Advocates for Seniors March 28, 2025 Script: HHS Staffing Cuts- **Protect Seniors and Essential Services**

Short script

Hello. My name is [Your Name]. I am a constituent for [zip code]. I am a senior who depends on Social Security and Medicare.

Senator, I demand that you **honor your promise to protect seniors' health, income, and security**.

The HHS Secretary just announced a **25% workforce cut** — this will reduce critical services for seniors, families, and vulnerable communities.

You must demand answers:

- What services are being cut and why?
- How will the harm be mitigated?

**Medicare and Medicaid must be protected**. CMS staffing must remain intact to ensure millions get the care they need and providers are paid on time.

**Cuts to these services threaten to defund our healthcare system** — we need you to protect seniors and your constituents. Please demand the facts now.

Thank you.

Long **SCRIPT: Protect Senior Health, Income, and Security**

Hello. My name is [Your Name]. I am a constituent for [zip code]. I am a senior who depends on Social Security and Medicare.

I urge you to **honor your promise to protect America's seniors' health, income, and security**.

The Secretary of Health and Human Services recently announced a **25% cut to the HHS workforce**. This news is alarming. A cut of that magnitude means vital services for citizens — including seniors, families, and those with disabilities — will be diminished or eliminated.

I am asking you to get the facts and **demand full transparency**:

- **What specific services are being cut?**

- **Why were these decisions made?**

- **What plan is in place to mitigate the damage to those who rely on these services?**

It is essential that **the staffing and resources needed to run the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) remain intact**, so that:

- Medicare and Medicaid continue to provide health insurance to the millions who depend on them.

- Healthcare providers are paid promptly to keep clinics, hospitals, and care centers functioning.

**Cutting these essential services threatens to destabilize our healthcare system** and leave millions without healthcare and huge losses in employment.

We expect leadership that puts people first, not cuts that erode the systems seniors and working families depend on.

Thank you.