

From the House

Trump Cuts Impact Hartford

By Rep. Matt Ritter

The chaotic state of affairs in Washington D.C. can often feel distant from the day-to-day realities in Hartford. But decisions at the federal level can have a direct impact on vital services and programs for residents across our state. Two easy examples are the Census and the federal budget. We know that our share of federal funds is tied to the Census (everyone must be counted!) and the federal budget impacts programs that many of our friends and neighbors depend upon.

Earlier this month the Trump administration announced its \$4.8 trillion FY 2021 budget proposal, which has unfortunately put states like Connecticut in the cross hairs.

If enacted, the White House's budget would:

- Cut the Weatherization Assistance Program which assists thousands of local households a year with home energy bills.
- Eliminate the Community Services Block Grant, which supports a wide range of agency programs that help Hartford residents like the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, which helps residents who make under \$50,000 a year prepare their taxes.
- Reduce the budget of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) even after detrimental cuts were enacted last April. These SNAP cuts will directly impact access to meals for vulnerable children, families, seniors and individuals with disabilities across our state.
- Slice the annual production of submarines in the Pentagon budget - hurting subcontractors and suppliers across the state.

We are fortunate to have a congressional delegation that has unanimously condemned this budget out of the White House and are actively fighting to ensure it does not become a reality. Here at the local level, I will continue to advocate for the rights of residents here in Hartford and across our state.

Please contact me at Matthew.Ritter@cga.ct.gov, or by phone at (800) 842-1902, if you have any questions or concerns.