

# FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

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MICHAEL B. SHEEDY  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



April 8, 2025

The Hon. Byron Donalds  
1710 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

## **Re: Protect Medicaid, SNAP and Other Safety Net Programs in Budget Reconciliation**

Dear Representative Donalds:

As Congress develops a budget reconciliation bill, please consider how the tax and economic policies in the bill will impact families, especially those facing financial hardship. I write to express particular concern that there could be cuts to Medicaid, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and other safety net programs. A recent analysis by the Congressional Budget Office confirms that Congress cannot achieve the \$880 billion of budget cuts the House Committee on Energy and Commerce is ordered to make in H. Con. Res. 14 without cutting Medicaid, Medicare, or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).<sup>1</sup>

The loss of revenue created by tax cuts should not be made up by cuts to programs that serve those most in need. Every policy proposal must be examined in terms of how it will affect families, prioritizing those who are most in need.

We hold that the dignity of the human person requires that all people have "everything necessary for leading a life truly human"<sup>2</sup> – and includes food and healthcare among these necessities.<sup>3</sup> Medicaid and SNAP must be protected and strengthened to ensure those who rely on these programs for adequate nutrition and healthcare do not lose access to vital services. These programs are important to care for the most vulnerable members of our society and to ensure their basic human needs are met.

I urge you to reject cuts to the vital services provided by Medicaid and SNAP, and to support dignity-affirming access to nutrition and health care for those who need it most. Thank you for your commitment to serving our community and the common good. Our bishops stand ready to work with you in advancing these important goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael B. Sheedy".

Michael B. Sheedy

cc: Most Rev. Erik T. Pohlmeier, Bishop of St. Augustine and FCCB Moderator for Health

<sup>1</sup> Congressional Budget Office, "Mandatory Spending Under the Jurisdiction of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce", (March 5, 2025), available at <https://www.cbo.gov/system/files/2025-03/61235-Boyle-Pallone.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> *Gaudium et Spes*, no. 26.

<sup>3</sup> *Pacem in Terris*, no. 11.