

Feb. 1: U.S. House to Decide Once and For All Whether to Cut Billions in Services

On Wednesday, the U.S. House of Representatives is scheduled to vote on a budget reconciliation bill that would cut billions of dollars from Medicaid, child support enforcement, child care, foster care, Medicare, disability assistance, student loans, and other vital services for families to help fund \$70 billion in new tax cuts. The reconciliation bill would also reauthorize the federal welfare block grant (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) through fiscal year 2010, but with changes to the program that could hurt Texas.

From now until February 1, please join a national campaign to oppose the budget cuts and changes to TANF by calling toll free 1-800-426-8073 (courtesy of American Friends Committee) and asking to speak with your representative's office. If the lines are busy, please be patient and try again, or visit <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/fyi/fyi.htm> to find contact information for your Congressional representative.

Forward this e-mail to your network and let's all raise our voices together—no budget cuts to fund tax cuts.

Two national groups have compiled analyses on the cuts. The Coalition on Human Needs analyses, which include state-level impacts, can be found at <http://www.chn.org/issues/opportunityforall/statefactsheets.html>

<http://www.chn.org/pdf/factsheets/Texas.pdf>

The Center for Law and Social Policy and the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities also have new analyses on budget reconciliation's impact on TANF, child support, child care, and Medicaid: <http://www.clasp.org/NewsFlash/Reconcil/>