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## CLASP's Executive Director Speaks Out on Treatment of Poor in Budget

(Washington, DC) — Alan Houseman, Executive Director for the Center for Law and Social Policy, issued the following statement in response to budget agreement:

"The Center for Law and Social Policy urges Congress to reject a deal that would attempt to balance the budget on the backs of those trying to climb out of poverty and get a permanent toehold in the workforce. Federal programs for low-income people—including the child support program, the child care program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and adult education and training programs—promote self-sufficiency by providing people the supports people need to find and keep a job.

"The federal child support program collects billions of dollars for children in low-income families, while the child care and adult ed programs allow parents to get and keep employment. These programs promote self-sufficiency and allow families to leave welfare or never go on it in the first place. Why are the most vulnerable in our country being asked to take the hit on this budget?"

To set up an interview with Alan Houseman or another CLASP expert, contact Gayle Bennett at (202) 906-8013.

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A national, nonprofit organization founded in 1968, CLASP conducts research, policy analysis, technical assistance, and advocacy on issues related to economic security of low-income families with children.