

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. envelope	re: Personally Identifiable Information (SSN and DOB) (1 page)	00/00/0000	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Speechwriting
Josh Gottheimer
OA/Box Number: 18990

FOLDER TITLE:

Radio Address Food Stamps 11/18/00 [1]

2016-0201-S

rc1920

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

SCIENCE

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: DRAFT--Radio Add on Food Stamps. Comments pls to Gottheimer by 3pm x62554.

Draft 11/16/00 1pm

Josh Gottheimer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
RADIO ADDRESS ON FOOD STAMPS
HANOI, VIETNAM
November 18, 2000**

Good morning. I am speaking to you from Hanoi, Vietnam, where I have spent the last few days working to promote trade and build stronger relations with this important nation and its people. But today I want to talk to you about new steps we're taking at home to ~~strengthen~~ ~~support~~ America's working families.

It's difficult to remember, but just eight years ago, many Americans were out of work and Washington was out of ideas. Our economy was stagnant, burdened with a crushing debt, ~~high~~ ~~interest rates~~, and rising unemployment. I pledged to turn this country around, so that every one who is willing to work and take responsibility has the opportunity to live the American dream.

Since then, we have taken steps to restore the value of work. We raised the minimum wage and expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit, helping more than 15 million Americans work their way out of poverty, ~~and into the middle class~~. We passed the Family and Medical Leave Act, which ~~has given~~ ^{gives} 20 million Americans the chance to take time off from work to care for a newborn child or a sick loved one. And we ended welfare as we knew it, cutting the welfare rolls in half to their lowest level in 30 years ~~and helping millions of parents move into the workforce~~. We did this, while protecting health care and nutrition for children, ~~strengthening child support~~, and investing more in child care, transportation and housing to help parents go to work.

By rewarding work and promoting responsibility, we've helped put the American family back on top again -- with twenty-two million new jobs, the lowest poverty rate in 20 years, the lowest Hispanic and African unemployment ever recorded, and the highest homeownership rate in history.

While we've made great progress, there are still too many hard-pressed families who are struggling to get ahead, and make that often difficult ~~the~~ transition from welfare to work. Every day, 17 million Americans rely on food stamps for proper nourishment -- to help families put milk in their fridge and bread on their table. ~~It allows~~ ^{It allows} parents to give their children the necessities proper nourishment, while getting their own feet on the ground. But as they parents return to work and struggle to make ends meet, many don't realize they're still eligible for food stamps. Those who do sign up for food stamps, are often discouraged by

~~lengthy forms time-consuming reporting requirements~~ and bureaucratic red tape. In some states, recipients have to fill out new paperwork as often as once a month – and have to leave the workplace or the home to do so. This simply should not be the case.

No one who works hard every day should have trouble putting food on the table every night. Today I'm announcing ^{new steps} ~~new steps~~ a ~~new Department of Agriculture regulation~~ that will to remove a barriers ~~that holds back~~ ^{new steps} ~~facing~~ working Americans – to help ~~them~~ ^{help?} and their families get the food they need. First, we will allow states to automatically continue to give food stamp recipients their benefits for three months ~~provide recipients with an automatic three-month food stamp benefit as they make the transition from welfare to work.~~ This gives new working families stability in what can be a trying time. Second, we are eliminating unnecessary bureaucracy, by letting States relieve working families of the requirement to report modest income changes for up to six months ~~requiring recipients to report income changes only once every six months,~~ reducing the amount of time they spend in food stamp offices. Third, if we want people to work, they need to be able to get to work. Today's action will make it easier for food stamp recipients to own a dependable car, without having to sacrifice proper nutrition for their children. This ~~action~~ builds on the steps we took in the Agriculture Appropriations Bill I signed last month. Finally, to ensure that families who need assistance get it, we are requiring states to let recipients know that they're still eligible for food stamps even when they start to work again.

Supporting hard-pressed working families, and helping people make the transition from welfare to work is the right thing to do. It's also the smart thing to do. It encourages millions of people to take responsibility -- strengthening their families as well as our economy. I urge our nation's Governors to implement these ~~steps~~ options swiftly, so that working families, including legal immigrants, get the nutritional benefits they need and deserve. And I also call on Congress to continue this progress by restoring food stamp benefits to hard-working legal immigrants.

Thirty years ago, Robert Kennedy reminded us that, "Work is ... the meaning of what the country is all about." With the actions I have outlined today, we can ease burdens and create opportunities for hard-working families – and move our nation closer to the what we all want it to be: a place where everyone willing to work for it can achieve the American dream.

Thanks for listening.

Message Sent To: _____



Margy Waller

11/16/2000 02:51:21 PM

.....

Record Type: Record

To: Joshua S. Gottheimer/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

Subject: DRAFT--Radio Add on Food Stamps. Comments pls to Gottheimer by 3pm x62554.

Josh - Thanks! DPC edits are below. We have typed them onto Jennifer's below. I'm at 65586.

----- Forwarded by Margy Waller/OPD/EOP on 11/16/2000 02:30 PM -----



Jennifer Friedman

11/16/2000 02:23:24 PM



Record Type: Record

To: Joshua S. Gottheimer/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc: Jack A. Smalligan/OMB/EOP@EOP, Margy Waller/OPD/EOP@EOP

Subject: DRAFT--Radio Add on Food Stamps. Comments pls to Gottheimer by 3pm x62554.

The following edits clarify that (1) the option for food stamp transitional benefits is available to welfare leavers *who are on food stamps when the leave welfare*; (2) the provision allowing for six month reporting is not a new requirement, but is a state option; and (3) the vehicles changes will help many families for whom owning a vehicle is the item making them food stamp ineligible, but it does not help all families in that situation.

Let me know if you have questions, x57763.

----- Forwarded by Jennifer Friedman/OMB/EOP on 11/16/2000 02:13 PM -----



Margy Waller

11/16/2000 01:49:07 PM

.....

Record Type: Record

To: Jennifer Friedman/OMB/EOP

cc:

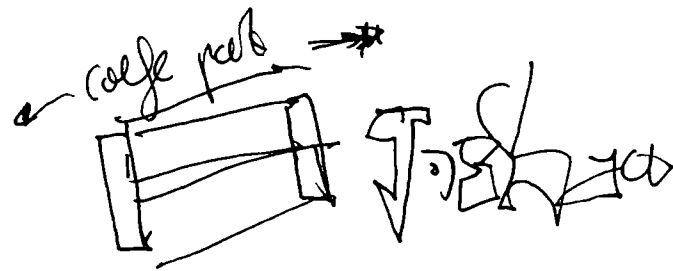
Subject: DRAFT--Radio Add on Food Stamps. Comments pls to Gottheimer by 3pm x62554.

----- Forwarded by Margy Waller/OPD/EOP on 11/16/2000 01:49 PM -----



Joshua S. Gottheimer
11/16/2000 01:28:25 PM





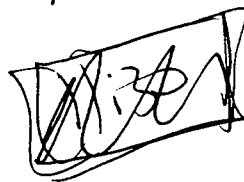
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Every day, 17 million Americans rely on food stamps for proper nourishment – to help families put milk in their fridge and bread on their table. Food stamps allow parents to give their children the necessities, while getting their own feet on the ground. But as they return to work and struggle to make ends meet, many don't realize they're still eligible for food stamps.

And in some states, workers Those who do sign up for food stamps ~~are often discouraged by bureaucratic red tape.~~ In some states, recipients have to fill out new paperwork as often as once a month – and have to leave the workplace or the home to do so. This simply should not be the case.

Get going No one who works hard every day should have trouble putting food on the table every night. Today I'm announcing new steps to remove ~~barriers~~ ^{in home of the} facing working Americans ^{and} to help their families get the food they need. First, we will allow states to provide recipients with an automatic three-month food stamp benefit as they make the transition from welfare to work. This gives new working ^{ers} families stability in what can be a trying time. Second, we are eliminating unnecessary bureaucracy, by allowing recipients up to six months to report income changes, reducing the amount of time they spend in food stamp offices. Third, if we want people to work, they need to be able to get to work. Today's action will make it easier for food stamp recipients own a dependable car, without having to sacrifice proper nutrition for their children. This builds on the steps we took in the Agriculture Appropriations Bill I signed last month. Finally, to ensure that ^{the} families who need assistance get it, we are requiring states to let recipients know that they're still eligible for food stamps even when they start to work again.

Supporting hard-pressed working families, ~~and helping people make the transition from welfare to work~~ is the right thing to do. It's also the smart thing to do. It encourages millions of people to take responsibility -- strengthening their families as well as our economy. I urge our nation's Governors to implement these steps swiftly, so that working families, including legal immigrants, get the nutritional benefits they need and deserve. And I call on Congress to restore food stamp benefits to hard-working legal immigrants.

Thirty years ago, Robert Kennedy reminded us that, "Work is ... the meaning of what the country is all about." With the actions I have outlined today, we can ~~ease burdens and~~ ^{new} create opportunities for hard-working families – and move our nation closer to ~~a place where~~ ^{the day when} everyone willing to work for it can achieve the American dream.

Thanks for listening.

*the day when
a time*

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Jack A. Smalligan/OMB/EOP

HANOI, VIETNAM
November 18, 2000

Good morning. I am speaking to you from Hanoi, Vietnam, where I have spent the last few days working to promote trade and build stronger relations with this important nation and its people. But today I want to talk to you about new steps we're taking at home to strengthen America's working families.

It's difficult to remember, but just eight years ago, many Americans were out of work and Washington was out of ideas. Our economy was stagnant, burdened with a crushing debt, high interest rates, and rising unemployment. I pledged to turn this country around, so that every one who is willing to work and take responsibility has the opportunity to live the American dream.

Since then, we have taken steps to restore the value of work. We raised the minimum wage and expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit, helping more than 15 million Americans work their way out of poverty and into the middle class. We passed the Family and Medical Leave Act, which has given 20 million Americans the chance to take time off from work to care for a newborn child or a sick loved one. And we ended welfare as we knew it, cutting the welfare rolls in half to their lowest level in 30 years. We did this, while protecting health care and nutrition for children, strengthening child support, and investing more in transportation and housing to help parents go to work.

By rewarding work and promoting responsibility, we've helped put the American family back on top again -- with twenty-two million new jobs, the lowest poverty rate in 20 years, the lowest Hispanic and African unemployment ever recorded, and the highest homeownership in history.

While we've made great progress, there are still too many hard-pressed families who are struggling to get ahead, and make that often difficult transition from welfare to work. Every day, 17 million Americans rely on food stamps for proper nourishment -- to help families put milk in their fridge and bread on their table. It allows parents to give their children the necessities, while getting their own feet on the ground. But as they return to work and struggle to make ends meet, many don't realize they're still eligible for food stamps. Those who do sign up for food stamps, are often discouraged by lengthy forms and bureaucratic red tape. In some states, recipients have to fill out new paperwork as often as once a month -- and have to leave the workplace or the home to do so. This simply should not be the case.

No one who works hard every day should have trouble putting food on the table every night. Today I'm announcing new steps to remove a barrier that holds back working Americans -- to help them and their families get the food they need. First, we will allow states to automatically continue to give food stamp recipients their benefits for three months ~~provide recipients with an automatic three-month food stamp benefit as they make the transition from welfare to work.~~ This gives new working families stability in what can be a trying time. Second, we are eliminating unnecessary bureaucracy, by letting States require ~~ing~~ recipients to report income changes only once every six months, reducing the amount of time they spend in food stamp offices. Third, if we want people to work, they need to be able to get to work. Today's

action will make it easier for ~~let~~ food stamp recipients to own a dependable car, without having to sacrifice proper nutrition for their children. This builds on the steps we took in the Agriculture Appropriations Bill I signed last month. Finally, to ensure that families who need assistance get it, we are requiring states to let recipients know that they're still eligible for food stamps even when they start to work again.

Supporting hard-pressed working families, and helping people make the transition from welfare to work is the right thing to do. It's also the smart thing to do. It encourages millions of people to take responsibility -- strengthening their families as well as our economy. I urge our nation's Governors to implement these steps swiftly, so that working families, including legal immigrants, get the nutritional benefits they need and deserve.

Thirty years ago, Robert Kennedy reminded us that, "Work is ... the meaning of what the country is all about." With the actions I have outlined today, we can ease burdens and create opportunities for hard-working families -- and move our nation closer to the what we all want it to be: a place where everyone willing to work for it can achieve the American dream.

Thanks for listening.

Message Sent To: _____

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Andrea Kane/OPD/EOP@EOP
Margy Waller/OPD/EOP@EOP

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Supporting hard-pressed working families, and helping people make the transition from welfare to work, is ^{not just} the right thing to do, ^{it's also} the smart thing to do. It encourages millions of people to take responsibility for their families and their futures. ^{how? strengthen econ?}

Thirty years ago, Robert Kennedy reminded us that, "Work is ... the meaning of what the country is all about." With the actions I have outlined today, we can ease burdens and create opportunities for countless families – and move our nation closer to the what we all want it to be: a place where everyone willing to work for it can achieve the American dream.

Thanks for listening.

Barack

included food stamp

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Thanks for listening.



Jennifer Friedman

11/16/2000 02:23:24 PM



Record Type: Record

To: Joshua S. Gottheimer/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc: Jack A. Smalligan/OMB/EOP@EOP, Margy Waller/OPD/EOP@EOP

Subject: DRAFT--Radio Add on Food Stamps. Comments pls to Gottheimer by 3pm x62554.

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Let me know if you have questions, x57763.

----- Forwarded by Jennifer Friedman/OMB/EOP on 11/16/2000 02:13 PM -----



Margy Waller

11/16/2000 01:49:07 PM

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Record Type: Record

To: Jennifer Friedman/OMB/EOP

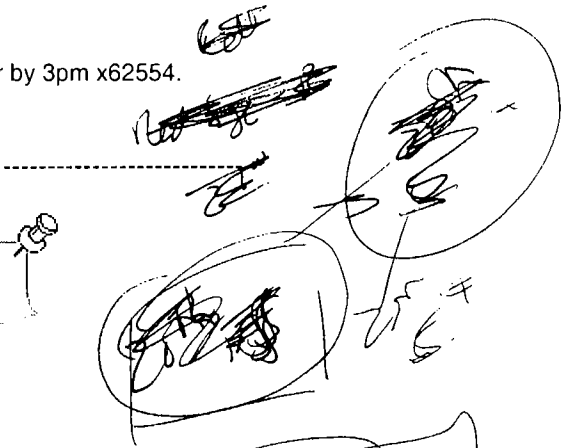
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----- Forwarded by Margy Waller/OPD/EOP on 11/16/2000 01:49 PM -----



Joshua S. Gottheimer
11/16/2000 01:28:25 PM



Record Type: Record

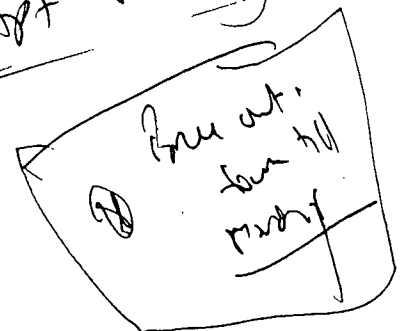
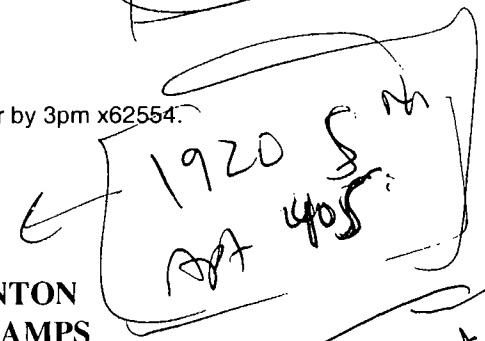
To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: DRAFT--Radio Add on Food Stamps. Comments pls to Gottheimer by 3pm x62554.

Draft 11/16/00 1pm

Josh Gottheimer



**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
RADIO ADDRESS ON FOOD STAMPS**

Source: All Sources : / . . . : Public Papers of the Presidents **f**
Terms: **atl 2 (food stamps)** and date(geq (1/20/93) and leq (11/14/00)) (Edit Search)
View: Full
Date/Time: Tuesday, November 14, 2000 - 3:43 PM EST

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NR P

I also want to
ask you
to work on your conduct
w/ your constituents
I feel.

Like the president, I believe
one of the
first political
speeds is honesty,
or else, it was an
honor to be a + introduce to
part of the team/
serve on your team/
play a part in the
process.
74 years for the world.
distressed that
it impacts
the future
of the
world.

~~Back to the~~
~~to us~~

I am writing to thank you for
your ~~help~~ ~~gift~~, and ~~gift~~
for the wonderful book you sent
me — you couldn't have selected a more perfect present
your most ~~gift~~.
Present keep's ~~it~~ it's such
a ~~important~~.

Keep apply quality
offer "Madlin"
we said "once
I report to
write a history
of the impact it
has on
America.
Thank
you
for
the
most
important
topic.

connecting
to people,
my future
while I don't always day his
policy, ~~but~~ I have
been a student of it, and
finds inspiration in ~~the~~ Kennedy's
work for world peace
as well as his work for civil
rights.

Pres Kennedy, like you,
understand that
our nation was
built by immigrants
and has been enriched by their
diversity today
remains our greatest strength.

