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## Proposed Federal Budget: Pushing Struggling Americans Further Down

## President's FFY 2018 Budget Would Cut Needed Benefits and Services, Create Massive Holes in State Budgets Nationwide

SACRAMENTO—The County Welfare Directors Association of California (CWDA) today released the following statement on President Trump's proposed federal budget.

"The unbelievably harsh budget released today by the Trump Administration would force states to cut benefits and services in to low-income children, families and individuals, under the guise of 'state flexibility,'" said Frank Mecca, CWDA Executive Director. "The budget block grants funding, cuts existing block grants and introduces new state shares of cost into programs. Little is spared: Medicaid, SNAP and TANF, which serve many of the same people, would all be hit hard.

"Cutting the funds available to states while dangling the ability to tie health care to work requirements and reduce benefits below their current modest levels, will simply drive states into a race to the bottom," Mecca noted. "It's alarming, but sadly not surprising, to see the President shift these funds away from the poor and needy and towards his friends in the upper income brackets through unsustainable tax breaks."

CWDA is a nonprofit association representing the human service directors from each of California's 58 counties. The Association's mission is to promote a human services system that encourages self-sufficiency of families and communities, and protects vulnerable children and adults from abuse and neglect.

## **Press Release**

**County Welfare Directors Association of California**