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## LARSON RELEASES STATEMENT ON PRESIDENT S $2.8 TRILLION BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. • Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01) released the following statement Monday addressing the release of President George W. Bush•s $2.8 trillion budget recommendation.

•While claiming to move forward, this budget is a retreat for the nation,• Larson said. •You don•t cut the national debt by cutting taxes for the top income taxpayers. You don•t strengthen the nation by continuing to gut crucial investments in human and economic development that fuel prosperity and competitiveness.

•Ultimately, the budget is a moral document, and this one hurts Americans most in need. It is not a reflection of the faith and values of the American people. Since President Bush took office, his administration•s limited economic gains have been enjoyed by a select few, bypassing the average American family. Upon inspection, the numbers reveal a two-fold increase in long-term unemployment, an alarming rise in poverty and a cumulative decline in real take home wages and income. Democrats in Congress intend to see that Americans• priorities are pursued and protected.•

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