Mulvaney Outlines President Trump’s Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Request

WASHINGTON – On Monday, February 12, White House Office of Management and Budget Director Mick Mulvaney will release the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget of the United States Government. Efficient, Effective, Accountable: An American Budget outlines this Administration’s key funding priorities, which include providing for a strong national defense, promoting a healthy American economy and curbing wasteful Washington spending. In announcing the transmittal of the Budget to the Congress, which will account for the Bipartisan Budget Act recently passed by Congress (i.e. “the caps deal”), Director Mulvaney released the following:

“As a nation, we face difficult times – challenged by a crumbling infrastructure, growing deficits, rogue nations, and irresponsible Washington spending. Through this budget proposal, it is clear that the President and this Administration are determined to reverse these trends, and ensure greater prosperity for the hard-working American taxpayer,” said Director Mulvaney. “Just like every American family, the Budget makes hard choices: fund what we must, cut where we can, and reduce what we borrow. It’s with respect for the hard work of the American people that we spend their tax dollars efficiently, effectively, and with accountability.”

Efficient, Effective, Accountable: An American Budget

Provides for a robust and rebuilt national defense. This Administration recognizes that we are in an era of increased global disorder, with a security environment more complex and volatile than any our Country has faced in recent memory. Inter-state strategic competition is now our greatest threat, yet we must continue to defend our nation and support our allies against rogue nations who wish us harm. This Budget invests in the ready, larger, and more lethal military directed by the new National Defense Strategy, which is needed to sustain American influence and safeguard the free and open international order.

Promotes a healthy American economy. With hard-working taxpayers in mind, this budget continues to remove unnecessary regulation from our job creators, leaving more money in the pockets of our families, while ensuring that the proper and appropriate functions of our government effectively work for all of our benefit.
**Curbs wasteful Washington spending.** The Budget imposes a fiscal discipline on Washington spending that many in today’s political climate reject, yet which remains more important than ever. It includes an aggressive set of spending reforms that cut deficits by $3 trillion over 10 years, reducing debt as a percentage of GDP and improving our long-term fiscal sustainability.

**Supports the President’s innovative infrastructure initiative.** The Budget includes $200 billion in Federal funds to spur at least $1.5 trillion in infrastructure investments with partners at the State, local, and private level over the next ten years. The initiative also includes a number of policy reforms to return decision-making authority to State and local governments, who best know the needs of their communities. The President’s plan also reduces the regulatory burdens we face, shortening and simplifying the approval process for projects, and eliminating barriers that prevent projects from being efficiently developed and managed. Additionally, with the recent two-year caps deal, the Administration is seeking $21 billion to jumpstart key elements of the infrastructure initiative.

**Secures our porous southern border and strengthens enforcement of immigration law.** The Budget proposes more than $23 billion for border security and immigration enforcement programs, making the investments necessary to construct physical infrastructure, improve technology, and increase personnel, resources, and authorities on the ground. The budget request includes $782 million to hire and support 2,750 additional law enforcement officers and agents at U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and provides $2.7 billion to pay for an average daily detention capacity of 52,000 illegal aliens at ICE, the agency’s highest-ever detention level. With the recent two-year caps deal, the Administration is seeking a total investment of $18 billion across fiscal years 2018 and 2019 to build the southern border wall.

**Keeps our commitment to improving Veterans’ health.** This Administration is dedicated to better serving our veterans, and is requesting $85.5 billion in discretionary funding to support their medical care and enhance their quality of life. This budget demonstrates the President’s pledge to a better future for them and their families, by providing healthcare, mental health services, homelessness programs, service-connected disability compensation, readjustment counseling, vocational rehabilitation, and education benefits.

**Combats the Opioid epidemic.** The drug abuse and opioid overdose epidemic has taken the lives of too many Americans. Building on the President’s promise to stop this deadly scourge, the Administration is seeking nearly $17 billion in opioid-related spending in 2019. Notably, the Administration proposes $3 billion in new funding in 2018 and $10 billion in new funding 2019 in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), for a total of $13 billion in funding to combat the opioid epidemic by expanding access to prevention, treatment, and recovery support services, as well as support for mental health.