Josh -

Here are the food stamp speeches.
Mama said the topic was not definite so
I don't have as prepared (except for
Paul's 2/23/00 speech). Please let me
know what you need.

gemma

Bro JOSH

Call me

JP

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. envelope	re: Personally Identifiable Information (SSN and DOB) (1 page)	00/00/0000	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Speechwriting
Josh Gottheimer
OA/Box Number: 18990

FOLDER TITLE:

Radio Address Food Stamps 11/18/00 [1]

2016-0201-S
rc1920

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

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b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Joshua S. Gottheimer
11/16/2000 03:47:45 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Jeffrey A. Shesol/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject:

Draft 11/16/00 3:45pm

Josh Gottheimer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
RADIO ADDRESS ON FOOD STAMPS
HANOI, VIETNAM
November 18, 2000**

Good morning. I am speaking to you from Hanoi, Vietnam, where I have spent the last few days working to promote trade and build stronger relations with this important nation and its people. But today I want to talk to you about new steps we're taking at home to strengthen America's working families.

It's difficult to remember, but just eight years ago, many Americans were out of work and Washington was out of ideas. Our economy was stagnant, burdened with a crushing debt, and rising unemployment. I pledged to turn this country around, so that every one who is willing to work and take responsibility has the opportunity to live the American dream.

Since then, we have taken steps to restore the value of work. We raised the minimum wage and expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit, helping more than 15 million Americans work their way out of poverty toward the middle class. We passed the Family and Medical Leave Act, giving 20 million Americans the chance to take time off from work to care for a newborn child or a sick loved one. And we ended welfare as we knew it, cutting the welfare rolls in half to their lowest level in 30 years – helping millions of parents move into the workforce. We did this, while protecting health care and nutrition for children, and investing more in transportation and housing to help parents go to work.

By rewarding work and promoting responsibility, we've helped put the American family back on top again -- with twenty-two million new jobs, the lowest poverty rate in 20 years, the lowest Hispanic and African unemployment ever recorded, and the highest homeownership in history.

While we've made great progress, there are still too many hard-pressed families who are struggling to get ahead, and make that often difficult transition from welfare to work.

Draft 11/16/00 11:15am
Josh Gottheimer
Word Count: 738

stop by -
Jeff

→ AMPH

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
RADIO TAPE REMARKS ON FOOD STAMPS
HANOI, VIETNAM
November 17, 2000

Good morning. I am speaking to you from Hanoi, Vietnam, where I have spent the last few days working to promote trade and build stronger relations with this important nation and its people. But today I want to talk to you about new steps we're taking back at home to strengthen America's working families.

It's difficult to remember, but just eight years ago, America ^{was} ~~was~~ out of work and out of ideas. Our economy was stagnant, burdened with a crushing debt, high interest rates, and rising unemployment. I pledged to turn this country around, so that every ^{one} ~~American~~ who is willing to work and take responsibility has the opportunity to live the American dream. *many as were nice line, but a little strong Washington was*

Since then, we have taken steps to restore the value of work in America. We raised the minimum wage and expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit, helping more than 15 million Americans work their way out of poverty ^(+ into) toward the middle class. We passed the Family and Medical Leave Act, which has given 20 million Americans the ^{chance} opportunity to take time off from work to care for a newborn child or a sick loved one. We fought for and won the biggest increase in children's health care in three decades. And we ended welfare as we knew it, cutting the welfare rolls in half to their lowest level in 30 years. We did this, while protecting health care and nutrition for children, strengthening child ^(support) and investing more in transportation and housing to help ~~them~~ parents go to work. *chance?*

By rewarding work and promoting responsibility, we've helped put the American family back on top again -- with twenty-two million new jobs, the lowest poverty rate in 20 years, the lowest Hispanic and African unemployment ever recorded, and the highest homeownership in history. While we've made great progress, there are still too many hard-pressed families who are struggling to get ahead, and make that often difficult transition ~~from welfare~~ to work.

Every day, 17 million Americans rely on food stamps for proper nourishment -- to help families put milk in their fridge ^{and} bread on their table ^{and} vegetables on their plate. It allows parents to give their children the basic necessities, while they ^{are} getting their feet on the ground. But as they ^{in return to + while + no car rent} move into work, many of those who ^{are} ~~are~~ eligible ^{then} taking their food stamps with them -- leaving them struggling to make ends meet. Many working families who do sign up for food stamps are often discouraged by lengthy forms and bureaucratic red tape. In some states, recipients have to fill out new paperwork as often as once a month -- ^{and have to leave the} taking them away from their workplace ^{and their home}. This simply should not be the case.

Today I'm announcing ^{to do it} four new steps ^{on this} to improve access to our food stamp program -- ^{and} we can help remove this barrier which ^{is} ~~continues~~ to hold back working families, including legal Americans. *invert sentence to make sound like*

If no one would get every day should have trouble putting food on the table every nt.

don't make life still elyok for stamps.

to help them & their families get the food they need.

Stephanie A. Cutter
11/15/2000 09:44:27 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Joshua S. Gottheimer/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: food stamp rule description

are you doing radio address? here's a description of the deliverable.

----- Forwarded by Stephanie A. Cutter/WHO/EOP on 11/15/2000 09:44 AM -----

Karin Kullman

11/13/2000 12:18:46 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Stephanie A. Cutter/WHO/EOP@

cc:

Subject: food stamp rule description

Welfare – Food Stamp Rule: On or about November 20, USDA will publish a final food stamp rule implementing changes required by the welfare reform law, subsequent amendments to the law, and executive actions to facilitate participation. The proposed rule generated over 400 comments, which resulted in significant changes in the final rule. In general, these changes are intended to increase access to food stamps by removing barriers that make application difficult or time consuming, particularly for low-income working families and legal immigrants. We expect that there will be significant positive interest in the final rule among advocacy groups and states and are exploring opportunities to highlight the release given the tight time frame for publication. The rule will go into effect 60 days after publication.

The final rule will make it easier for working families to access food stamps. First, it includes an option for states to provide a three-month transitional food stamp benefit as a critical work support for households leaving welfare. Second, the rule allows states to relieve households of the requirement to report changes in income for a six month period, reducing the amount of time working families need to spend in food stamp offices. Third, it simplifies current rules regarding the counting of vehicles toward the resource test for eligibility and excludes certain low-equity vehicles from consideration altogether. Finally, it restores application processing provisions that provide protections for applicants, requires states to inform applicants that rules about receipt of cash assistance (like time limits) do not apply to food stamps, and strengthening systems to ensure that food stamp cases are not erroneously closed automatically when a cash assistance file is closed.

Transitional
food
stamp

? income limit?

help families realize that for food stamp
families not have to live in food stamp
and then don't drop off
just because they find a job; leave
welfare rolls.

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CARE

⑧ 1/11/2017

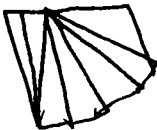
This rule also finalizes the changes in immigrant eligibility that were enacted in the welfare reform act and modified in subsequent legislation. Within statutory confines, the rule minimizes unnecessary access barriers for eligible immigrant households and eligible citizen or immigrant members of mixed-status households. Among other things, it implements the eligibility restrictions placed on many classes of legal immigrants and provisions requiring “deeming” the sponsor’s income to the sponsored immigrants. The rule also implements a statutory provision that excuses indigent immigrant households from such “deeming”. Finally, the rule conforms to recent guidance that helps address the problem that requests for and potential disclosure of SSNs and immigration information can deter otherwise eligible members in mixed-status immigrant households from applying for benefits.

Welfare – Food Stamp Rule: Next week, USDA will publish a final food stamp rule implementing changes required by the Welfare Reform law and subsequent amendments to the law. The proposed rule generated 412 comments, which resulted in significant changes in the final rule. In general, the changes in the final rule are intended to increase access to food stamps by removing barriers that make application difficult or time consuming, particularly for low-income working families and legal immigrants.

The final rule will make it easier for working families to access food stamps. First, it includes an option for states to provide a three-month transitional food stamp benefit as a critical work support for households leaving welfare. Second, the rule allows states to provide a six month certification period for certain households, reducing the amount of time working families need to spend in food stamp offices. Third, it simplifies current rules regarding the counting of vehicles toward the resource test for eligibility and excludes certain low-equity vehicles from consideration altogether. Finally, the final rule restores application processing provisions which provide protections for applicants and requires states to inform applicants that rules about receipt of cash assistance (like time limits) do not apply to food stamps, as well as strengthening systems to ensure that food stamp cases are not erroneously closed automatically when a cash assistance file is closed.

This rule also finalizes the changes in immigrant eligibility that were enacted in the welfare reform act, and subsequently modified in the 1996 and 1997 budgets, as well as the Agricultural Research Act of 1998 (AREERA). Among other things, this rule would implement the eligibility restrictions on placed on many classes of legal immigrants and implement the welfare reform provisions requiring FNS to “deem” the sponsor’s income to the sponsored immigrants. Until other agencies can be consulted, we refrained from regulating on States’ obligations in pursuing reimbursement from sponsors for any benefits the sponsored immigrants may receive. The rule sought, within the confines of statutory language, to minimize unnecessary access barriers for eligible immigrant households, and eligible citizen or immigrant members of mixed-status households. The rule establishes methods for calculating benefits for the rest of the household, even when one member of the household may be ineligible under PRWORA. The rule also implements a statutory provision that excuses an immigrant households from sponsor income deeming if they are too indigent to afford food and shelter. The rule also conforms to recent guidance that helps address the problem that requests for and potential disclosure of SSN’s and immigration information can deter otherwise eligible members in mixed-status immigrant households from applying for benefits.

We expect that there will be significant positive interest in the final rule among states and advocacy groups and are exploring opportunities to highlight the release of the rule, although you will be traveling overseas at the time of publication. The publication date cannot be changed because it will not be final until 60 days after publication.



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July 27th

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UTMA cases have cleared persons

Let of gums + sticky lines ~ food source + ~~nutrient~~ nutrition

recover over 13 million pounds of nutritious food --- which was distributed to the hungry by faith-based organizations and other nonprofit groups --- at virtually no additional cost to the Federal government. The President can challenge employees to sustain these impressive efforts.

5) **\$2.4 million in Community Food Project Grants to Nonprofit Groups** ---

Announce that 16 grants will go to nonprofit groups in California (Venice/Los Angeles, Berkeley, and Rancho Cordova), Colorado, Florida, Kansas, Massachusetts, Missouri, Mississippi, New Mexico, New York, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, and Washington State to meet the needs of low-income people by increasing their access to fresher, more nutritious food; increasing the self-reliance of communities in providing for their own food needs; and promoting comprehensive responses to local food, farm, and nutrition issues. [could have USDA announce this instead]

INTERNATIONAL:

Highlight the Administration's accomplishments in addressing hunger around the world and announce actions to move the Global Food for Education Initiative. There has been a tremendous response to the pilot projects the Administration announced this year, with 60 applications from xx countries requesting \$700 million -- double the \$350 million available.

White House Meeting on Global Food for Education Initiative. Announce that the President will invite leaders of the U.S. food industry and appropriate foundations to the White House to garner private sector support for the Global School Feeding Initiative. (Examples of who may be invited include the ConAgra Foundation, Pillsbury, Quaker Oats, Tetra-Pac, Carter Center, Rostropovich Foundation, Ford and Kellogg Foundations, etc.) [would it be possible to announce the first round of pilot projects at this meeting??]

There are two objectives to this meeting:

1) To garner support from private agricultural associated industries to directly support the school feeding initiative by supplying commodities, technical support, logistical support, etc.

2) To garner support from Foundations that can provide ancillary services such as educational material and training, vaccinations and associated health care that can be provided in a school setting, etc.

Such a meeting would heighten the awareness of the program and begin to build institutional support for the program.

The President could also applaud efforts to develop legislation to ensure that this important initiative becomes permanent and stands the test of time.

Myx Relif Act

Jul 14 99

Feb 23 00

- ① cars ✓
- ② shelter deduction →
- ③ portion applies to legal immigrants ~~is~~ = ^{our} budget
- ④ ~~\$~~ for emergency ad mgr

food security individual + family

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Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies the place of a tabbed divider. Given our digitization capabilities, we are sometimes unable to adequately scan such dividers. The title from the original document is indicated below.

HUNGER STATISTICS

Divider Title: _____

hunger is through education. Educated people are best able to break out of the cycle of poverty that causes hunger.

UNICEF

Hunger in the United States:

A 1995 study by Tufts University estimates that 20 to 30 million Americans are too poor to meet their monthly expenses and buy enough food to live healthy, productive lives.

In 1994 the Urban Institute in Washington DC estimated that one out of 6 elderly people in the U.S. has an inadequate diet.

In 1993, U.S. Citizens spent about the same amount on cruise ships and theme parks as the Federal Government spent on AFDC. The problem, in fact, is not a lack of money, but a series of decisions on how money gets spent. Enough money is available to end worse case poverty in a few years and enough food to provide everyone in the world with a minimally nutritious diet right now.

Childhood hunger in the United States:

In July 1999, the National Center for Children in Poverty issued a report. Following are some of their findings:

Poverty is becoming more prevalent among young people. Between 1979 and 1995, the number of children under three living in poverty in the United States grew from 1.7 million to 2.8 million, from 18 percent to 24 percent--a 33 percent increase.

Young children are more likely to be poor than any other age group, and that disparity is growing. The poverty rate for children under age three was well over double the rate for adults or the elderly in 1995.

Young children in the United States have about a 50-50 chance of escaping the risks of poverty or near poverty.

The problem of young child poverty extends far beyond the stereotypical image of the poor minority child in an urban setting. The fact that nearly half of all young children live in poverty or near poverty demonstrates that young child poverty is a mainstream problem, affecting children from all racial and ethnic backgrounds, from all types of residential areas, and from all regions of the United States.

- The rate of poverty for children under age three living in suburban areas grew by 61 percent between the late 1970s and early 1990s, whereas the rates of poverty for children in the same age group in urban and rural areas rose by 37 and 47 percent respectively.
- The poverty rate for children under age three has grown twice as fast among whites as among blacks. Although the incidence of young child poverty among whites is relatively low (15 percent) compared to blacks (52 percent), the rate of white children living under age three in poverty grew twice as

fast as among blacks (36 percent versus 17 percent) between the late 1970s and the early 1990s.

- The rate of poverty among Hispanic children under age three is high (44 percent) and increasing more rapidly than among other racial and ethnic groups. It has risen by 48 percent since the late 1970s.

Children make up almost half of the population living below the Federal Poverty Line. More than 21 Percent of U.S. children under age 18, and 25 percent of children under age 6, are poor. Sixty-four percent of children under 6, who live in female-headed, single parent families are poor.

The infant mortality rate is closely linked to inadequate nutrition among pregnant women. The U.S. ranks 23rd among industrial nations in infant mortality. African-American infants die at nearly twice the rate of white infants.

A child living in a wealthy U.S. family is on average, better off financially than the typical wealthy child in any other country. At the same time, the average child in a low-income U.S. family is worse off than the average poor child in 15 other industrialized countries.

One out of every eight children under the age of twelve in the U.S. goes to bed hungry every night.

In the U.S. hunger and race are related. In 1991 46% of African-American children were chronically hungry, and 40% of Latino children were chronically hungry compared to 16% of white children.

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- The rate of poverty for children under age three living in suburban areas grew by 61 percent between the late 1970s and early 1990s, whereas the rates of poverty for children in

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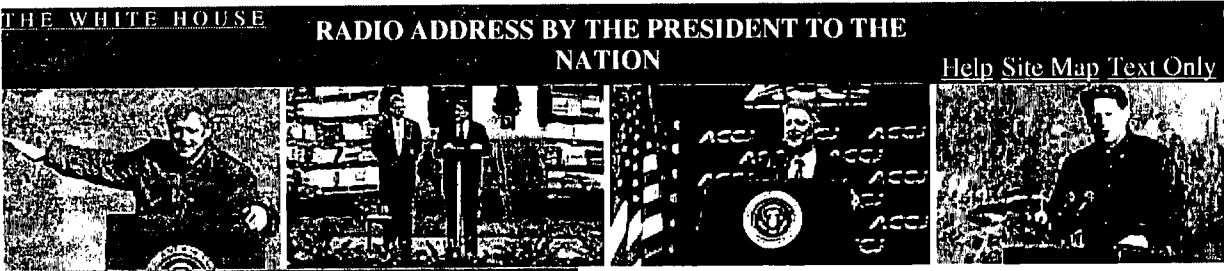
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- Go
- President & First Lady

Vice President & Mrs. Gore

Record of Progress

The Briefing Room

Gateway to Government

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

Saturday, November 11, 2000

RADIO ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT TO THE NATION

[Download Address in .au format \(English\)](#)

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THE PRESIDENT: Good morning. On this Veterans Day as America honors the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform, we are witnessing the extraordinary resilience of the democracy they've pledged their lives to defend.

From our earliest days, the right to vote has meant the right to participate and be heard. If ever there was a doubt about the importance of exercising the most fundamental right of citizenship, it sure was answered on Tuesday. No American will ever again be able to seriously say: My vote doesn't count.

President Franklin Roosevelt once said, "Democracy is not a static thing, it is an everlasting march." Our Founders may not have foreseen every challenge in the march of democracy, but they crafted a Constitution that would.

The people have spoken. The important thing for all of us to remember now is that a process for resolving the discrepancies and challenges to the election is in motion. The rest of us need to be patient and wait for the results.

