Analysis Shows Negative Effects of Tax Reform Bills for the Work of Maine’s Nonprofits

Portland, ME – A new analysis of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act indicates a wide range of negative effects with significant impacts on charitable nonprofits in Maine. The analysis from the National Council of Nonprofits highlights the key provisions of both tax reform bills that are being voted on today in the full House and a Senate committee.

Among the concerns highlighted are the curtailing of the 100-year-old tax incentive to give back to their communities and the potential to inject partisan politics into the work of nonprofits. These and other challenges are outlined in Comparison of House and Senate Tax Bills and Impacts on Nonprofits.

“H.R. 1, as currently written, is likely to have destructive effects on Maine communities,” said Jennifer Hutchins, MANP’s Executive Director. “The legislation will lead to more cuts in services provided by our members at a time when demand is increasing. Curtailing the charitable deduction risks significant reduction in much-needed individual donations to nonprofits. And, the destruction of the public’s trust in nonprofits’ work if partisan politics are allowed to override our missions is something we can’t tolerate. Combined, these actions will have irreparable impact on communities by eroding the essential services Maine’s nonprofits and houses of worship provide.”

See attached quote sheet and contact MANP for additional local perspective on how the tax bills will affect Maine’s nonprofits and the people they serve in communities across the state.

MANP’s mission is to enrich the quality of community and personal life in Maine by strengthening the leadership, voice, and organizational effectiveness of our state’s nonprofits. The organization represents more than 800 nonprofit organizations from across Maine of all sizes and mission areas. www.nonprofitmaine.org

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Since 1994, MANP has grown to become Maine’s comprehensive resource for the tools, knowledge, and connections nonprofits need to be effective and well-run. With a growing statewide membership of over 800 nonprofit and 135 for-profit organizations, MANP advances the public profile of Maine nonprofits by highlighting their vital contribution to the quality of life in our state, connects people, organizations and resources from all sectors to foster collaborative problem solving, and strengthens nonprofits by providing management training and leadership development programs, resources and services to help staff and board leaders enhance their community mission impact.