Presentation to National WIC Association

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Policy Risks in 2017

Policymakers could:

• Repeal the Affordable Care Act (including the Medicaid expansion) without an adequate replacement

• Make core safety net programs like Medicaid & SNAP less effective by converting them to block grants or otherwise undercutting their ability to respond to changes in need

• Further shrink the resources for domestic discretionary (i.e., non-entitlement) programs, the part of the budget that includes WIC

• Enact unaffordable tax cuts, tilted to people at the top of the income scale, and force deeper budget cuts in future years
Spending for Low-Income Programs Outside Health Projected to Decline

Spending as a percent of gross domestic product

Source: Office of Management and Budget data through 2015 and Congressional Budget Office data thereafter
Last Spring’s House Budget Plan Got 62% of Its $6 Trillion in Non-Defense Cuts Over 10 Years from Programs for People with Low or Modest Incomes

- Low-income programs (e.g., Medicaid, health reform, SNAP, Pell Grants) - 38%
- Other programs - 62%
SNAP Helps Large Share of U.S. Children

Share of U.S. children who participate in SNAP in an average month

Preschool children ages 0-4: 32%
Children ages 5-11: 30%
Children ages 12-17: 21%

Non-Defense Discretionary Spending, FY 2015

- Diplomacy and international affairs: 9%
- Law enforcement and governance: 11%
- Science, environment, and energy: 12%
- Economic Security: 14%
- Transportation and economic development: 18%
- Education and training: 15%
- Health care and health research: 21%

Source: CBPP calculations using Office of Management and Budget data
Non-Defense Discretionary Spending Set to Fall to Historically Low Levels

Spending as a percent of gross domestic product

Note: Data available only back to 1962. Sequestration refers to budget cuts required under the 2011 Budget Control Act, and includes modifications made in the Bipartisan Budget Acts of 2013 and 2015.

Source: CBPP based on Office of Management and Budget and Congressional Budget Office data
Last Spring’s House Budget Plan Cut NDD Funding Sharply After 2017

In billions of 2017 dollars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Enacted</th>
<th>House Budget Plan</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$519</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$461</td>
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<td>2026</td>
<td>$381</td>
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Notes: House Budget Plan refers to the FY 2017 budget plan approved by the House Budget Committee in March, 2016. All amounts exclude Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO). Enacted amount for 2010 excludes funding for disasters, emergencies, and program integrity.

Source: CBPP calculations based on data from Office of Management and Budget and House Budget Committee
Trump “Penny Plan” Would Cut NDD Funding Deeply Over Time

In billions of 2017 dollars

- 2010 enacted: $600
- 2016 enacted: $530
- 2026 Trump plan: $380

Source: CBPP calculations based on Congressional Budget Office data and Trump campaign fact sheet
WIC Spending as Share of GDP at Lowest Levels Since 1997, When Funding First Served All Eligible Applicants
WIC Food Costs Have Grown More Slowly Than Inflation

- Hypothetical monthly WIC food cost if it kept pace with food inflation
- Actual monthly WIC food cost per participant

Up 84%

Up 41%
Per-Participant “Nutrition Services and Administration” Funding Flat for Over 26 Years in Real Terms

Average monthly per-participant funding adjusted for inflation
WIC Participation Among Low-Income Women and Children Has Returned to the 1997 Level

Average annual WIC participation as a share of women age 18 to 44 and children under age 5 with income below 185% of federal poverty level
The Number of WIC Children Under Age 5 is Consistent with the Number of Low-Income Children

- Infants and children under age 5 at or below 185% of the federal poverty level
- Infants and children under age 5 receiving WIC
WIC Infant Participation Consistent With Birth Trends

Births

WIC infant participation

1997 1999 2001 2003 2005 2007 2009 2011 2013 2015

0 1 2 3 4 5 million
The Share of the U.S. Population Participating in WIC is at the Lowest Level Since 1997

Average annual WIC participation as a share of the U.S. population