I want to congratulate both Vice President Gore and Governor Bush for a vigorous and hard-fought

- [Saturday Radio Addresses](#)
- [Radio Address of the President to the Nation - October 7, 2000](#)
- [Discurso Por Radio Del Presidente - 7 de octubre de 2000](#)
- [Radio Address of the President to the Nation - October 14, 2000](#)
- [Discurso Por Radio Del Presidente - 14 de octubre de 2000](#)
- [Radio Address of the President to the Nation - October 21, 2000](#)
- [Discurso Por Radio Del Presidente - 21 de octubre de 2000](#)
- [Radio Address of the President to the Nation - October 28, 2000](#)
- [Discurso Por Radio Del Presidente - 28 de octubre de 2000](#)
- [Discurso Por Radio Del Presidente - 4 de noviembre de 2000](#)
- [Radio Address of the President to the Nation - November 11, 2000](#)
- [Discurso Por Radio Del Presidente - 11](#)

campaign. Once again, the world is seeing democracy in action. The events unfolding in Florida are not a sign of the division of our nation, but of the vitality of our debate, which will be resolved by the vibrancy of our Constitution and laws. Regardless of the outcome, we will come together as a nation as we always do.

de novembre de 2000

As this election unfolds, the nation's business continues. Tomorrow, I will begin a trip to Asia that will end in Vietnam. I will be the first President to visit that nation since the height of the Vietnam War. I will go to open a new chapter in our relationship with its people.

For nearly a decade now, we have been building a more normal relationship with Vietnam, basing each step forward on progress and accounting for Americans missing from the war in Vietnam. We've made great strides, repatriating remains, obtaining documents, never forgetting that each case represents a brave American with a name, a home, a family that cares about his fate.

I will make clear to Vietnam that we expect continued cooperation. I will also offer the support of the American people as Vietnam becomes more open to the world, promoting trade and more ties among our people and championing human rights and religious freedom.

We also have important business here at home. As Congress prepares to finish its work for the year, I urge the members to build on the bipartisan progress we have already made. Let's finish the job of improving our schools, resolve our differences on immigration and worker safety, and let's raise the minimum wage. We should pledge to get these things done for the American people before the next President takes office in January.

A couple of nights ago, we celebrated the 200th anniversary of the White House. We marked much more than the bicentennial of a building. Through two centuries of war and peace, triumph and tragedy, the White House has stood as the living symbol of our democracy. It has welcomed every President since John Adams under its roof, always through a peaceful transition of power.

This January, as it has done for 200 years, it will do so

again -- because of the timeless power of our
Constitution and our undying faith in we, the people.

Thanks for listening.

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[White House for Kids](#) | [White House History](#)
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8

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at
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transitional food stamps — help people moving from welfare
to work

Rule — 3 parts — see pgs. →

Buyer — look after facts

help poor
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We need to take over steps to help America's
work force →
for, the idea to expand to ... restore
food stamp benefits to 1981 income
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This week will be releasing new guidelines...

take steps to promote + reward work; ~~reward~~ + build
sper families.

1

will see great results.
ETC; mix up: child care, child.
care: welfare;

[see N/A
speech]

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parents shouldn't have to ~~choose~~ choose between feeding
their families +
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we've moved ~~to~~ from welfare to work.
million of Am

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food need. — food banks; get nutritional out by
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8
no slow in today food stamps —

help families + children. meet nutritional needs

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food stamps who are eligible but don't collect stamps
especially those making the transition
from welfare to work.

too many drop off before ~~get to~~
the bureaucratic loop
they have to jump right —
go to welfare office / fill out
paperwork ~~at least one~~ as
often as one a month.
takes them away from work, and
other responsibilities for employees.

a ~~new~~ guaranteed food stamps for
3 months to those
not here so to work don't
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stamps

still need nutritional assistance for families
people making transitions to work

really is

Public Papers of the Presidents

Public Papers of the Presidents

February 18, 1997**CITE:** 33 Weekly Comp. Pres. Doc. 198**LENGTH:** 3809 words**HEADLINE:** Remarks in a Roundtable Discussion on Welfare Reform in New York City**BODY:**

The President. I now know that I came here because after a long holiday weekend, I needed a little good preaching to wake up for the rest of the week. *[Laughter]*

Let me thank you, Dr. Forbes, for welcoming me here, and, Dr. Washington, for giving me the chance just before we began to walk through the beautiful sanctuary upstairs, which I have heard about and known about for many years. The legendary story of Harry Emerson Fosdick and John D. Rockefeller even made its way to me many years ago.

I want to thank Senator Moynihan and Congressman Rangel for being here, as well as Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez and Congresswoman Carol Maloney, thank you for being here. The members of the panel, thank you all. I want to especially say a word of thanks to Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala who literally just got off an airplane this morning from South Africa, where she went with the Vice President, and got off one airplane and got on mine and came here. So if she nods out during the ceremony -- *[laughter]* -- we will forgive her.

Let me get right to business. I came here because I wanted to know a little about what this church is doing and because I wanted to say to the people of New York City and New York what is required of us to do together under this welfare reform law.

By way of background, in the last 4 years and before the law was passed, before the law was changed, the welfare rolls in America were reduced by almost 2.3 million. I received just yesterday an analysis by the Council of Economic Advisers -- and that's a record, by the way -- the welfare rolls had never gone down by that much in a 4-year period before -- the Council of Economic Advisers saying to me that they thought about half of the welfare rolls reduction had come because the economy had improved. We, after all, had 11.5 million new jobs in the last 4 years, and no 4-year period had produced that many before. But about 30 percent of these jobs had materialized, or this movement had materialized, because of the welfare reform efforts already going on in 43 States, people in the States making an extra effort to move people from welfare to work. And about 20 percent happened for reasons that cannot be identified. But among other things, we had a 50 percent increase in child support collections over the last 4 years, and anything of that magnitude always enables some people to move out of the welfare rolls and out of the ranks of poverty.

Now, that's what happened in the last 4 years. In the next 4 years -- I won't go through all the details of it, but Secretary Shalala and my staff have provided me with an analysis which says that, in essence, the welfare roll law now says that after a certain amount of time, everybody who's able to work should be in the work force, and therefore welfare can't be for a lifetime. And then there are all kinds of rules and regulations and requirements. But the bottom line is we have to move about a million people from the welfare rolls to the work rolls in the next 4 years. That's about the same number of people we moved in the last 4 years, because the average welfare family actually has about 2.5, 2.7 people in it.

Now, the problem is, in the last 4 years we had 11.5 million jobs. If we can produce 11.5 million jobs in the next 4 years, we'll be doing fine. But we have to do it without knowing that for sure.

And how are we going to do this? That's what I want to talk about today. And more importantly, how can we not just move people for 1 month or 2, or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 months into a job but how can we help people who have been trapped in a culture of dependence and poverty to move to a culture of independence, family, and work?

I think it is fair to assume that whenever you reduce the welfare rolls, the people who are most employable move off first. Therefore, the people who are left may be more difficult to employ than the ones who have already moved.

I want to talk about just three or four things that we intend to continue to do. Number one, we believe that child support collections will continue to increase because we've made significant changes in the law to help us do that.

Number two, we have asked the Congress to pass a bill which would give employers who hire people from welfare to work or who hire single men off **food stamps**, who have no income and get **food stamps**, into the work force would get a 50 percent tax credit for a salary of up to \$ 10,000. So a maximum tax credit -- actual reduction of the tax bill of \$ 5,000, which is quite a significant incentive.

Thirdly, we recommend funds to States and to cities sufficient to create about 380,000 jobs in the public sector over the next 4 years.

Fourthly, I would remind you that the existing law provides for now more funds for child care than before, \$ 4 billion, and continuing support for health care for people who have public assistance and who move into the work force.

Now, in addition to that, if you look at this pattern, I also want to point out that the State has some flexibility right now. The State of New York, for example, right now, can offer all or part of a monthly welfare check to an employer as a wage and training subsidy if the employer will hire someone off welfare. For a single man on **food stamps** but with no welfare check, the State of New York can cash out the **food stamps** and give it to the employer as a wage and training subsidy under the new law.

Some States -- Secretary Shalala and I will work together to give some States the flexibility under the old law, and the results, the preliminary results are quite encouraging. The State of Florida has just announced a program to try this.

How are we going to get all these people jobs? Let me give you some numbers. This country has 826,000 private sector business employers with 20 or more employees. A lot of them have a lot more than 20 employees. We have 1.1 million nonprofit organizations; many of them are large enough to hire someone else. We have 135,000 religious -- churches, synagogues, mosques, and others with 200 or more members. Obviously, if half that many -- 50 percent of them hired one person, we could get there. And a lot of the big companies can hire more than one.

The point I want to make is that this is a manageable problem -- if you look at the tax credits, if you look at the cash incentives that the States can offer, it's a manageable problem. But it will not work unless out of this we create what Dr. Forbes talked about at the beginning, in this partnership of hope here.

We have got to create a community-based system, supporting work and family, to make welfare a transitional program that is a program of support and movement to independence. The way the law is written, we have several years to phase in what has to be done, but we've worked out the numbers. We think we have to move another million people from the welfare rolls into the job market, which would reduce the overall rolls by about almost 3 million if we did that, with the children. So that's the background. Those are the incentives we can bring to the table. But we have to have your help to set up this network.

Let me just say one other thing that has particular impact in New York and five or six other States. I think it is imperative that in this budget we are about to pass, that Congress include the provisions that I have recommended to restore benefits to legal immigrants who have been damaged and have health and other problems through no fault of their own. And I assure you I intend to fight hard for that, and I know that your delegation will, but we need your support. The Congress needs to understand that there are an awful lot of people who came here legally who are not on welfare, who are out working, who are paying taxes, and who wound up getting hurt and needing disability or health benefits through no fault of their own. And I think it's a mistake to cut them off. And so we're working on that, and I'd ask for your help on that.

I'd like to turn the program back over to Dr. Forbes, but let me just say again, we've moved about a million people into the work force in the last 4 years and reduced the welfare rolls by 2.3 million. To meet the requirements of the law, it is a calculation of the Department of Health and Human Services, we have to meet another million in the next 4 years. We may or may not create 11.5 million new jobs in the next 4 years. If we did it twice in a row, it would be something for sure. Whether or not we do, we're going to have to do that. We can only do it if churches, nonprofits, and private employers make maximum use of tax credits, if the cities and States get the funds that I recommended to hire people in the public sector, and if the States provide the kind of flexibility to private employers everywhere in America that some have done in some places.

You should know that Indiana and Wisconsin reduced their welfare rolls by 40 percent in the last 4 years -- 40 percent -- by aggressive efforts and without particularly ungenerous programs either, just aggressive efforts. This can be done, and I need your help to do it. And I do think it's part of all of our mission in life, Doctor, to do this, anyway.

Thank you.

[At this point, Rev. Dr. James Forbes, senior minister, Riverside Church, introduced Rev. Dr. Brenda Stiers, executive minister of the church, who said that the church has tried to respond to the needs of the poor in the past and will continue to do so through the Partnership of Hope, a program designed by the church to bring together business, government, and community service providers to move welfare recipients permanently into the labor market. Earl G. Graves, CEO, Black Entertainment magazine, then explained that African-American churches and businesses have already done their fair share of helping the urban poor, and it is unrealistic for the Federal Government to expect them to provide the necessary job training, education, child care, and health care needed to move welfare recipients into the work force. He added that new welfare legislation has destroyed the poor's safety net, and he thought it was irresponsible for the Government to abandon its obligation to provide opportunity to all its citizens.]

The President. Let me say, with all respect, I don't think it's that simple. I don't think it's accurate to say that this bill destroys the safety net for poor people. It maintains a Federal guarantee for poor women and children for nutrition, a Federal guarantee for health care, spends \$ 4 billion more on child care, and says, simply, that if you are able bodied, you cannot stay on welfare forever without going into the work force. And the way the work participation requirements were put on States, by the year 2000 about 40 percent of all the able-bodied people in the welfare -- able-bodied adults have to be in -- have had some work experience within a given 2-year period. That's what it says.

Now, I hardly -- and when you consider the fact that the welfare population, Earl, is different than it used to be and that there are some people who are on it perpetually, I think it is a good thing, not a bad thing, that we did that.

Number two, I do not think it is so simple to say that at any given moment in time there are a fixed number of people who have to be hired by all the employers in America, and if they hire a few more, they're all going down the tubes and lose money. This bill that I have proposed will give a 50 percent tax credit, up to \$ 5,000 a year, for people who hire people. That means you can hire somebody for \$ 10,000 a year and, in effect, the out-of-pocket cost to you is less than the

minimum wage.

I met a man with only 25 employees in Kansas City, and 5 of his employees were former welfare recipients. And they were happy at work, and he was happy with them. And he only hired them because he figured that the marginal cost of hiring them, since he got the welfare check as a wage subsidy for a couple of years, lowered his risk of adding to the work force. And sure enough, when he added to the work force, he generated some more work and it turned out to be a profitable decision for him.

I talked to a former Governor last week who's back in private business, who's got a small business, who told me once I explained the proposal to him that he would now go hire three or four people from the welfare rolls because it lowered the marginal cost of adding employees to him. And there is no reason to believe, if we all work on this, that we can't create another million jobs over 4 years without bankrupting businesses and that it wouldn't be better for people who otherwise are going to be permanently dependent on welfare.

And it is not true that we have withdrawn all supports. We are spending more on child care. I want to also spend \$ 3 billion on public service related jobs to create over a third of a million there. And the health care and the nutrition guarantees are still there. So I think it will be a good thing if we make this work, but there is no automatic system for doing it, and that's why we need your help.

[Ruth Penn, a fifth grade teacher who grew up in the welfare system and later attended college, suggested a program that empowered welfare recipients and pledged to give back to a system that had helped her in the past. Ted Lewis, director, Executive Recruiting for the Americas, reiterated the need for job training and education programs to help welfare recipients become successful in the work force. Public assistance recipient Nilda Roman explained that under the new legislation, she would be forced to leave college to meet work requirements. She added that many people were forced into jobs without sufficient training.]

The President. Let me say this, first of all, I agree with what you said about people being in college -- I don't think -- people who are going to college who are full-time students. We are looking at whether -- if there's some way to get -- to deal with that because I don't think people should be pulled out of college. I agree with that.

Secondly, for one thing, you just -- from the point of view of the State of New York, this is a -- we need to -- we're trying to work this out because the States basically have control of this. The State of New York would be much better with you as a college graduate, which is the point you tried to make. So I believe that.

Now, the other problem is these training programs essentially are all run by the States and the cities. But I will do some -- you've given me some things that we need to obviously do some work on. We need to make sure that there is an adequate training and preparation. That's one of the things I know that you've talked about what you can do here because an awful lot of people who move from welfare who are just thrown into these jobs don't last because they were never prepared for them in the first place, and they're traumatized as a result of it. And oftentimes, just basic preparation of a few months can make a -- a few weeks even -- can make all the difference in the world. So we'll go back and do -- we will pay some more attention to that.

But on the college education thing, I think you're right, and I think we ought to find some way to accommodate that, and we're working on that.

[A participant explained that in order to move New York City welfare recipients into the labor market, local companies must remain in the city and officials must work to generate new jobs. He concluded by stressing the significance of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA), which helps provide affordable public transportation for the working poor.]

The President. If I could just make one point on that. Next to education and child care, the thing

we hear most all around the country from people who seek to move from welfare to work or very often even to go to college is whether they have adequate transportation. And this ISTEA Act that Lou just mentioned, which is -- it took me a long time to remember what all those little letters were for. But the bottom line is, I asked the new Secretary of Transportation, Rodney Slater, to look at that to see that we were allocating enough money in here not only for mass transit but also for the appropriate subsidies to make sure that poor people could have access to this. Otherwise they won't be able to get to work.

And this is an interesting opportunity for New York to make an alliance with smaller cities. For example, there was just a study on Atlanta, which said that in something like 80 percent of the entry-level jobs in the city of Atlanta were filled by people who lived in low-income neighborhoods in Atlanta. In the suburban towns outside, just that touch Atlanta, only 55 percent were. And it was clearly the result of the inadequate ability of low-income people to access transportation to get there.

So this is a huge issue, Lou. It's a huge issue for welfare reform and basically for the integrity of poor families to be able to sort of aspire and move and do things.

Senator, were you going to say something about this?

Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan. Yes. We very much appreciate your endorsing the existing formula, Mr. President. *[Laughter]*

The President. Is that what I did?

Senator Moynihan. Wyoming, Montana --

The President. I thought we could do a little better on mass transit.

Senator Moynihan. The newspapers out there, did you hear that? *[Laughter]*

The President. Never misses a lick. *[Laughter]*

[Paul Sherry, president and CEO, United Church of Christ, supported a partnership between government, business, and churches that would be united in educating people about the seriousness of poverty in America, in promoting social services such as child care and job training, and in instituting public policy initiatives that would lead to a national commitment to families and children.]

The President. Let me say, as I'm sure you know, all the Members of Congress who are present here supported the efforts we made last year to raise the minimum wage. And that, plus doubling the earned-income tax credit, the refundable earned-income tax credit for lower income working people, led in 1995, before the minimum wage even went into -- we had the biggest drop in poverty, in the poverty rate among single women with children in 20 years. And so I couldn't agree with you more.

We have still 20 percent of our kids living in poverty. And it's not very complicated. I mean, it's the reverse of why we have lowered the poverty rate among our seniors to 11 percent, and it's the lowest it's ever been in history because we met a national, common commitment to investing in retirement and health care for seniors. And one of the things that I earnestly hope we can do is to -- in the next 2 years is to do something really significant to deal with the fact there's still 10 million children in our country without health care. And they're not primarily people who are presently on public assistance because they're eligible for Medicaid.

