U.S. Members of Congress United States Congress Washington, DC

Dear Members of the California Congressional Delegation,

We, the undersigned organizations, urge you to reject damaging cuts to Medicaid, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) programs in the budget reconciliation bill. These federal programs work in concert together to provide much-needed investments in our children and families, helping families access affordable health care, put food on the table, and contribute to our communities and economy.

We need our Congressional leaders to protect children and families and oppose cuts to the programs that uplift children out of poverty and bring food and financial security to hardworking families. Specifically, we urge you to reject the following proposals:

- Cuts to Medicaid The unprecedented and massive cut proposed to Medicaid would strip away health care coverage for millions of families in need. Medicaid is a lifeline to people and families across California and ensures millions of children receive essential health services, including well child visits, developmental screenings, and therapies. This bill would cause 5.5 million <u>California</u> children to lose their health coverage and put local health centers and hospitals at risk.
  - Cuts to SNAP SNAP provides essential nutrition assistance to over 41 million Americans, primarily including households with seniors, people with disabilities, and children. The reconciliation bill would cut SNAP by at least \$230 billion, devastating families struggling with rising food insecurity. Despite research consistently proving that SNAP work requirements do not increase employment or earnings, cumbersome work requirement proposals threaten access to meals for an estimated 1.3 million Californians dramatically increasing food insecurity and hunger.
- Cuts to TANF TANF is one of the few federal programs providing direct financial aid to families in crisis, providing significant financial support to wraparound child welfare services, access to affordable child care, and investing in programs that combat child poverty. The 10% cut proposed to the program would up-end over 350,000 California families, leaving them without job training and child care support that drives our economy and workforce.

• Strains on State Budgets – Cost-sharing proposals for Medicaid and SNAP would force California to divert funding from child care, education, and other public services to absorb costs for programming. Even with California's size and economic strength, our state leaders have made it clear we could not offset these costs.

Together, Medicaid, SNAP, and TANF cuts would send shockwaves through our communities and public health system, forcing families into financial insecurity – families that are the engines of our economy. Cuts to these programs hurt our children, our families, and our economy. Therefore, we urge you to reject cuts to these programs and prioritize funding programs that give our communities the tools we need to succeed.

Sincerely,

Child Care Resource Center XX