

FYI - Pastor's Page on Federal Budget Cuts
"My people perish for lack of knowledge." (Hosea 4:6)

African American, low income and poor communities will carry the burden of budget cuts proposed by the Bush administration, while passing on major benefits and tax cuts to the wealthy. This disparity in budget appropriations will generally result in reduced funding of federal education, health and human services, veterans and labor programs that support those in most need. Consider the following examples:

Proposed Cuts by Bush Administration –

- **Medicaid to be cut by \$60 Billion**
- **Public Housing to be cut by \$270 Million**
- **Veterans Mandatory Programs to be cut by \$800 Million**
- **No Child Left Behind to be cut by \$12 Billion**

Impact on African Americans –

\$72 Billion in cuts, while spending \$250 Billion on Iraq war and granting \$100 billion in tax cuts to wealthy.

- **300,000 working parents to lose food stamps**
- **25,000 children dropped from Head Start**
- **213,000 veterans eliminated from health programs eligibility**
- **3 million children denied after school programs**

And, remember the elderly in our midst –

Any discussion on Social Security benefits is a discussion impacting African Americans. Almost 80% of African Americans ages 65 and older depend on social security for more than 50% of their income. More than 50% of African Americans depend on Social Security for 90% or more of their income.

Members of the Black Congressional Caucus continue to tell us that letters and calls make a difference in Congress. We cannot be silent. Let those who represent you know how you feel about the allocation and use of your federal tax dollars.