But education, health care, and safety are the three big priorities that we have for our children. And I think they're all very important, and we're nowhere near where we ought to be there.

[A participant commended the President for his commitment to education and stated that education is an important step in reducing the number of social problems in the country. Ed Lewis, chairman, Essence Communications and Essence magazine, explained that in order to compete in the global marketplace, corporations must be committed to job training and education, but expressed concern that corporate downsizing will effect training and education programs. He called for businesses to contribute to welfare reform but added that the Government must play a major role in helping to train and educate former welfare recipients.]

The President. Let me just say very briefly, I think you're right on both counts. We have five American corporations, including UPS and Sprint, Monsanto, Burger King, and somebody I've left out -- United Airlines -- who have agreed to head a national effort to get major corporations to hire and train people in good jobs.

The second point you made, though, is absolutely right, we have to have -- this will not work unless we also have a floor plan for publicly financed jobs for people in training programs in the beginning and also just continuing support for higher education. I'll give you an example. We've been working very hard for months now to try to get a new agreement among the world's nations on telecommunications services, giving American companies the right to compete in other countries for telecommunications services. We finally got an agreement that was far better than I ever dreamed we could get. It is estimated it will bring a million new jobs to America -- this one agreement -- a million new jobs over the next 10 years, but not one of those new jobs will be a low-skilled job. Every one of those jobs will require a level of skills and education that the folks that want to go to work but don't have those skills desperately need.

[Ruth Messinger, Manhattan Borough president, explained that under the new legislation, college students who receive public assistance will have to leave school to meet city work requirements. She advocated a program that would allow welfare recipients to work part time at their colleges to help them meet work requirements.]

The President. One of the best things we did in the last session of Congress, in the last days, was to add 200,000 more work-study slots. There was another 100,000 in my new budget. If they pass we will go to a million people on work-study in this country in the next 2 years.

If we can do that, surely -- if you think about the numbers you're talking about -- you're talking about maybe 100,000 nationwide of the million people that must be in the work force -- surely we can get some consideration for permitting a certain number of hours worked on the campus in connection with the legislation. I want to say that I think the one thing that I know that is not working the way this thing is being applied now is rules that, in effect, force people out of college. You know, we're cutting off our nose to spite our face. These are not people who do not want to work. So I will work on that for you.

[A participant presented the President with a gift.]

The President. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:07 a.m. at Riverside Church. In his remarks, he referred to Rev. James Washington, chair, Riverside Church Council.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 25, 1997

Source: [All Sources](#) : / . . . / : **Public Papers of the Presidents** 

Terms: **atl 3 (food stamps)** and **date(geq (1/20/92) and leq (12/31/00))** ([Edit Search](#))

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POTUS ON HUNGER

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HUNGER LANGUAGE

DLC Gala 10/13/99

At the same time, we have to lower tariff barriers. Tariffs remain much too high, and on average, they're 5 times higher abroad than they are in America. And we must work to reduce the domestic supports that distort trade by paying farmers to overproduce and drive prices down. These steps will help farmers to produce the vast and varied variety of food for the best possible prices. The benefits will accrue not just to them but to the global fight against hunger and malnutrition.

DD

We should also see that the promise of biotechnology is realized by consumers, as well as producers, and the environment, ensuring that the safety of our food will be guaranteed with science-based and transparent domestic regulation and maintaining market access based on that sound science.

Second, we can lift living standards worldwide if we level the playing field for goods and services. Manufacturing remains a powerful engine of our own economic growth; it generates nearly a fifth of our GDP and two-thirds of our exports. It employs more than 18 million Americans in good jobs. This sector has grown since 1992, accelerated greatly by expanded trade, boosted by agreements made at previous trade rounds. If the Asian crisis has hurt our manufacturers -- and it certainly has -- it's because expanded trade is vital to their economic health, and it will remain so.

Radio Address May 27, 1994

No era is ever free of dangers; none ever will be. And ours is no exception. The cold war world, which was bound up in a nuclear standoff, has been traded for a new world yearning for stability and facing unimaginable chaos. Nations once burdened by the smothering grip of communism faced economic insecurities as they moved toward market economies. The heavy lid of authoritarian regimes has been lifted to reveal the smoldering embers of ethnic and religious hatreds. Millions are dying from hunger rooted in environmental and economic devastation and uncontrolled migration. Millions more hunger to be free. And all of us on this Earth still face serious threats from the spread of nuclear weapons technology and the spread of other weapons of mass destruction around the world.

Republic of Georgia News Conference, 3/7/94

Q. Mr. President, she says what do you feel when people tell you that you have saved our people from hunger and starvation?

The President. She asked: What do I feel when people say that the United States has saved many people in Georgia from hunger and starvation?

I feel a sense of gratitude that we had the opportunity to do it. Most of the people in our country understand that we are very fortunate to live here, to have the system that we have, to have the economy that we have, and that we have responsibilities and opportunities around the world that we discharge as well as we can. The people of Georgia have carried on an historic and courageous struggle. Chairman Shevardnadze has become the embodiment of that struggle for us here in America and for people all over the world. And I'm glad that, last year on a couple of occasions, the United States was able to move rapidly and to be helpful. We long for the day when you will not need it anymore. And we know that you do, too.

Public Papers of the Presidents

Public Papers of the Presidents

May 26, 2000

CITE: 36 Weekly Comp. Pres. Doc. 1241**LENGTH:** 598 words**HEADLINE:** Videotape Remarks to the National Nutrition Summit**BODY:**

I'm delighted to welcome you to the 2000 National Nutrition Summit and to thank you for promoting the need for good nutrition, physical activity, and a healthy lifestyle in preventing diet-related diseases. I also want to thank Secretary Shalala and Secretary Glickman for their work on this summit. And I want to recognize Ambassador McGovern and Senator Dole, two of the leaders who played a pioneering role in the first White House Conference on Food, Nutrition, and Health, back in 1969.

At that time, malnutrition, **hunger**, and obesity were too often an accepted part of our society, and we didn't have the right resources in place to address them. Our foods weren't labeled with nutritional information. Our national school lunch program wasn't administered properly, and we didn't even have the means to measure the levels of **hunger** and malnutrition in our own country. The 1969 White House Conference changed all that by encouraging the Federal Government to expand and strengthen its programs to reduce **hunger** and promote good nutrition.

As President Nixon said then, the moment is at hand to put an end to **hunger**. Today, more than 30 years later, we have made great strides in understanding and promoting the link between nutrition and personal health. Our national investment in nutrition assistance has increased more than thirtyfold since the first conference.

In 1999 alone, we delivered more than \$ 33 billion in nutrition assistance to our children and our hardest pressed families. Thanks in large part to your efforts, these programs play a key role in promoting the health of our entire Nation. The Women, Infants, and Children's program has given millions of young families, more than 7 million Americans, both the wise advice and the nutritious foods they need to grow healthy and strong. Children enrolled in WIC programs are immunized earlier, perform better in school, and spend less time in the doctor's office.

Our national school lunch program now provides nutritious lunches to more than 26 million children in 95,000 schools across our land. Our food stamp program brings nourishment to millions of Americans every day, and our improved and expanded Head Start program reaches even younger children and more families than ever.

But while we've come a long way in promoting good nutrition and health, too many Americans still are malnourished, without food, or living unhealthy lifestyles. Nearly 55 percent of our population is overweight or obese, including one in five children. And today, four of the leading causes of death in the United States are nutrition-related. That's why we must continue to help more Americans live healthier lives.

For 7 years now, our administration has tried to do that, with substantial increases in funding for WIC, Head Start, and child nutrition programs. This year our budget builds on that progress.

I want to thank all of you for leading the way to a healthier America. If we keep working together, we can ensure that in the 21st century, our people and our Nation are in the best shape ever.

NOTE: The President's remarks were videotaped at approximately 5:30 p.m. on May 11 in the Map

Public Papers of the Presidents

Public Papers of the Presidents

October 14, 1999

CITE: 35 Weekly Comp. Pres. Doc. 2050**LENGTH:** 446 words**HEADLINE:** Videotape Remarks to the National Summit on Community Food Security**BODY:**

Good afternoon, and thank you for taking the time to participate in this first-ever summit on community food security. Thank you, Secretary Glickman, for your leadership in this vital area.

Sometimes it's hard to comprehend that in the middle of the strongest peacetime economy in our Nation's history, when poverty is at a 20-year low and incomes are rising all across America, there are still people in our country who go to bed hungry. More than 3 million children suffer from **hunger** at some point during the year. And nearly 1 in 10 American households are at serious risk that an expensive car repair or an unexpected rent increase could make them go hungry. That kind of deprivation is simply unacceptable in our land of plenty.

From the earned-income tax credit to Medicaid to child care, our administration has carried out a new approach to help lift people out of poverty by forging a new social contract that rewards work, promotes responsibility, and helps families who need it.

Last July, I took executive action to help families gain access to food stamps. Secretary Glickman is leading our efforts to launch a nationwide food stamp public education campaign, and all of you gathered here today are critically important to that effort. I ask each and every one of you to join with us in our partnership to ensure families get the help they need.

Our work is far from done. While the Federal Government continues to be deeply involved in the fight against **hunger**, our nutritional safety net alone can't conquer the problem.

The solution lies in new and innovative partnerships with grassroots efforts. For too long, Government programs haven't done enough to capitalize on community expertise. And likewise, community efforts have often not taken full advantage of the Government resources available to them. This conference is about building stronger partnerships, about bringing all the parties to the table and forming stronger ties among the Federal Government, State, local, and tribal governments, the private sector, nonprofit groups, the faith community, and private citizens. The more we work together, the better we can do in meeting the challenge of **hunger**.

Thank you again for your participation and for the hard work you do and the dedication you show every single day in the fight against **hunger**.

NOTE: The President's remarks were videotaped at approximately 2:50 p.m. on October 12 in Room 459 in the Old Executive Office Building for later transmission to the National Summit on Community Food Security, meeting in Chicago, IL, on October 14. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH**LOAD-DATE:** November 9, 1999

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oved new drugs and treatments for everything from HIV to breast cancer,
disease to **cystic fibrosis**, Parkinson's to epilepsy.

JA has served America well. Today, with a bill I'm about to sign into law, we can ensure that it
will serve America well into the 21 century, and I hope serve as a model again for how we can
maintain our goals of pursuing the public interest and adjust our means to the possibilities and the
challenges of a dramatically new era. The FDA has always set the gold standard for consumer safety.
Today it wins a gold medal for leading the way into the future. And thank you all.

I'd like to ask the Congressmen now to join me up here so we can sign the bill.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:50 a.m. in Room 450 of the Old Executive Office Building.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: December 22, 1997

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Public Papers of the Presidents

Public Papers of the Presidents

November 21, 1997

CITE: 33 Weekly Comp. Pres. Doc. 1875**LENGTH:** 1449 words**HEADLINE:** Remarks on Signing the Food and Drug Administration Modernization Act of 1997**BODY:**

Thank you very much. After Secretary Shalala made you all laugh, she reminded me that she has to go catch a plane. She's going on a trip to Asia, and she's winding up in Butung. She said, "You know, some people think Butung is the most beautiful place in the world, and the King is there, and he's got four wives, and they're all sisters." And she said, "I wonder if he'd like four and a half." [Laughter] I thought the private joke was even better than the public one, so I thought I'd give credit.

Let me, first of all, thank the Vice President and his reinventing Government staff for the work that they have done on the FDA and Secretary Shalala and all the people at HHS and Sally Katzen and the people at OMB and folks in the White House, the industry leaders who are here. But let me especially thank the Members of Congress, all those who are here and at least two who are not, Congressman Bliley and Congressman Dingell, for the work that -- this really astonishing work.

It was a 2-year process. This bill passed by a voice vote in both Houses. And yet it is a very significant overhaul in the work of the Food and Drug Administration. It also, it seems to me, is symbolic of what we should be doing as a country.

The FDA, which was created under Theodore Roosevelt, as the Vice President said, is really, I think, one of the signal achievements of the Progressive Era. Why was it necessary? Because more and more people were moving from the farm to the city and making a living in factories, and instead of consuming the food that they raised on their own farms, they had to go down and buy the food from somebody else. And more and more people had access to doctors, and doctors had access to medicine that was being discovered that they couldn't know everything about. So somebody needed to say, "Hey, this medicine is okay. We've tested it. It's okay. You can give it to your patients in Iowa or Oregon or Arizona or Alabama."

And so a whole new world of possibility opened when people could move from farm to factory and when people could have access to a doctor when they couldn't see one before. But there needed to be someone who said, here's the public interest in trying to make sure the food is safe and the drugs are safe, and they do what they're supposed to do.

And it's worked stunningly well, really. Throughout the entire industrial era of the 20th century, our country has continued to see its life expectancy increase and its economy grow and diversify. But when I was out there -- the Vice President is right -- I brought this up in our transition back in '92, because when I went across the country in 1992, everywhere I went people were complaining, on the one hand, that they were beginning to be concerned about some food safety issues and, on the other hand, that the health and welfare of the American people was actually being undermined by a system in the FDA that, at least the people who were involved in it thought, was too slow and somewhat arbitrary and not giving the American people the drug approvals and the medical device approvals in a timely fashion.

So we set to work on it and we found there was an enormous amount of interest in the Congress. The Vice President's right, the FDA deserves, I think, a great deal of credit for the internal changes that have been made, that have been recognized, and particularly on the drug approvals, the speed

of them.

But this legislation, I think, is very, very important. And again I say, it is also symbolic of a larger mission we should be about. We're maintaining and redefining the public interest at a time when there are new challenges to food safety, which we've tried to meet, partly in the Department of Agriculture and partly with some important bipartisan legislation the Congress passed about a year ago, and when we have new possibilities in both medicine and medical devices. And what we want to do is get those to people as quickly as possible and still protect the public interest.

And we know now we have new options for that because of the change, again, in the underlying nature of the society, moving from the industrial age to a technology/computer information dominated age in which we have a lot more opportunities to do things that will speed this approval process, and on the other hand, in the food area, we know because we've now gone from seeing people get their food from their neighbors who were farmers while they lived in the cities, that food has become more and more and more an international commodity. And we have an even higher responsibility not only through the FDA but generally through the government to secure the safety of our food supply.

So I think the changes we are making are very important not only on their own merits but because what you have done is a model for what America has to do in area after area after area, clearly define the public interest and then change the way we pursue it consistent with the tools and the responsibilities and the opportunities available in this time. And all of you should be very, very proud of that.

Let me say that, as everybody knows, this bill is the product of 3 years of hard work that involves all the people I have already mentioned. I just think it's worth pointing out that at the beginning of the process, the sides stood worlds apart. I think that is an understatement. [Laughter] And the fact that there was a process by which you could think through differences and build a true consensus that is bipartisan and involves all the stakeholders, resulting in a bill -- if somebody told me 2 years ago, "Two years from now you'll be standing over at the Old EOB; and you'll be about to sign a bill that passed the Congress by a voice vote, and it will have more than two words in it, so it won't be an empty bill; it will, in fact, be a sweeping reform of FDA," I would have taken odds against that. And I think you should all be very, very proud of yourselves.

Let me just highlight a few of the bill's provisions. First, we continue working with the business community to get more drugs approved faster. We've reauthorized the Prescription Drug User Fee Act for 5 more years. It ensures that the cost of reviewing and approving drugs is shared between industry and Government. Since 1992, these additional revenues have helped FDA hire some 600 more employees, cutting drug approval time in half already, and we want to do better.

Second, the bill writes into law many of the reinventing Government measures introduced by FDA a few years ago, reducing the requirements and simplifying the review process for new drugs and medical devices without compromising safety. And I congratulate the Vice President for all his work particularly on this effort.

Third, we will offer new hope to critically ill Americans by expanding access to drugs and therapies whose FDA approvals are still pending. Anybody who's ever had a family in this situation knows what an important part of the legislation this is. We know that for many patients, experimental treatments represent their best, perhaps their only, chance for recovery. That's why this bill writes into law current FDA policies that allow doctors and patients to use new drugs before they are formally approved. Already, thousands of AIDS, cancer, and Alzheimer's patients have found new hope, even new life, with these experimental therapies. We will also expand the database on clinical trials of drugs that fight serious illnesses so that patients can keep track of their progress.

It's been said that while the century we are about to leave has been an age of physics, the 21st century will be an age of biology, perhaps yielding cures to diseases we thought incurable. We are already witnessing the medical possibilities of the future, as the Vice President said. This fall alone,

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Little Rock, Arkansas)

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For Immediate Release

July 18, 1998

RADIO ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE NATION

Little Rock, Arkansas

THE PRESIDENT: Good morning. I'm speaking to you from my home state of Arkansas, a state that, like many across our nation, depends heavily on agriculture. America's farm communities are more than a critical part of our economy. They are places where American values have deep roots and flourish: faith and family, hard work and respect for neighbors, devotion to community. Every American has a stake in the strength of rural America.

With family incomes rising, the lowest unemployment in nearly 30 years, the highest home ownership rate in history, most Americans today are enjoying the dividends of the strongest U.S. economy in a generation. Unfortunately, life on the farm is not so easy today.

For five and a half years, I have worked to expand opportunity for our farm families. We've strengthened crop insurance, provided critical disaster assistance to ranchers who have lost livestock, doubled our use of export credits from last year, improved our school lunch programs by buying surplus commodities, and worked to diversify the sources of enterprise and income in rural America.

