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RYAN BUDGET RESOLUTION DEVASTATING FOR TEXAS' KIDS AND MOST VULNERABLE

(AUSTIN, TEXAS) — The Center for Public Policy Priorities (CPPPP) released the following statement regarding U.S. House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan’s budget resolution.

“U.S. House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan’s budget resolution is not a balanced approach to deficit reduction. In fact, it contains [little real deficit reduction](#). Two-thirds of the spending cuts come from low-income programs—and those cuts are used to offset the cost of making the Bush tax cuts permanent and prevent defense cuts. The Ryan plan would also block grant the Medicaid and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as food stamps), dramatically increase Medicare out-of-pocket costs for seniors, and end the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) entirely.”

The U.S. House is expected to consider this week Chairman Ryan’s radical proposal to convert Medicaid and SNAP to block grants.

Effect on Texas Medicaid:

- Would have cut federal Medicaid funds to Texas by [\\$4.6 billion](#)—nearly one third—in 2009 if it had been in effect starting in 2000;
- Going forward, could reduce Texas Medicaid funding over the next 10 years by about \$50 billion for the current program, and another \$60 billion by eliminating coverage for parents of kids on Medicaid and other low-income adults scheduled to begin in 2014; and
- Would lock in Texas Medicaid spending per enrollee at \$600 below the national average, and remove protection for cost surges in disasters and recessions.

Effect on Texas SNAP:

- Would throw hundreds of thousands of low-income Texans off the rolls, cut benefits by thousands of dollars a year, or some combination of the two. An across-the-board benefits cut would cause a family of four to have their benefits cut by \$147 a month, or \$1,764 per year;
- Would reduce Texas SNAP funding by [\\$9.6 billion](#) over the next 10 years;
- Benefit cuts would primarily affect the poorest families with children, seniors, and people with disabilities, who make up three-quarters of SNAP recipients in Texas; and
- A block grant structure would undermine the SNAP’s ability to respond to a downturn in the economy or a natural disaster, such as the program was able to do after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

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The Center for Public Policy Priorities (CPPPP) is a non-profit, non-partisan policy institute committed to improving public policy to better the economic and social conditions of low- and moderate-income Texans. We pursue this mission to achieve our vision for a BETTER TEXAS. You can learn more about CPPPP at: <http://www.cphp.org>.