



COALITION ON HUMAN NEEDS

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May 2, 2017

The Honorable Keith Ellison, Raúl Grijalva, and Mark Pocan
Co-Chairs, Congressional Progressive Caucus
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Ellison, Grijalva, and Pocan:

On behalf of the Coalition on Human Needs, I write in strong support of The People's Budget, the FY 2018 budget proposal put forth by the Congressional Progressive Caucus. The Coalition is made up of more than 100 national organizations, including faith groups, human service providers, policy experts, civil rights, consumer, and labor organizations, representing millions of people nationwide and united in understanding that our nation's progress depends on ensuring that low-income and vulnerable people have the opportunity to share in and contribute to our prosperity.

The People's Budget brilliantly demonstrates that it is not only possible to invest in a comprehensive agenda to create jobs, modernize our infrastructure, protect our environment and public health, and improve our people's access to basic living standards, but that doing so is the most responsible way to protect our economic security and future.

The People's Budget is able to ensure that people have good jobs to go to without sacrificing the nurturing of their children by making essential investments including a \$2 trillion infrastructure plan, child care and early childhood education, paid family leave, adequate nutrition, and affordable health care and housing. The People's Budget is a truly responsible plan because it requires wealthy individuals and profitable corporations to pay their fair share in taxes, stopping the tax avoidance, including sheltering of income in overseas tax havens, that has lavished hundreds of billions in tax reductions to those whose incomes have been soaring.

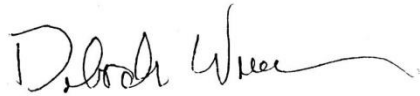
The People's Budget is the answer to those who say that the only way to reduce the deficit is to slash services like Medicaid, food assistance, affordable housing, or education. These programs have a proven track record of preparing children to grow up able to become productive workers and to escape poverty. They are essential investments. We can afford to make these investments if we collect revenues fairly from high income individuals and corporations, and if we provide for a strong military without wasteful spending that undermines our security.

The People's Budget has its priorities straight. Unlike the Trump budget and health care repeal plans, the People's Budget advances our nation's security by ensuring that people can get health

coverage, afford basic living standards like food, child care, and housing, and secure jobs with good pay. The Trump budget and health care repeal plans slash investments like these in order to cut taxes for corporations and the rich by trillions of dollars, pretending that such destructive actions will cause economic growth. The People's Budget rejects the harm and the fakery. It makes proven investments that will build our future, paid for responsibly.

The Coalition on Human Needs commends the Congressional Progressive Caucus for showing that the visionary is fundamentally practical, and urges all Representatives to vote for The People's Budget.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah Weinstein", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Deborah Weinstein,
Executive Director