But with the economic crisis in Asia weakening some of our best customers for farm products, and with strong world crop production bringing prices down, and with farmers facing floods and fires and drought and crop disease, our farmers face a difficult and dangerous moment. Many farm families have been pushed off their land, and many more could suffer the same fate unless our nation revives its commitment to helping farmers weather hard times.

When I signed the 1996 Farm Bill, at a time when farm prices were very strong, I made clear my concern that there was not an adequate safety net for farmers. The bill had to be signed to avoid putting our farmers in an even more difficult situation under the old 1949 Farm Bill. But sooner or later, prices were bound to fall so low that we would need that safety net. That day has come. With prices for many farm products plummeting, America's farm families face a crisis, and we have an obligation to help.

At the same time we see a very different crisis in some parts of the world -- a crisis of hunger, where too many families face famine and starvation. For decades, American Presidents have addressed such crises -- that's what I'm doing today.

Today, I am acting within my full authority as

President to take immediate steps to help our family farmers and to reduce crop surpluses at home. Within days, the United States government will begin to purchase more than 80 million bushels of wheat, which could lift prices as much as 13 cents a bushel. With this wheat, I've instructed Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman to launch a new food aid initiative to press the world struggle against hunger.

Secretary Glickman, working with our Agency for International Development, will use the authority granted to him by Congress to oversee substantial donations of U.S. wheat to countries where the need is greatest -- places such as Sudan and Indonesia. Donations will also be made to private humanitarian groups. All told, this is in the best humanitarian tradition -- an action, based on human need to help save lives as it opens new links of trade with these nations. It's good for American farmers, good for our economy and it's the right thing to do.

This effort will provide a much needed boost to U.S. wheat farmers, but we can and must do more. I'm pleased that this week, Congress took prompt bipartisan action to exempt agricultural trade from U.S. sanctions against India and Pakistan in the wake of their nuclear test. But more congressional action must follow. We should expand eligibility for direct and guaranteed loans, extend marketing loans when crop prices are low or transportation problems make marketing difficult, give farmers more flexibility to plant other crops when their primary crops fail. And above all, we must keep the market for our products growing by paying our dues to the International Monetary Fund so that we can stabilize and help to reform Asian economies that are such important customers for America's farmers, and for our other exporters who are responsible for 30 percent of the remarkable growth we've enjoyed since 1993.

In my State of the Union address, I urged Congress to do this, for the sake of our own economy. Six months later, the need is greater than ever. We must pay our dues to the International Monetary Fund so that our people can sell their products abroad.

The steps I take today are in the best tradition of America. From our beginnings, we have recognized that the agricultural tradition strengthens the national community. In the depths of the Great Depression, President Franklin Roosevelt said, "No cracked earth, no blistering sun, no burning wind are a permanent match for the indomitable American farmers who inspire us with their self-reliance, their tenacity and their courage." Today, at a moment of broad prosperity for our nation, we have an obligation to expand opportunity for all Americans as we move strongly into the 21st century.

Thanks for listening.

END

2/14/00: Interview With Wolf Blitzer

But I think that I can do a lot of things that will help other people when I leave here, and I'm going to do my best to do that.

President's Favorite Websites

Mr. Blitzer. All right, Mr. President, if you'll take a look at our chat room, the people who are participating in the CNN.com chat, they're participating in huge numbers right now. Let's take another question, though, from an E-mail person named Seth. He says this: Mr. President, I have heard that you are an avid web surfer and on-line shopper. What are your favorite websites?

The President. Well, I wouldn't say I am avid. I did do some Christmas shopping for the first time on-line this year, though. And I even -- I bought some things from the Native American craftspeople up in South Dakota, at Pine Ridge, which was really interesting to me.

But I love books, so I like Amazon.com. And I'm fascinated by eBay, because I like to swap and trade, and it reminds me of the old kind of **farmer's markets** and town markets I used to visit when I started out in politics in Arkansas so many years ago. I think the whole concept of people being able to get on-line and sort of trade with each other, and almost barter, is utterly fascinating to me.

Issues of the New Millennium

Mr. Blitzer. All right, we have another question, Mr. President. We only have a little time left. Let's take this from the chat room: Mr. President, what is the biggest issue facing Americans in the new millennium?

The President. Well, I think the most important thing that we have to do is to make up our minds that we are actually going to build a more united country out of our diversity and out of our groundbreaking technology and advances in science and technology. That is, I think that if you look around the world today, the biggest problems seem to be rooted in racial, ethnic, religious strife. If you look at America and how well we fit with a positive vision of the 21st century world and you look at the continuing problems we've had here, with these hate crimes, for example, the most important thing we could do is get our minds right and get our spirits right and realize that we have to learn to live with people who are different from us. We have to learn to keep our conflicts with them within proper bounds, so that our common goals override the differences between us.

If we build one America, that's the most important thing. The American people are so innovative, so creative, and we're so well-positioned for the future, everything else will work out. But if we allow ourselves to fall into these deep divisions over -- including political ones -- differences of opinion are healthy; demonization is destructive and self-indulgent. And that's basically what we've got to work on.

If we can keep working together enough in creative tension, then everything else will work out. I'm confident of it.

Social Security Earning Limits

Mr. Blitzer. All right, Mr. President. We have time for one final question. It's from Wolf in Washington, DC -- that would be me, by prerogative, as the moderator of this discussion, this on-line interview we're having: You know the Republicans today in the House of Representatives are pushing legislation that would remove the limits, ease the limits on Social Security recipients as far as their earnings after they reach 65 until 70 -- a very sensitive subject, affects a lot of people watching right now, how much money they could earn and still be eligible for Social Security. Will you work with the Republicans, support them, in eliminating those caps on earnings?

2/2/00 : Remarks at Frank W. Balbo Senior High School

year I ordered Christmas gifts from the Pine Ridge reservation over the Internet. They would never be able to market their products across this Nation -- never, ever. They wouldn't have the money to do it. But because they have a web page, people like us can find them and help them to build their dreams.

And before we came out here, I was talking to Steve about -- I spent some time a few months ago with the executives of eBay out in Northern California. Some of you may have found eBay on the net. It's a trading site. And the company's going like crazy, because people love to buy and sell things. It's like an old-fashioned community like the **farmers' market** used to be in my hometown on Saturday morning. And people buy and sell all kinds of things on eBay. There are now over 20,000 Americans making a living, not working for eBay but buying and selling on the site, and many of them used to be on welfare. They found a way through the net to empower themselves through their minds to have a different future.

Now, this is just the beginning. We have only scratched the surface. Imagine what it will be like when every single child in this country can just stretch a hand across a keyboard and pull up every book ever written, every painting ever created, every symphony or jazz piece ever composed. When high-speed wireless networks bring distant learning and telemedicine to every rural area in this country. When even the smallest business can compete worldwide just because they have access to people across the world through the net.

This is the future we are trying to build. In 1994, when Vice President Gore and I sponsored the first NetDay to begin to hook all of our schools and all of our classrooms up to the Internet, only 3 percent of the classrooms in America were wired. Since then, the public and private sectors, through generous grants, through NetDays, volunteer work, and through the steep discounts that schools can get in access charges, thanks to the so-called E-rate, which the Vice President pioneered -- since then, we've gone from 3 percent of our classrooms connected to over half of our classrooms connected. And 90 percent of the schools in the United States today have at least one connection to the Internet. That's a big step forward, and I'm proud of that.

But as you have already heard, there is still a big digital divide in this country. And it runs through income first. Low income families are far less likely to have access to the Internet and computers. There is also, for reasons we don't entirely understand, there is a separate racial and ethnic component to it. Among low income families, African-American and Hispanic families are less likely than other low income families to have computers and to be hooked up to the Internet.

We also know that people who live in rural areas, regardless of their race, are far, far less likely to own computers and to be wired to the net, even though they, in some ways, need it more than anybody else because of their physical isolation. And that this is most pronounced in Indian country in the United States.

Eventually this digital divide will deprive businesses of the workers they need. That's why I was so glad to see people training here, to learn how to use and to repair computers. It could also widen inequality in our society between people, based on who's connected and who's not.

Now, at a time when our country has the longest economic expansion in history and the lowest unemployment rate in 30 years and the lowest minority unemployment rates ever recorded, we must close the digital divide. We have worked too hard to turn this country around and to get it going in the right direction to let all this generation of young people wind up with greater inequality when we have a chance to have greater equality of opportunity in America than ever in our history.

Some of you may know that I have been going around America holding what I call new markets tours to make the argument that, with all the prosperity of the country, now is the time to recognize and be honest about the fact that not every community has felt the economic prosperity of the last few years and that it is our obligation to bring economic opportunity to all the neighborhoods and all the rural areas and all the Indian reservations, where they don't know there

5/5/93: TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM FULBRIGHT

differences and the political differences that divided the world so deeply during almost all of this public career were vastly less important than the common bonds of humanity which could unite us if only we could take our blinders off. He was among the first Americans to try to get us to think about the people in the Islamic world as people; among the first Americans to try to get us to understand the different and various and rich cultures of Asia, which have now produced some of the most amazing achievements in all of human history. And that is one of the reasons, I think, Mr. Ambassador, that Japan, thankfully, has become the most outstanding supporter of the Fulbright scholarship program, something for which we are all very grateful.

I close with this thought. About 4 years ago, Senator Fulbright's hometown of Fayetteville, which is the seat of the University of Arkansas where Hillary and I used to teach and where we were married, threw a big party for him and invited me as the Governor to come up and speak. And so I went up there. It was a wonderful day on the square. It was a Saturday. And afterwards the **farmers market** was there, and I walked around the square and talked to all the farmers. We shot the bull about Bill Fulbright and talked about his career. And then I went up to the hotel room where Senator Fulbright, believe it or not, was watching a football game. And when I walked in and sat down with him -- we watched this ball game, and this young man kicked a field goal about 2 minutes after we sat down. He looked at me, and he said, "You know something, I can't believe it's been 64 years since I did that." I say that to make my final point: It doesn't take long to live a life. He made the most of his. And I think his enduring legacy to us is trying to help us all to have a better chance to make the most of ours. Thank you very much.

Sit down: we're going to do one more thing. The job I now have, in the eyes of my mentor, is probably not quite as good a job as being a United States Senator, mostly because I have to take all that criticism. But it does give me some prerogatives. In spite of what you may have seen or heard in the last several days, there are some things I can do without anybody agreeing to it. And tonight, for the first time as President of the United States, I intend to do one of them. And I'd like to enlist the aid of my distinguished military aide. Major Schorsch, would you please read the proclamation.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:49 p.m. at the ANA Hotel. Following the President's remarks, Senator Fulbright was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

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Public Papers of the Presidents

Public Papers of the Presidents

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CITE: 36 Weekly Comp. Pres. Doc. 2465**LENGTH:** 3149 words**HEADLINE:** Remarks on the Job Access Initiative in Denver, Colorado**BODY:**

Well, come in a little closer there. Carmen, stand up here. I want you in this picture. *[Laughter]* Let me, first of all, thank Carmen Carrillo for welcoming us here today. I just had a wonderful time upstairs. I went up and talked to all the staff that were up there and met with a lot of the young people who were there who are working on trying to educate kids, give young adults the training they need, help young people avoid teen pregnancy and HIV infection. I thought they were terrific.

I just wanted to say, I wanted to come here today, in part, because of what you're doing here. And those of you who are here, trying to improve your lives represents everything I've tried to do as President. I'm very proud of you, and I love this place.

I want to thank the Secretary of Transportation, Rodney Slater, who is, like me, from Arkansas. We've worked together for almost 20 years now. He was underage when I first enlisted his services. *[Laughter]* And it will be apparent in a moment why I asked him to come today and join us.

And I want to thank Mayor and Mrs. Webb for their leadership. And thank you, Wilma, for your service in the administration. Denver has prospered under your leadership, done well, and you've been a great partner for the Clinton-Gore administration. We've done a lot of things in Denver. We even brought the leaders of the eight big industrial nations here to a conference about 5 years ago. My friendship with you and the work that we've done with this city have meant a great deal to me, and I thank you so much. Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

This is the first chance I've had in a couple days to make a public statement, and I think it's appropriate, in a way, that I make a few remarks about -- before I get into what I came to talk about today -- about the troubles in the Middle East and the terrorist attack, which resulted in the loss of many of our sailors. I'm sure you've been following it.

Some of those sailors are being brought home today, and they'll be brought home over the next several days, both the wounded and those who were killed, and we'll have a memorial service for them on Wednesday. But what I'd like to say to you -- I don't know if in the local press there have been any profiles of them. But a lot of those people who were killed came out of neighborhoods like this, several Latinos, one young African-American girl, only 19 years old, just completed her Navy training. Most of them were trying to do with their lives what you're trying to do with your lives, and they wanted to do it by serving their country in the United States Navy. And they were not over there on any hostile mission. They were simply patrolling and keeping the peace and stability of the region. So I hope you'll say a prayer for them and their families tonight. This is a difficult time for them.

It's also very troubling in the region. There was all the troubles you've seen between the Israelis and the Palestinians, who were so close to a peace agreement. There was a hijacking today in the Middle East. We have no idea whether it's related to any of this or not, and we may not know for a while. But I'm going to leave -- I'm going to the West Coast from here, then I'm going to red-eye back to Washington and fly over there, to Egypt, tomorrow in an attempt to try to help put things back together. So I hope we'll have your prayers on that, too.

But I ask today you specifically, think about those families that lost their loved ones, because most of

those folks were just trying to do what you're trying to do and serve their country. They were wonderful people, very young, so their families need all the support of the all the American people.

Now, let me talk about what I think is the good news of what you're doing and what I think we should be doing to help. In 1992, when I ran for President, I went to the American people with a very simple but, I think, profoundly important vision. I said that I thought every person willing to be a responsible citizen should have an opportunity to share in the American dream and that I thought to achieve that, we had to be a stronger community; we had to understand that we were going forward together and that nobody should be left out or left behind.

Well, it turns out most Americans agreed with that, and together the country has made great strides. You all know we've had the longest economic expansion in the history of the United States. We have the lowest unemployment rate in 30 years. When I became President, unemployment in Colorado was 6.1 percent. It's 2.7 percent now. Unemployment among African-Americans and Hispanics is the lowest ever measured. And together we've had over 22 million new jobs, almost 600,000 right here in Colorado.

But we're also not just better off. I think we're a better nation because poverty is down, crime is down, teen pregnancy is down. Last year we even had a reduction in the number of people without health insurance, for the first time in a dozen years, thanks to the Children's Health Insurance Program. And homeownership, test scores, high school graduation rates, and the college-going rate, all those are up.

So to paraphrase what Al Gore used to say in 1992, when everything should be up, was down; everything that should be down, was up. Now the things that should be up are up, and the things that should be down are down, and we can be grateful for that.

One of the most important things that would have been almost unthinkable 8 years ago is that the welfare rolls have been cut by more than half nationwide. Millions of parents have joined the work force. Now, how did this happen? Well, first, the strong economy helps, because more workers were needed.

Secondly, we changed the rules so that all able-bodied people who can work, have to work. But we obligated the Federal Government to enable them to succeed as parents, as well as workers, by investing more in training, more in child care and maintaining the guarantee of food and medical care for children. And it's working.

But after all that, it also became necessary to have a system. That's what you have here, in Mi Casa. It's this fabulous system. You don't just deal with one part of a person's problem. People come here, families can come here and be dealt with. And if there weren't a place like this, even with a strong economy, even with a better welfare reform law, what we've tried to do would not have been nearly as successful.

So all these innovative **welfare to work** partnerships between the Federal Government and States and local governments are important. And also in the private sector -- we have 12,000 private companies who've joined our **welfare to work** partnership and committed to hire people from the welfare rolls. And they have -- these 12,000 companies, themselves, some of them are as small as 40 and 50 employees; some of them have tens of thousands, but they have hired hundreds of thousands of people from the welfare rolls. Right now, I can tell you, the retention rates are better than other first hires in all those companies. And they're doing very, very well.

Denver has been a real leader here, thanks to Mayor Webb and people like Carmen. You offer education, employment, child care services in one place; train potential workers in places like Mi Casa, support employers who train new workers for themselves. So the Federal Government -- where are you -- [laughter] -- I asked Carmen on the way down here, I said, where do you get the money to run this place? And she said, "Well, we get some money from the Department of Labor. We get money from the **welfare to work** partnership."

But the point is, you've got to have some place where the people can come and get what they really need. And the places that are doing best are places that have really put things together. In Denver there's also an effort to help fathers get jobs and pay child support and stay involved with their children's lives.

So here's the point I want to make, and here's why I'm here. While the welfare rolls have dropped by more than 50 percent nationwide, which is huge, in Denver the welfare rolls have dropped 90 percent -- 90 percent. Now, once that happens, you've got to focus on making sure the people who get off welfare stay off and that hard-working families succeed. And that's what is happening here now.

But I came here today to talk about what more we can do to help more people get off welfare and stay off, and also to highlight the importance of places like Mi Casa and how we need it everywhere in America, because we can drive these rolls down even more if we have the kind of operations you have here in Denver. And that's where -- there are some more things we need to do, too, and that's where Secretary Slater and I come in.

One of the most important things in helping Americans move from **welfare to work** is making sure they can get from where they live to where the job is. And this is still a huge problem nationwide. Listen to this. Two-thirds of all the new jobs in America are being created in the suburbs, but three-quarters of the Americans who are still on public assistance live in inner cities or small, rural towns. So you've got the jobs here in the suburbs, and the people in the inner cities or out here in the country somewhere. And our public transportation networks simply have not kept up with the changing patterns and the disconnect between living and working.

