



COALITION ON HUMAN NEEDS

1120 Connecticut Avenue, NW *Suite 910 * Washington, DC 20036 * 202.223.2532 * www.chn.org

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The President's Intransigence: His Cuts Hurt People

The President and his loyalists in Congress have refused to budge from the levels he proposed for services last February. He was particularly harsh to health, education, worker training, and social services – cutting Labor-Health and Human Services-Education appropriations \$3.8 billion below 2007 levels (or \$6.7 billion less, counting inflation). Just as serious, his funding for the Women, Infants and Children nutrition program and for housing assistance would deprive many thousands of needy people of essential help. Those in Congress who stand pat with the President's cuts are voting to inflict more harm on millions and to reject investments in our future.

Service	Amount Congress' Proposals Exceed President's	How People Would be Hurt
Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)	\$629.6 m	President's funding would reduce the number of low-income households receiving heating/cooling aid by up to 1.4 million – many elderly and working poor families.*
Women, Infants and Children Nutrition (WIC)	\$217m - \$333m (range between House and Senate)	President's funding would force WIC to serve nutritious foods to 500,000 fewer pregnant women, babies, and young children than now receiving help. House and Senate funding is also not enough to cover all of the 8.48m participants served in the last quarter of 2007; their cuts would range from 50,000 – 240,000. These cuts are wholly unacceptable also; but the President's funding would serve from 260,000 – 450,000 fewer people.
Community Health Centers	\$224.5m	1.2 million more underinsured people would receive health care at CHC's under Congress' bill.+
Pell Grants (scholarships for low-income college students)	\$523.1m	Congress will raise maximum Pell grant from \$4,310 to \$4,925.+
Head Start	\$253.6m	If the President's cut goes into effect, Head Start programs would either have to serve 34,000 fewer children or spend \$279 less per child.*
Child Care	\$32.5m	Congress' funding would serve 5,500 more children than the President's.*
Community Services Block Grant	\$665.4m (President eliminates program)	Dramatically reduce the capacity of 1,100 community action programs and other agencies to provide home energy aid, weatherization, job training, transportation, and/or administer Head Start programs and other services that have been used by millions of people.
Social Services Block Grant	\$500m	The President would slash funding from \$1.7b to \$1.2b; Congress level-funds. SSBG funds child care, foster care and other child welfare services, services for at-risk youth, meals on wheels and adult day services for the elderly, and other services.
Rental Housing Vouchers (Section 8 program for low-income tenants)		The President's budget would eliminate 25,000 vouchers compared to FY 2007. Congress would add 19,000 vouchers.

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Job training for adults, youth, and dislocated workers	\$821.2m	The President proposes cuts that would eliminate training for 173,000 people. Congress level-funds these programs, and so would shrink services by inflation (about 3%), where the President's cuts range from 20 – 40%.+
Education for disadvantaged students (K-12) – grants to local school districts	\$401.5m	Both the President and Congress increase funding (by 5% and 9% over inflation respectively), but because the President's funding is so far below the amount promised to schools, they will be farther behind in helping students to meet educational standards.
Special Education for children with disabilities (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, IDEA): grants to states (Part B)	\$800.5m	The President's budget would require an average cut of \$125 per child receiving special education services; 6.9 million children now receive such services. Congress increases funds by 2% beyond inflation.#

* Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, online at <http://www.cbpp.org/11-8-07bud.htm>

+ House Committee on Appropriations, How 2 Months Spending in Iraq Could Be Put to Better Use, online at <http://appropriations.house.gov>

House Budget Committee, online at [http://budget.house.gov/analyses/0802state_report%20\(2\).pdf](http://budget.house.gov/analyses/0802state_report%20(2).pdf)

For more information, contact Deborah Weinstein at dweinstein@chn.org