

February 3, 2003

**SCHAKOWSKY: BUSH BUDGET THREATENS SOCIAL SECURITY/MEDICARE,
SHORTCHANGES EDUCATION,
HEALTH CARE, HOMELAND SECURITY
AND FAILS TO GROW THE ECONOMY OR CREATE JOBS**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) today said President Bush's FY'04 budget is \$2 trillion in misplaced priorities. Schakowsky added that while the Bush budget threatens Social Security and Medicare, shortchanges education, health care, and homeland security and does little to grow the economy or create jobs, it offers hundreds of billions of dollars in tax cuts for the rich. Under Bush, a projected ten-year budget surplus of \$5.6 trillion has been replaced with a \$2.1 trillion budget deficit - a \$7.7 trillion reversal.

Health Care

- . The President offers inadequate prescription drug coverage and unspecified Medicare reforms that look to push seniors into private health plans
- . The President attempts to dismantle Medicaid's guarantee of health care for low-income individuals under the guise of "state flexibility."
- . The budget cuts overall spending for Medicaid and SCHIP -The budget cuts Medicaid spending relative to current law by \$6.4 billion over ten years (2004-2013).
- . The Administration freezes family planning programs - The budget freezes Title X family planning programs at the 2002 enacted level of \$265 million. This funding is a cut of \$9 million (3.4 percent) from the level needed to maintain purchasing power at the 2002 level

Education

- . 21st Century Community Learning Centers after-school program, at \$600 million, are down \$430 million (41.8 percent). This is \$1.2 billion below the level Congress authorized for 2004 for this program in the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB).
- . Improving teacher quality, at \$3.1 billion, is cut \$173 million (5.2 percent).
- . Education technology funding, at \$722 million, is down \$77 million (9.6 percent).
- . Perkins loans, at \$68 million, are cut \$106 million (61.0 percent).
- . The budget for the No Child Left Behind Act is inadequate - The budget provides \$22.6 billion to fund programs under the No Child Left Behind Act, more than \$9 billion below the amount authorized for 2004 and \$199 million below the amount needed to maintain purchasing power at the 2002 level.

Homeland Security

- . The Administration provides a minimal increase for Homeland security -The budget

provides a mere 0.8 percent increase from 2003.□

Law Enforcement

. The President's budget sharply cuts state and local law enforcement and justice assistance - The President's budget cuts state and local law enforcement programs by \$3.4 billion below the level needed to maintain purchasing power at the 2002 level. This includes a cut to the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program of \$929 million (85 percent) below the level needed to maintain purchasing power at the 2002 level. The budget eliminates funding for juvenile justice block grant programs and the Violence Against Women Act programs, and the Weed and Seed program.

Community

**. The President's budget requires widespread cuts to community development programs
- The President's budget cuts the Community Development Block Grant Program by \$3.3 billion below the level needed to maintain purchasing power at the 2002 level.**