Now, we can help some people move where the jobs are. Under the leadership of our HUD Secretary, Andrew Cuomo, we have been able to get a bipartisan majority in Congress to go along with giving a lot of people who are eligible for public housing, housing vouchers so they can go find whatever is available, because, as all of you know, with the growth of the economy there is a real housing shortage in America, and there is a huge public housing shortage. So the housing vouchers have made a difference. I think we have an agreement with the Congress this year -- I haven't signed the law yet, but I'm pretty sure we got the deal done last week to increase the number of housing vouchers next year so we can keep doing this.

But no matter how much we do that, there will still be large numbers of people who live someplace different from where the jobs are, who want to go to work, can go to work, and are capable of doing whatever it takes to be a qualified employee.

So we can't continue with a system where people have to take three or four buses to get to work or they can't get to work at all on public transport, so they've got to get a friend or a family member to give them a ride to work every day. And a lot of you are nodding your heads. You know, what do you do if the friend or family members gets sick? What do you do if their kids get sick? What do you do if your kid is sick? There are a lot of problems with this sort of ad hoc system.

And we do have a lot of people, literally, who still can't get a job because they can't get to the job. That is inconsistent with our goal of opportunity for every responsible citizen. It's inconsistent with our responsibilities as a national community to help each other go forward together. And it's inconsistent with helping people get off and stay off welfare.

So from the beginning, in our administration, the Vice President and I have worked with Congress to try to build transportation links to where the jobs are. Three years ago, we proposed something called the job access initiative, and we worked with Congress and got a lot of support for it. It basically gives grants to communities to figure out what the solution is in their community, because it's different from place to place. Last year we funded over \$ 71 million worth of grants for 42 States, and transit authorities have used this money to add new routes, to extend the hours of existing routes, which is a big problem in some places, and also to create vanpools when there is no practical

public transit option.

They have brought work to the doorsteps already with this job access initiative, to the doorsteps of 13,500 employers, which has enabled hundreds of thousands of people to find new ways to get to work, take their kids to school, and expand their own horizons through training and education.

Last year those grants went to six Colorado communities, almost three-quarters of a million dollars to help them design and build transportation links that connect workers to jobs. Today I'm here to announce that this year, we're going to have \$ 73 million in grants to 39 States and the District of Columbia. There will be three in Colorado, and one I hope will particularly benefit those of you who are here at Mi Casa: \$ 700,000 to extend bus routes in Denver to help people travel to jobs at suburban business parks in the Denver tech center.

Now, upstairs, one of the women asked me upstairs -- she said, "You need to do more to get women training and access to nontraditional jobs, jobs that women don't normally hold." And we talked about some of the things that we've been doing with the unions to train more women to do construction-related jobs -- like you, right? *[Laughter]* Is that how you hurt your arm?

And we talked about the work we're trying to do in Silicon Valley and other places to try to train more women to go to work in high-tech industries where there is a huge gender gap in employment participation. And we talked about really nontraditional things like the massive shortage we've got in America for licensed truck drivers now -- a huge, huge shortage all over America.

Now, it's tough that you've got young kids, because you've got to be gone for big chunks of time, so it's not a practical alternative to some. But for some people, it is an alternative. They've got family circumstances, or others they can do.

Our focus here today is to try to do what we can do to help communities like Denver succeed even more and also to try to get other communities to develop the models that you have that has worked so well. You simply can't go to work if you can't get to work; and now more and more people will be able to find work, get there, and either move off of welfare or stay off welfare.

Now, let me also say that we're entering the final weeks of the congressional session. We are already well past the end of the budget year, which ended on September 30th. And the Congress all wants to come home and campaign, but they have to finish their business first.

And a lot of the business I think they ought to finish relates to the needs of the people who have come through the doors at Mi Casa. Congress should raise the minimum wage, again. I have asked them to raise it by a dollar an hour over the next 2 years. That would have helped 10 million hardworking American families. I've also asked them to provide more tax relief for working people to increase the child care tax credit and make it refundable, to help give families a long-term care tax credit because a lot of people are caring for elderly or disabled family members, and they can't afford to go to nursing homes, or they don't want them to, but they need some help at home -- to give a tax deduction for the cost of college tuition, and to help people even with very modest incomes save for their own retirement.

So there are very important things that can be done. I think the earned-income tax credit, for which most of you with children are eligible, which has lifted over 2 million people out of poverty just in the last few years alone, should be expanded again, particularly for people with three or more kids. The way the earned income tax credit works, you max out if you have a certain number of children. But a lot of people have four kids or five kids, that are trying to work, and I believe they should be able to get more relief. So that's all very important, and I hope that will pass.

Something else that I think would be really helpful is that our budget has proposals to promote responsible fatherhood and to increase child support paid directly to families. Now, if the States collect your child support, they can withhold a portion of it because of the cost of collecting it. But if the child support check is meager, you may not wind up much ahead, even if the father is paying the

child support. So we propose to change that. I think there is very broad support for this, and I hope and believe it will pass before the Congress goes home.

We also have proposals that would help families save and expand access to child care and housing and health care. So I hope very much that this will pass.

And finally, let me say for the people who live where the jobs aren't, there is a very important bipartisan initiative that I've worked on with the Speaker of the House, called the new markets initiative, which would give American investors the same tax incentives to invest in the poor areas in America we now give them to invest in poor areas in Latin America, Africa, Asia, or some place else.

I think that a lot more can be done, but I hope and believe that this transportation assistance will really help.

So let me end where I began. We are moving close to a country where there really is opportunity for every responsible citizen. But we're not there yet. We are a stronger American community than we were 8 years ago, but there is still friction and sources of division within our American community. Now, we've got the most expansive, strong economy we've ever had, and I think we ought to set our sights on big goals.

Our goals should be prosperity for every family in every community still left behind. Our goals should be no child and no working family in poverty. And what I want to say to you is that we can achieve these goals and still keep the overall economy strong for the rest of America. We can pay the debt off in 12 years. That will keep interest rates down; it will keep businesses expanding. It will leave funds for people to make pay raises.

We can do this, but we have to decide to do it. And I just hope that not only in Colorado but all over America, people will see and hear about Mi Casa because of my trip here. And I hope every place where people feel good because they've reduced the welfare rolls 40 or 50 percent will understand that they can do much better when they see that Denver, thanks to people like you, got it down 90 percent. The transportation will help, but people have to make the initiative at the local level, too.

So thank you.

Note: The President spoke at 11:55 a.m. in the conference room at the Mi Casa Resource Center for Women. In his remarks, he referred to Carmen Carrillo, executive director, Mi Casa Resource Center for Women; and Mayor Wellington E. Webb of Denver and his wife, Wilma.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

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Source: [All Sources](#) : / . . . / : **Public Papers of the Presidents** ⓘ

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December 4, 1999 – The President's Radio Address
October 14, 1999 – Videotaped Remarks to the Nat'l Summit on Community Food Security
August 3, 1999 – Opening remarks to the National Welfare to Work Forum in Chicago, IL
May 27, 1998 - Remarks to the Welfare to Work Partnership Board
February 18, 1997 – Remarks in a Roundtable Discussion on Welfare Reform in NYC
September 10, 1996 – Remarks to the Southern Governor's Association in Kansas City
September 10, 1996 – Remarks in a Roundtable Discussion on Welfare Reform in Kansas City, MO
July 31, 1996 – Remarks on Welfare Reform Legislation and an Exchange with Reporters
May 18, 1996 – The President's Radio Address
July 31, 1995 – Remarks to the Nat'l Governors' Association in Burlington, VT

I salute you and all those yet to grace these halls with the words of the first occupant of the White House, John Adams, who said, “I pray to heaven to bestow the best of blessings on this house, and all that shall hereafter inhabit it. May none but the honest and wise rule under this roof.”

Thank you.

Amina Osman

5/24/2020
Meeting
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Draft 11/16/00 11:15am
Josh Gottheimer
Word Count: 737

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
RADIO TAPE REMARKS ON FOOD STAMPS
HANOI, VIETNAM
November 17, 2000**

Good morning. I am speaking to you from Hanoi, Vietnam, where I have spent the last few days working to promote trade and build stronger relations with this important nation and its people. But today I want to talk to you about new steps we're taking back at home to strengthen America's working families.

It's difficult to remember, but just eight years ago, America was out of work and out of ideas. Our economy was stagnant, burdened with a crushing debt, high interest rates, and rising unemployment. I pledged to turn this country around, so that every American who is willing to work and take responsibility has the opportunity to live the American dream.

Since then, we have taken steps to restore the value of work in America. We raised the minimum wage and expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit, helping more than 15 million Americans work their way out of poverty toward the middle class. We passed the Family and Medical Leave Act, which has given 20 million Americans the opportunity to take time off from work to care for a newborn child or a sick loved one. We fought for and won the biggest increase in children's health care in three decades. And we ended welfare as we knew it, cutting the welfare rolls in half to their lowest level in 30 years. We did this, while protecting health care and nutrition for children, strengthening child support, and investing more in transportation and housing to help their parents go to work.

By rewarding work and promoting responsibility, we've helped put the American family back on top again -- with twenty-two million new jobs, the lowest poverty rate in 20 years, the lowest Hispanic and African unemployment ever recorded, and the highest homeownership in history. While we've made great progress, there are still too many hard-pressed families who are struggling to get ahead, and make that often difficult transition [from welfare] to work.

Every day, 17 million Americans rely on food stamps for proper nourishment -- to help families put milk in their fridge ... bread on their table ... and vegetables on their plate. It allows parents to give their children the basic necessities, while they're getting their feet on the ground. But as they move into work, many of those who are eligible, aren't taking their food stamps with them -- leaving them struggling to make ends meet. Many working families who do sign up for food stamps, are often discouraged by lengthy forms and bureaucratic red tape. In some states, recipients have to fill out new paperwork as often as once a month -- taking them away from their workplace and their home. This simply should not be the case.

Today I'm announcing four new steps to improve access to our food stamp program -- so we can help remove this barrier which continues to hold back working families, including legal

immigrants. First, it allows states to provide recipients with an automatic three-month food stamp benefit as they make the transition from welfare to work. This gives new working families stability in what can be a trying time. Second, it eliminates unnecessary bureaucracy, by requiring recipients to report income changes only once every six months, reducing the amount of time spent in food stamp offices. Third, if we want people to work, they need to be able to get to work. Today's action will let food stamp recipients own a dependable car, without having to sacrifice proper nutrition for their children. This builds on the steps we took in the Agriculture Appropriations Bill last month. Finally, to ensure that families who need assistance get it, the new regulation requires states to let recipients know that they're still eligible for food stamps even when they start to work again.

Supporting hard-pressed working families, and helping people make the transition from welfare to work, is not just the right thing to do, but the smart thing to do. It encourages millions of people to take responsibility for their families and their futures.

Thirty years ago, Robert Kennedy reminded us that, "Work is ... the meaning of what the country is all about." With the actions I have outlined today, we can ease burdens and create opportunities for countless families – and move our nation closer to the what we all want it to be: a place where everyone willing to work for it can achieve the American dream.

Thanks for listening.

Draft 11/16/00 11am
Josh Gottheimer
Word Count: 737

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RADIO TAPE REMARKS ON FOOD STAMPS
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November 17, 2000**

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Since then, we have taken steps to restore the value of work in America. We raised the minimum wage and expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit, helping more than X million Americans work their way out of poverty toward the middle class. We passed the Family and Medical Leave Act, which has given 20 million Americans the opportunity to take time off from work to care for a newborn child or a sick loved one. We fought for and won the biggest increase in children's health care in three decades. And we ended welfare as we knew it, cutting the welfare rolls in half to their lowest level in 30 years. We did this, while protecting health care and nutrition for children, strengthening child support, and investing more in transportation and housing to help their parents go to work.

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Every day, 17 million Americans rely on food stamps ^{and} for proper nourishment -- to help families put milk in their fridge ... bread on their table ... meat on their plates. It allows parents to give their children the basic necessities while they're getting their feet on the ground. But as they move into work, many of those who are eligible, aren't taking their food stamps with them -- leaving them struggling to make ends meet. Many working families who do sign up for food stamps, are often discouraged by lengthy forms and bureaucratic red tape. In some states, recipients have to fill out new paperwork as often as once a month -- taking them away from their workplace and their home. This simply should ^{not} be the case.

Today I'm announcing four new steps to improve access to our food stamp program -- so we can remove one of the remaining barriers that continues to hold back working families,

what is this barrier?

*who is
they?
parents
or
children?*

That is why I have called on the Congress to raise the minimum wage, so that a full-time job is a real ticket out of poverty. It is why we won new resources, and will be fighting for more, for our New Markets Initiative, which is making it easier for businesses and banks to invest in America's poorest communities. And it is why I am asking Congress to increase America's commitment to quality child-care.

Today I am proposing new incentives to help working families get the support they need. I fought hard to ensure that welfare reform law guaranteed Medicare and food stamps. We are asking the states to make sure every eligible family receives them. And we will give performance bonuses, like the ones I just announced, to states that do a good job of enrolling eligible families.

Finally, the old welfare system actually weakened families by discouraging couples from marrying or living together with their children. We want to change that – and starting next year, there will also be bonuses for states that do the most to get poor children into two-parent homes, where we know they have the best chance of breaking the cycle of poverty.

Supporting hard-pressed working families, and helping people make the transition from welfare to work, is not just the right thing, but the smart thing to do. It encourages millions of people to take responsibility for their families, and their futures. It expands opportunity, strengthens our economy, and builds healthy communities for all of us.

Thanks for listening.

Final 11/17/00 3:50am

Com revised

Josh Gottheimer

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
RADIO ADDRESS ON FOOD STAMPS
HANOI, VIETNAM
November 18, 2000

Good morning. I am speaking to you from Hanoi, Vietnam, where I am working to fulfill America's commitment to the families of those still missing from the war, while opening a hopeful new chapter in our relationship with Vietnam and its people. But today I want to talk to you about new steps we're taking at home to strengthen America's working families.

It's difficult to remember, but just eight years ago, many Americans were out of work and Washington was out of ideas. Our economy was stagnant, burdened by a crushing debt and rising unemployment. I pledged to turn this country around, so that every one who is willing to

work and take responsibility has the opportunity to live the American dream.

Since then, we have taken steps to restore the value of work. We raised the minimum wage and expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit, helping more than 15 million Americans work their way out of poverty toward the middle class. We passed the Family and Medical Leave Act, giving millions of Americans the chance to take time off from work to care for a newborn child or a sick loved one. And we ended welfare as we knew it, cutting the welfare roles in half to their lowest level in 32 years -- helping millions of parents move into the workforce. We did this, while protecting health care and nutrition for

children, and investing more in child care, transportation and housing to help parents go to work.

By rewarding work and promoting responsibility, we've helped put the American family back on top again - - with twenty-two million new jobs, the lowest poverty rate in 20 years, the lowest Hispanic and African unemployment ever recorded, and the highest homeownership in history.

While we've made great progress, no one who works hard every day should have trouble putting food on the table every night. There are still too many hard-pressed

families struggling to get ahead, and to make the often difficult transition from welfare to work.

Every day, 17 million Americans rely on food stamps for proper nourishment.

Food stamps allow parents to give their children the necessities, while getting their own feet on the ground. But as they return to work and struggle to make ends meet, many don't realize they're still eligible for food stamps. And in some states, parents who do sign up for food stamps, have to fill out paperwork as often as once a month--leaving the workplace in order to do so. This simply should not be the case.

Today I'm announcing new steps to remove some of the barriers facing working Americans -- and to help their families get the food they need. First, we will allow states to provide recipients with an automatic three-month food stamp benefit as they make the transition from welfare to work. This gives new workers stability in what can be a trying time. Second, we are eliminating unnecessary bureaucracy, by allowing recipients up to six months to report income changes, reducing the amount of time they spend in food stamp offices. Third, if we want people to work, they need to be able to get to work. Today's action will make it easier for food stamp recipients to own a

dependable car, without having to sacrifice proper nutrition for their children.

This builds on the steps we took in the Agriculture Appropriations Bill I signed last month. Finally, to ensure that the families who need assistance get it, we are requiring states to let recipients know that they're still eligible for food stamps even when they start to work again.

Supporting hard-pressed working families is the right thing to do. It's also the smart thing to do. It encourages millions of people to take responsibility -- strengthening their families as well as our economy. I urge our nation's

Governors to implement these steps, so that all working families get the nutritional benefits they need and deserve.

And I call on Congress to restore food stamp benefits to hard-working legal immigrants, [and let's raise the minimum wage for all working families this year.] No family that works full time and plays by the rules should have to raise their children in poverty. In the coming weeks, Congress still has a chance to honor and reward work by raising the minimum wage for America's hardest-pressed working families.

Thirty years ago, Robert Kennedy reminded us that, "Work is...the meaning of what the country is all about."

With the actions I have outlined today, we can create new opportunities for hard-working families --and move our nation closer to the time when everyone willing to work for it can achieve the American dream.

Thanks for listening.

Your version
before the change
to the 1st sentence.

|

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While we've made great progress, no one who works hard every day should have trouble putting food on the table every night. There are still too many hard-pressed families struggling to get ahead, and to make the often difficult transition from welfare to work. Every day, 17 million Americans rely on food stamps for proper nourishment.

Food stamps allow parents to give their children the necessities, while getting their own feet on the ground. But as they return to work and struggle to make ends meet, many don't realize they're still eligible for food stamps. And in some states, parents who do sign up for food stamps, have to fill out paperwork as often as once a month--leaving the workplace in order to do so. This simply should not be the case.

