



Area Agency on Aging of Dane County

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20 June 2017

The Honorable Ron Johnson, U.S. Senator
328 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Johnson:

On behalf of the Area Agency on Aging of Dane County's Board of Directors, I am writing to express our concern regarding the President's Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Proposal and its potential impact on older adults in Dane County. The proposed cuts are appalling. If approved, this budget will have devastating consequences on elder programs that provide vital safety nets for our most vulnerable population. The President's proposed budget is an attack on elders—and is unconscionable.

The entire budget is unacceptable but of special concern are the following:

1. An additional \$627 billion cut to the Medicaid Program.
2. Elimination of the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP.)
3. Elimination of the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP.)
4. Elimination of Senior Corp and AmeriCorps that support volunteer programs like RSVP, Foster Grandparents, Senior Companion, etc.
5. Elimination of state and community block grant programs—Social Services Block Grant, Community Service Block Grant, and Community Development Block Grant.
6. Elimination of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance program.
7. Severe cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Falls Prevention Program, and Chronic Disease Self-Management Education Program.

I ask you to stand up for older adults and reject the proposed funding cuts and program eliminations that will have serious consequences to the people of Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

Bill Clausius, Chair

cc: The Honorable Scott Walker, Governor, State of Wisconsin
Members, Dane County Board of Supervisors
The Honorable Joe Parisi, Dane County Executive
Ms. Lynn Green, Director, Dane County Department of Human Services