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## **thropy Exhorts Nonprofit Sector to Speak out on Dangers of Bush's Faith-Based Agenda**

WASHINGTON-The National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy (NCRP) today exhorts the nonprofit sector to speak out on the dangers of the President's FY 2006 budget. The President's FY 2006 budget, for example, slashes and eliminates over 154 programs, but increases funding for faith-based organizations. "It's time for the nonprofit leadership to step up to the plate and call this agenda for what it is-assaults on the secular nonprofit sector," says NCRP President Jeff Krehely. NCRP is specifically referring to recent actions rolled out by the White House and Congress:

- Just last week, Sen. Rick Santorum (R-PA) announced the Senate Republican Poverty Alleviation Act, which would increase funding for faith-based organizations.
- Just last week, the House passed H.R. 27, the "Job Training Improvement Act of 2005," and referred it to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.
- "While there is a coalition of groups, including civil rights organizations, opposing H.R. 27 and other faith-based initiatives, the House and Senate are moving forward with these bills," says Krehely.
- In January, Representative Walter Jones (R-NC) introduced H.R. 235, the "Houses of Worship Freedom of Access to Religious Buildings Act," which would require the Department of Justice to review the constitutionality of federal funding for faith-based organizations.

NCRP is a national watchdog, research and advocacy organization that promotes public accountability in the nonprofit sector.

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