Today I'm announcing new steps to remove some of the barriers facing working Americans -- and to help their families get the food they need. First, we will allow states to provide recipients with an automatic three-month food stamp benefit as they make the transition from welfare to work. This gives new workers stability in what can be a trying time. Second, we are eliminating

unnecessary bureaucracy, by allowing recipients up to six months to report income changes, reducing the amount of time they spend in food stamp offices. Third, if we want people to work, they need to be able to get to work. Today's action will make it easier for food stamp recipients to own a dependable car, without having to sacrifice proper nutrition for their children. This builds on the steps we took in the Agriculture Appropriations Bill I signed last month. Finally, to ensure that the families who need assistance get it, we are requiring states to let recipients know that they're still eligible for food stamps even when they start to work again.

Supporting hard-pressed working families is the right thing to do. It's also the smart thing to do. It encourages millions of people to take responsibility -- strengthening their families as well as our economy. I urge our nation's Governors to implement these steps, so that all working families get the nutritional benefits they need and deserve. And I call on Congress to restore food stamp benefits to hard-working legal immigrants, [and let's raise the minimum wage for all working families this year.] No family that works full time and plays by the rules should have to raise their children in poverty. In the coming weeks, Congress still has a chance to honor and reward work by raising the minimum wage for America's hardest-pressed working families.

Thirty years ago, Robert Kennedy reminded us that, "Work is...the meaning of what the country is all about." With the actions I have outlined today, we can create new opportunities for hard-working families --and move our nation closer to the time when everyone willing to work for it can achieve the American dream.

Thanks for listening.

Final 11/17/00 3:50am

Josh Gottheimer

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Thanks for listening.



Hunger Facts

Program Description

Teacher Guide

Hunger Quiz

Kids Newsletter

Kids Speak

Kids History

What Kids Can Do

Hot Topics

Bulletin Board

World harvest of wheat, corn, rice and other grains produce enough to meet the minimum nutritional requirements for every child, woman and man in the world. Despite this, hunger continues to plague an estimated 841 million people around the world, including 30 million in the United States.

World Watch Institute

Hunger kills. Every day, 34,000 children under five die of hunger or preventable diseases resulting from hunger.

Bread for the World

One in twelve people worldwide is malnourished, including 160 million children under the age of 5.

United Nations Food and Agriculture

It is estimated that 3,100,000 people die each year from diarrhea and most of the victims are children.

United Nations Food and Agriculture

The Indian subcontinent has nearly half the world's hungry people. Africa and the rest of Asia together have approximately 40%, and the remaining hungry people are found in Latin America and other parts of the world.

Hunger in Global Economy

Around the world the most vulnerable to hunger are: children, pregnant and nursing women, single mothers, the elderly, the homeless, the unemployed, ethnic and racial minorities, and the working poor.

United Nations World Food Program

Poverty is the main cause of hunger. Poor people often lack access to land to grow food or inadequate income to buy food. Nearly one in four people, 1.3 billion - a majority of humanity - live on less than \$1 per day, while the world's 358 billionaires have assets exceeding the combined annual incomes of countries with 45 percent of the world's people.

UNICEF

Seventy percent of the world's poor are female.

UNICEF

100 million people are homeless and 2.5 billion people have no access to proper sanitation.

UNICEF

800 million people lack access to basic health care, and 1.2-billion lack access to safe drinking water.

UNICEF

Often it takes just a few simple resources for impoverished people to be able to become self-sufficient. These resources include quality seeds, appropriate tools, and access to water. Small improvements in farming techniques and food storage are also helpful.

OXFAM

Many hunger experts believe that ultimately the best way to reduce

- the same age group in urban and rural areas rose by 37 and 47 percent respectively.
- The poverty rate for children under age three has grown twice as fast among whites as among blacks. Although the incidence of young child poverty among whites is relatively low (15 percent) compared to blacks (52 percent), the rate of white children living under age three in poverty grew twice as fast as among blacks (36 percent versus 17 percent) between the late 1970s and the early 1990s.
- The rate of poverty among Hispanic children under age three is high (44 percent) and increasing more rapidly than among other racial and ethnic groups. It has risen by 48 percent since the late 1970s.

Children make up almost half of the population living below the Federal Poverty Line. More than 21 Percent of U.S. children under age 18, and 25 percent of children under age 6, are poor. Sixty-four percent of children under 6, who live in female-headed, single parent families are poor.

The infant mortality rate is closely linked to inadequate nutrition among pregnant women. The U.S. ranks 23rd among industrial nations in infant mortality. African-American infants die at nearly twice the rate of white infants.

A child living in a wealthy U.S. family is on average, better off financially than the typical wealthy child in any other country. At the same time, the average child in a low-income U.S. family is worse off than the average poor child in 15 other industrialized countries.

One out of every eight children under the age of twelve in the U.S. goes to bed hungry every night.

In the U.S. hunger and race are related. In 1991 46% of African-American children were chronically hungry, and 40% of Latino children were chronically hungry compared to 16% of white children.

The Growing Income Disparity

According to an August 1999 report from Center on Budget and Policy Priority, the top one-fifth of American households with the highest incomes now earns half of all the income in the United States. Their share has risen since 1997, while the share of one-fifth with the lowest incomes have fallen. Figures have been adjusted for inflation.

HOUSEHOLD GROUPS	SHARE OF ALL INCOME*		AVERAGE AFTER TAX INCOME (ESTIMATED)		CHANGE
	1977	1999	1977	1999	
One-fifth with lowest income	5.7%	4.2%	\$10,000	\$8,800	-12.0%
Next lowest one-fifth	11.5	9.7	22,100	20,000	-9.5
Middle one-fifth	16.4	14.7	32,400	31,400	-3.1
Next highest one-fifth	22.8	21.3	42,600	45,100	+5.9
One-fifth with highest income	44.2	50.4	74,000	102,300	+38.2
1 percent with highest income	7.3	12.9	234,700	515,600	+119.7

*Figures do not add up to 100 due to rounding. Source: Congressional Budget Office data analyzed by Center on Budget and Policy Priority

The above data from the budget office shows that income disparity has grown so much that four out of five households, or about 217 million people are taking home less than they were in 1997. These figures (adjusted for inflation) show that these households share of national income has fallen to just under 50 percent from 56 percent in 1997.

The 54 million people who make up the most prosperous one-fifth of American households saw their share of the national income grow. More than 90 percent of the increase is going to the richest 1 percent of households. These people will average \$515,600 this year as compared to \$234,700 in 1977.

The richest 1 percent had as much income as the 38 percent with the lowest incomes. The top 20 percent of households had slightly more income than the bottom 80 percent of households combined.

Another report issued in August 1999 by United for a Fair Economy, deals with the "growing divide" makes some interesting points. Some are listed below:

- If the minimum wage had grown at the same rate as CEO pay between 1990 and 1998, it would now be \$22.08 instead of \$5.15 an hour.
- CEOs at the 365 largest corporations were paid 419 times the pay of average blue-collar workers (\$10.6 million compared with about \$25,000), up from a 120-to-1 ratio in 1990.
- In Japan, CEOs make eight times the lowest paid factory worker. This disparity is upsetting many in Japan.
- CEO pay rose by 481 percent while worker pay rose 28 percent, just 5.5 percent more than inflation.
- The Standard and Poor's Index rose 224 percent during this period, and corporate profits rose 108 percent.

The AFL-CIO issued a study in 1999 of young American workers in which they stated:

- "Three-fourths of young workers today are not college graduates. These workers... are living in the shadows of the less popular but more glamorous up-and-coming professional;

their experiences and concerns typically are ignored by the popular media and in conventional economic analysis. Their voices are rarely heard. They are in essence, the 'forgotten majority'"

:Inequalities in Consumption

According to a report issued in 1998 by the United Nations Development Program, world consumption has expanded at an unprecedented pace over the 20th century, with private and public consumption expenditures reaching \$24 trillion in 1998, twice the level of 1975 and six times that of 1950. In 1900 real consumption expenditure was barely \$1.5 trillion.

The benefits of this consumption have spread far and wide. More people are better fed and housed than ever before. Living standards have risen to enable hundreds of millions to enjoy housing with hot water and cold, warmth and electricity, transport to and from work—with time for leisure and sports, vacations and other activities beyond anything imagined at the start of this century.

Consumption per capita has increased steadily in industrial countries (about 2.3% annually) over the past 25 years, spectacularly in East Asia (6.1%) and at a rising rate in South Asia (2.0%). Yet these developing regions are far from catching up to levels of industrial countries, and consumption growth has been slow or stagnant in others. The average African household today consumes 20% less than it did 25 years ago.

The poorest 20% of the world's people and more have been left out of the consumption explosion. Well over a billion people are deprived of basic consumption needs. Of the 4.4 billion people in developing countries, nearly three-fifths lack basic sanitation. Almost a third have no access to clean water. A quarter do not have adequate housing. A fifth have no access to modern health services. A fifth of children do not attend school to grade 5. About a fifth do not have enough dietary energy and protein. Micronutrient deficiencies are even more widespread. Worldwide, 2 billion people are anemic, including 55 million in industrial countries. In developing countries only a privileged minority has motorized transport, telecommunications and modern energy.

Inequalities in consumption are stark. Globally, the 20% of the world's people in the highest-income countries account for 86% of total private consumption expenditures—the poorest 20% a minuscule 1.3%. More specifically, the richest fifth:

- Consume 45% of all meat and fish, the poorest fifth 5%.
- Consume 58% of total energy, the poorest fifth less than 4%.
- Have 74% of all telephone lines, the poorest fifth 1.5%.
- Consume 84% of all paper, the poorest fifth 1.1%.
- Own 87% of the world's vehicle fleet, the poorest fifth less than 1%.

Runaway growth in consumption in the past 50 years is putting strains on the environment never before seen.



Hunger Statistics

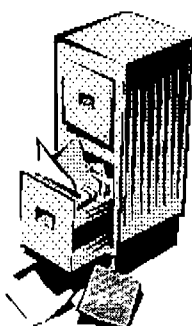


\$2.75, the cost of a double grande, low-fat, decaf, irish creme latte with whip cream, nutmeg and cinnamon sprinkled on top, would provide 13 meals for our neighbors in need.

51% of food bank clients are children and seniors.



It has been proven that children cannot concentrate at school when hungry.



Number of People Served:

June: 39,310
July: 41,174
August: 39,136

Number of Meals Served:

June: 417,956
July: 433,459
August: 417,979

Number of Hot Meals at Hot Meal Sites:

June: 43,406
July: 42,369
August: 43,771

24, 48, 72

24 hours without food, and no other problems in your life will matter. The only thing you will be able to think about or focus on is food.

Two days without food and your hunger pains will increase. You will drink water to get that momentary "full" sensation.

Three days or more and you will become ill (headaches, nausea, fatigue, cold), and after three weeks to three months, you will die.



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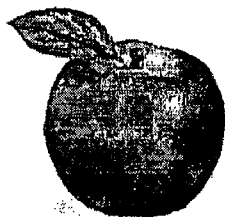
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Hunger And The Elderly

As a nation, we have a special responsibility to vulnerable populations like children and the elderly. Older Americans have built the economy and national infrastructure from which we now benefit. Raised during the Great Depression, they went on to defend our freedom in the Second World War and won the cold war. America's older citizens have rightly been called the "greatest generation." It is morally unacceptable that the people that built this country -- our senior citizens -- should suffer hunger in a land of plenty, which they helped to create.

- Approximately 33 million Americans (13% of the population) are 65 years or older. Nearly 20% of older Americans, one in five, live in poverty or near poverty.
- Seniors who experience hunger are at risk for serious health problems. Hunger increases their risk for stroke, exacerbates pre-existing ill health conditions, limits the efficacy of many prescription drugs, and may affect brain chemistry increasing the incidence of depression and isolation.
- Approximately 16%, or 4 million, of the emergency food clients served by the America's Second Harvest network are elderly. Seniors, however, only account for 13% of the U.S. population.
- Seniors make up 16.5% of all emergency food pantry clients, 17% of all soup kitchen clients, 4% of all emergency shelters clients, and 17.5% of the clients served by other non-congregate feeding programs such as Meals on Wheels.
- 14% of households served by the America's Second Harvest network include a person over the age of 60.
- According to research conducted by the Urban Institute, 1.9 million seniors must choose between buying food and buying needed medicine. America's Second Harvest research shows that 28% of all clients (includes all age groups) had to choose between buying food and buying medicine or filling prescriptions. The choice between food and medicine is not one that any American should have to make.
- Approximately 28% of all emergency food clients have missed meals in the past month. Additional research has estimated that 1.1 million seniors have skipped meals because there is no food in the house.
- Hunger 1997: The Faces & Facts reveals that 26% of all emergency food client households served by America's Second Harvest receive Social Security. 25% of households with elderly persons participate in Senior

Meals programs and 8.7% participate in home delivered meals programs like Meals on Wheels.

- In 1988, an estimated one-fourth of eligible seniors with incomes below the Federal poverty level participated in the food stamp program. In contrast, 62 percent of elderly respondents with incomes below the federal poverty level participated in congregate meal programs, such as charitable food programs supplemented by TEFAP commodities. According to a 1994 USDA - Economic Research Service report, TEFAP recipients tend to be older than Food Stamp Program recipients are (FSP is the primary national food assistance program). According to USDA, 40% of TEFAP recipient households were headed by someone aged 60 or older, as compared to only 15% of FSP households.
- An estimated 2 million elderly individuals (at age 50), participate in the food stamp program (7.1% of all food stamp participants, 1993).
- Elderly individuals, accounting for approximately 18% of the population (aged 60 or older), account for roughly 30% of US health expenditures. Research suggests that insufficient nutrient intake accounts for a disproportionate amount of health care costs among low-income elderly individuals, unrelated to the aging process. The elderly that live in households with incomes below 130% of the federal poverty level tend to have lower nutrient intakes than other elderly households, thus exacerbating health concerns. Low income blacks, urbanities, and Southerners generally consumed less of important nutrients than other demographic categories of the elderly.

Recommendations for Change

- In order to increase nutritional intake of low-income elderly individuals, we recommended that nutrition education materials - geared toward elderly individuals be created and distributed at congregate feeding sites for the elderly. In addition, local food banks could make dieticians and other nutrition educators available to senior homes, congregate feeding sites and senior centers for nutrition education.
- One principal reason for the reduced food stamp participation rate among eligible elderly households is the relative complexity of food stamp application and interview processes, and the stigma sometimes attached to food stamps as welfare. Therefore, it is recommended that case workers or volunteers meet income eligible seniors at congregate feeding sites and assist them in the application process. In addition, promotional materials should be created, geared toward seniors which helps them to see that food stamp participation is an entitlement for life's work, just as social security is viewed by many aged individuals.
- Additionally we recommend that state and federal government provide supplemental funding to increase home-based meal programs to five days a week for home-bound elderly individuals. We also recommend using food banks and other community-based hunger relief organizations to create additional congregate feeding sites in cooperation with similar human service agencies.

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Information provided by America's Second Harvest.



Celebrities support TeleFood

Hundreds of prominent personalities from the worlds of cinema and theatre, music and science, sport and politics, academia and the arts, have expressed their support for the campaign to end hunger since TeleFood began in 1997, helping to put the spotlight on this problem that affects around 800 million people in the world today.

Many of TeleFood's celebrity supporters have signed the Appeal against World Hunger. Many have also generously given their time and their voices to bring this important message to the attention of as many people around the world as possible.



Actress Sophia Loren also supports TeleFood

"We must stop hunger in the world. We can if we want to and we must," said singer Miriam Makeba. Together with Nobel Prize winner in medicine Rita Levi Montalcini, actress Gina Lollobrigida, and jazz singer Dee Dee Bridgewater she has been appointed as an FAO Ambassador.

Other celebrities who have given their support to TeleFood include actress' Gong Li and Sophia Loren, actors Antonio Banderas and Jeremy Irons, dancer Joaquín Cortés, film directors Emir Kusturica and Martin Scorsese, sports stars Michael Chang, Carlos Moya and Ronaldo, musicians Lofti Bouchnack, Phil Collins, Cesária Évora, Peter Gabriel, B.B. King, Youssou N'Dour, and Luciano Pavarotti.

 All celebrities
supporting TeleFood.

 More about the FAO
Ambassadors

Listen to celebrities speaking out
against hunger



Despite an economy that is thriving, a stock market that continues to reach historic heights and reports of welfare reform success stories, 26 million Americans sought emergency food assistance from America's Second Harvest in 1997. The USDA recently reported that during the period 1996-1998, some 10 million U.S. households did not have access to enough food to meet their basic needs.

For many Americans, wages have simply not risen enough in the last years to cover the increased cost of living, and food has become an unaffordable luxury. Of those people seeking emergency food relief, 35% - more than 1 in 3 - had to choose between paying their rent and buying food. Although the prevalence of hunger varies regionally, America's Second Harvest has found through its national Hunger Study that a great number of the people we serve are seniors and a greater number still are under the age of 18. These findings reflect the diversity of who is hungry in America today.

Approximately 34 million people in the United States are Hungry or food insecure. Women and Children make up 75% of that population. It is also estimated that 1 in every 5 children lives in poverty.

Almost 100 billion pounds of edible food is thrown away each year by retailers, restaurants, and farmers.

Of those who are hungry in the U.S., 47% are White, 32% are African-American, 15% Hispanic-American, 3% Native American, and 3% other.

