriations Committees to be used in the current fiscal year to support an increase in the Pentagon's budget. The following is a joint statement from NDD United co-chairs Sheryl Cohen, Benjamin Corb, Emily Holubowich and Joel Packer in response to the \$18 billion in nondefense cuts:

“In order to push forward a ‘hard power budget,’ President Donald Trump has – once again – put military spending ahead of the health and wellbeing of Americans. The President's fiscal year 2017 reduction request makes deep cuts to many of the programs that Americans from coast-to-coast rely on to support their livelihood on a daily basis.

This isn't the first time we've said this, but the cuts proposed by the President will make America sicker, poorer, and less secure. Following the President's budget blueprint for FY18, these cuts make it clear the President has one focus, and that's to increase defense spending, no matter the cost to the American people.

The President's plan, which cuts nearly \$18 billion in federal spending in the remaining 5 months of the fiscal year, includes cuts to programs that improve the lives of Americans every day. Deep cuts would hamper housing programs that help vulnerable Americans afford a home, federally supported programs aimed at creating good paying jobs and ensuring a workforce educated and trained for the future, and research across the spectrum. These cuts reverse progress in programs that have enjoyed bipartisan support in Washington, like investments in the National Institutes of Health. One in three Americans live with a disease which has no cure. Cutting programs to help develop those cures just flatly does not make sense.

The budget is not just a math problem. It has real effects on Americans' lives. For years, proposals have been made to increase the defense budget at the expense of nondefense programs. President Trump's fiscal year 2017 proposal simply goes a step further in detailing what would need to be lost in order to make the budget work. Americans simply cannot afford to continue to increase defense spending at the expense of the programs that keep them healthy, safe, and secure at home.”

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