16% of the nations hungry are 65 and older, 46% are between the ages of 18 and 65, and 38% are under 18.

Feinstein Center for a Hunger Free America, University of Rhode Island

MORE ABOUT OUR NATIONAL PROGRAMS

America's Second Harvest Fact Sheet

America's Second Harvest is the largest domestic hunger-relief organization in the United States. The America's Second Harvest mission is to feed hungry people by soliciting and distributing food and grocery products through a nationwide network of certified affiliate food banks and food-rescue programs and to educate the public about the nature of solutions to the problem of hunger in America.

In 1999, the Chronicle of Philanthropy calculated an efficiency rating for America's Second Harvest of 99.3% - the highest among the nation's charities. 99.3% of all product and money donations received by America's Second Harvest go directly towards feeding hungry people.

Operations

The America's Second Harvest network of over 200 regional food banks and food-rescue programs serves all 50 states and Puerto Rico by distributing food and grocery products to approximately 50,000 local charitable hunger-relief agencies, including food pantries, soup kitchens, women's shelters, Kids Cafes, and other organizations that provide emergency food assistance.

Donations

America's Second Harvest works with more than 500 national grocery and food service companies (food growers, processors, manufacturers, distributors and retailers) to secure surplus food and grocery products. The list, which reads like a

"Who's Who" in corporate America, includes such donors as Kraft Foods, Inc., General Mills, Inc., Nabisco, Inc., The Proctor & Gamble Company, Kellogg Company, The Pillsbury Company, ConAgra, and hundreds more.

Funding

America's Second Harvest depends entirely on the support of individuals, corporations and charitable foundations. For every \$1 received, America's Second Harvest distributes 35 pounds of food and grocery products to network food banks and food-rescue programs.

History

America's Second Harvest was founded in 1979. In the first year, the organization distributed 2.5 million pounds of food through a network of 13 food banks. The America's Second Harvest network now constitutes over 200 regional food banks and food-rescue programs that annually distribute one billion pounds of donated food and grocery products, providing food assistance to more than 26 million hungry Americans, including eight million children and four million seniors.

Hunger

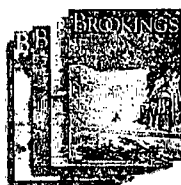
America's Second Harvest defines hunger as the inability to purchase enough food to meet basic nutritional needs. Hunger does not discriminate on the basis of age, race or sex. It affects the elderly, the unemployed, the disabled, the homeless, the working poor and victims of natural disaster. In 1997, America's Second Harvest released the most comprehensive research study on emergency food providers and recipients ever undertaken. *Hunger 1997: The Faces & Facts* provides thorough data and analysis on the nonprofit charitable sector's response to hunger. Key findings of this study include: of the 26 million Americans served each year by the America's Second Harvest network, 39% are from households with working individuals, 62% are female, 38% are children (17 and under), and 16% are seniors (over 65).



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Toward an End to Hunger in America

Peter Eisinger

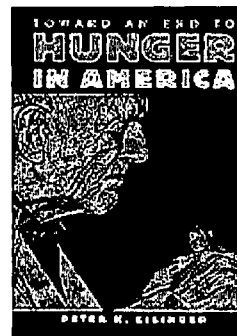
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Cheap, plentiful food is an American tradition. We spend a smaller percentage of our income on food than any other nation. We feed much of the world with our surpluses. Consumers, retailers, and restaurants throw away one-quarter of our food stock every year. And yet data collected by the federal government show that almost 12 percent of American households either suffer from hunger or worry about going hungry.

Why are so many Americans afflicted with "food insecurity" during such prosperous times? According to this book, it's not simply an artifact of poverty: even most of the poorest homes have access to adequate food. Nor is it indifference to their plight or a lack of ways to help: Americans strongly support government food assistance, and there are a host of public and private programs devoted to feeding the hungry.

Peter Eisinger seeks to unravel the puzzle of America's hunger and asserts that it is a problem that can be solved. He believes that the perception of hunger and responses to it emerge from a complex, intellectual, political, and social context. He begins by looking for a meaningful definition of hunger, then examines the structure and funding of government food assistance programs, the roles of Congress and community interest groups, and the contributions of volunteer organizations. He concludes by offering ideas to reduce the nation's perplexing hunger problem, based on creating stronger partnerships between public and private food programs.

Peter Eisinger is a professor in the College of Urban, Labor, and Metropolitan Affairs and director of the State Policy Center at Wayne State University. He was formerly on the faculty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he was director of the La Follette Institute of Public Affairs.

Health/Government & Politics
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REVIEWS

"In an invitingly short and clearly laid-out book, Peter Eisinger explores one of the conundrums of American poverty: Why in a country with such abundance is there a substantial minority of our population with insufficient food? In exploring the answer to this question, he provides a cogent analysis of twentieth-century U.S. food policy and programming, and the results."

—**Laura Lien, *Contemporary Sociology***

"...provides the most comprehensive treatment of evolving governmental and nongovernmental food assistance programs to date."

—**Maurice MacDonald, *Iowa State University***

"...Eisinger's political history of a variety of hunger programs and his characterization of U.S. government food assistance [were] very useful."

—**Beth Osborne DaPonte, *Annals of the American Academy of Political & Social Science***

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PRESS ON HUNGER

Divider Title: _____

THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR September 24, 2000, Sunday,

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THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

September 24, 2000, Sunday, CITY FINAL EDITION

SECTION: EDITORIAL; Pg. D05, LETTERS

LENGTH: 284 words

HEADLINE: There's no reason for any of us to go to bed hungry

BODY:

By now, Indiana Sens. Richard G. Lugar and Evan Bayh should be well aware of the 31 million Americans who live with hunger every day. Three reasons suggest they are aware:

They have supported other anti-poverty and anti-hunger legislation, particularly Sen. Lugar with his sponsorship of the Hunger Relief Tax Incentives Act.

They have had personal visits and phone calls by Indiana Bread for the World members, who laid out for them details of related legislation, the **Hunger Relief Act**, Senate Bill 1805.

They were sent copies of a July 8 column by The Star's James Patterson, who said, "With so much food available, no one should go to bed hungry."

But they do go to bed hungry, and it is a disgrace.

Due to the 1996 welfare reform changes, many "employed hungry" no longer qualify for food stamp assistance if they drive a dependable vehicle worth more than \$4,600 or if they live in slightly better housing than permitted by law. SB 1805 would raise the cap on these allowances, making food stamps available to the employed hungry.

Just as important, these employed hungry need the proposed \$1 per hour minimum wage increase, which is stalled in the Senate.

Aides to both senators recently said they will not co-sponsor the act until they know where the money is coming from.

Let's be honest, senators. It is a national obscenity that we cannot use one-one-thousandth of the \$4 trillion surplus to more adequately feed needy families.

Their sponsorship of the bill will bring more hungry families to our bounteous American table. Time is running out, senators. Don't let our family down.

CONNIE WICK

Chair, Bread for the World

Robin Run Village Chapter

Indianapolis

GRAPHIC: MARGARET SCOTT ILLUSTRATION

LOAD-DATE: September 24, 2000

The Washington Post, September 22, 2000

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The Washington Post

September 22, 2000, Friday, Final Edition

SECTION: A SECTION; Pg. A05

LENGTH: 523 words

HEADLINE: 2 Senators Try to Save **Hunger-Relief** Bill

BYLINE: Helen Dewar , Washington Post Staff Writer

BODY:

Key senators of both parties yesterday mounted a high-profile rescue operation to save a low-cost **hunger relief** bill that has broad backing and no apparent opposition, but faces the risk of getting lost in the rush toward adjournment.

The bill would increase the tax deduction available to corporations when they donate food for the needy and extend that deduction to smaller businesses--farmers, restaurants and others--that do not currently qualify for the tax break.

"Under current law, it is cheaper for a business or farmer to throw leftover food away than donate it to the hungry," said Senate agriculture committee Chairman Richard G. Lugar (R-Ind.), who joined Sen. Patrick J. Leahy (Vt.), a senior Democrat on the panel, at a news conference to push for passage of the measure.

Food banks, soup kitchens and other **hunger relief** organizations get about 1.4 billion pounds of food annually from private businesses, according to officials of feeding programs who appeared with the two senators. But 1 million people were turned away last year, they said, while 96 billion pounds of food were discarded because of costs associated with packaging and distribution to the hungry.

Lugar said he did not know how many more people might be fed if the tax measure is approved, but noted that, if only 1 percent of currently dumped food is used to feed the hungry, it would double the number served by **hunger relief** groups. This, he said, would take care of most of those who have been turned away for lack of food.

Lugar said the bill is estimated to reduce tax revenue by about \$ 150 million a year, considerably less than many of the more prominent and controversial tax cut measures that have been considered this year.

The bill is one of many small but largely noncontroversial measures in danger of getting trampled in the adjournment stampede. What Lugar and Leahy were doing yesterday--with the aid of feeding programs run by ConAgra Inc., one of the world's largest food companies, and charitable groups such as America's Second Harvest and Washington's Capital Area Food Bank--was to raise the bill's profile to the point where it could not be ignored.

The legislation had been approved unanimously by the Senate as part of a larger bill to repeal the federal tax on family estates but was dropped when Senate leaders moved to strip all extraneous

provisions in order to ensure passage. As it turned out, it did not make any difference; the estate tax bill was vetoed, and Congress sustained the veto.

So now the hunger measure is on its own. But Lugar and Leahy know that if it goes to the floor independently it could be loaded down with other tax provisions and probably sunk in the process. So they want to hitch a ride for their bill on some other sure-to-pass tax measure, possibly the community development bill pending at the Senate Finance Committee.

"We'd be happy to attach it to anything," Leahy said. While the bill has no apparent opposition, that is not enough at the end of a session, he explained. "All you need is someone in a fit of pique" and your bill is dead, he added.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: September 22, 2000

Source: [All Sources](#) : / . . . / : **Major Newspapers** 

Terms: **atl 3 (hunger relief)** ([Edit Search](#))

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THE BALTIMORE SUN August 21, 2000, Monday

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August 21, 2000, Monday ,FINAL

SECTION: EDITORIAL ,8A

LENGTH: 378 words

HEADLINE: Hidden failing of prosperity

Hunger: Largely unseen and little discussed, scourge threatens millions of Americans.

BODY:

FOR MILLIONS of American families, dinner out doesn't mean McDonald's. It's a soup kitchen.

Hunger is growing in our country, despite a strong economy: 31 million people go without food every day. How real can prosperity be when so many are left behind?

Trouble is, a lot of people -- including the presidential candidates -- don't seem to be asking substantive questions about hunger.

Case in point: During the Republican and Democratic conventions, anyone who wanted to really talk about hunger had to go down the street to the shadow conventions. That is pitiful.

Yet hunger is not an issue to push aside. It is a problem not unlike seeing your neighbor's house ablaze: If it's not extinguished, your home could be engulfed, too.

Sound too inflammatory? Well, consider this: About half the people visiting soup kitchens work full-time. Some even work two jobs, but still can't afford to eat.

It's a stunning statistic.

But here's the truth: As the economy rolls ahead, so do prices. These days, not only do the poor need housing subsidies; so do teachers and police officers. And the divide is growing.

In Maryland, "poverty is spreading from cities to counties," says William J. McLennan, director of operations at the Maryland Food Bank. "More and more people are working. But two minimum-wage jobs can't provide what a family needs."

Is the American dream devolving from putting two cars in the garage to putting a meal or two on the table? In a time of plenty, this is grossly unfair.

"People who work hard full-time shouldn't be poor," noted one L.A. shadow conventioneer. "Most Americans believe that."

Maybe the much-ballyhooed welfare reform has left lawmakers leery of pointing out clear problems. But Congress needs to do just that when it returns.

The **Hunger Relief Act**, the only significant legislation aimed at hunger this year, makes needed improvements to food stamps. Approving it should be a priority.

The measure would, among other things, increase benefits to those with high housing costs; allow people to own a reliable car without losing benefits; and extend aid to legal immigrants.

Relief is sorely needed. As long as one in five American children is hungry, our top-heavy prosperity

stands to stumble.

LOAD-DATE: August 22, 2000

Source: [All Sources](#) : / . . . / : **Major Newspapers** 

Terms: **hunger relief act** ([Edit Search](#))

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The Washington Post, August 18, 2000

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August 18, 2000, Friday, Final Edition

SECTION: STYLE; Pg. C09; JUDY MANN

LENGTH: 979 words

HEADLINE: Fighting Hunger in a Land of Plenty

BYLINE: Judy Mann

BODY:

President Clinton made it witheringly clear in his convention speech that the Democrats--and only the Democrats-- had the guts to pass an economic recovery plan that took us from having the largest deficits in history to the largest surpluses.

"We are today more tolerant, more humane and more united," he said in his valedictory address. "Now that's the purpose of prosperity."

Nobly put. We have the highest home ownership in history and the lowest unemployment in 30 years. Prosperity has blessed the rich and the middle class with ever more abundance. But we still have people who are poor and hungry, and we must do something about that. It is immoral in a land of such plenty that any of us should go hungry. Yet it is happening.

Almost 10 million people, 6.1 million adults and 3.3 million children, experienced outright hunger last year, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's 1999 Food Insecurity Report. In 1998, 19 million adults and 12 million children feared going hungry.

The food stamp program peaked at 27.5 million people in 1994 and fell to 18.2 million in 1999. About 35 percent of the decline has been attributed by the USDA to the strong economy and low unemployment, while 12 percent is being attributed to the 1996 welfare reform legislation that restricted food stamp benefits. The rest of the decline is unaccounted for, although the confusion surrounding welfare reform and who is eligible for what must explain some of it. Participation in the food stamp program declined 27 percent in the past 3 1/2 years, according to the General Accounting Office, while the people living below the poverty guidelines declined only 7 percent.

A significant portion of those struggling to afford food are the working poor, who are trying to survive on the minimum wage. Nearly 40 percent of food pantry and soup kitchen clients are working-poor families. The Urban Institute has estimated that 33 percent of former welfare recipients, who are now among the working poor, have to skip or cut meals.

Hunger and poverty have been themes at both of the "shadow conventions" that took place at the same time as the major party conventions. "What is prosperity for?" says Jim Wallis, director of the faith-based Call to Renewal and a shadow convention organizer. "When you have one in five children still poor and one of three children of color who are poor, then the moral underpinnings of society are in great disarray. We've lifted all the yachts but not the boats." He says he saw a woman working the drive-in window of a Burger King and trying to help her children seated at a table do their homework

at the same time. "I call her Burger King mom. The soccer mom is on the agenda. The Burger King mom is not. In America, if you work hard, you should not be poor, but lots of people are. The Bible says the purpose of prosperity is to share it. Leave no child behind. We're saying it's time to keep that promise."

Rep. Tony P. Hall (D-Ohio) said he was struck on a recent tour of Appalachia by the number of working people who weren't making it.

"There was a couple on a fixed income; she had cancer. Two days before, they'd shared a can of Campbell's noodle soup. They had to choose between prescription drugs and food," Hall said. "The polls say hunger and poverty are high up there on people's minds . . . but at the same time, if you were to ask politicians how does hunger rank, I bet they wouldn't put it in the top 20. Our kind of hunger isn't the kind you see in the Sudan or North Korea. It's the hunger where people don't eat for two or three days. You don't see them."

Hall is one of the original sponsors, along with James T. Walsh (R-N.Y.), of the "**Hunger Relief Act**," which would allow legal immigrants to receive food stamps on the same basis as citizens and allow low-income people to own a reliable car and still receive food stamps. Now, you're off food stamps if your car is worth more than \$ 4,650. The bill would increase food stamp benefits to families with very high housing costs. In addition, it would help meet emergency food needs by providing more food to shelters and food providers. The cost for five years is estimated at \$ 2.5 billion.

Bread for the World, a leading backer of the legislation, makes the point that this would cost less than one-half of 1 percent of the \$ 2.2 trillion surplus expected over the next decade. The act has the bipartisan support of 27 senators and 160 House members, and Hall says Vice President Gore is backing it.

Chuck Collins, a co-founder of United for a Fair Economy and another shadow convention organizer, makes the point that welfare reform "did not have a lot to do with poverty. There was a scapegoating mentality." Real wages still are trying to get back to where they were in 1973. "We've seen the median wage increase, but we're still climbing out of a hole."

The hunger relief legislation won't solve all the problems of poverty, but it is a start. Speakers at the Democratic convention talked about hunger and poverty and the need to lift up those who have been left behind, an encouraging signal that this might become a far more visible campaign issue than it has up to now. This is not about compassion. It is about fundamental morality and how we help our fellow human beings. Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg put it eloquently when she called for a "prosperity of kindness and decency."

Republican presidential nominee George W. Bush wants to cut out the federal estate tax, which comes into play in about 2 percent of deaths. This would benefit the nation's wealthiest people. It's an odd priority from someone who claims such deep religious faith. Jesus did not minister to the rich; he ministered to the poor. The rich have been amply taken care of during this time of prosperity. Now it is time to take care of the poor.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: August 18, 2000

Source: [All Sources](#) : / . . . / : **Major Newspapers** 

Terms: **hunger relief act** ([Edit Search](#))

View: Full

Date/Time: Friday, September 29, 2000 - 4:44 PM EDT

The Washington Post, November 25, 1999

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November 25, 1999, Thursday, Final Edition

SECTION: OP-ED; Pg. A43

LENGTH: 742 words

HEADLINE: A Place at the Table

BYLINE: Deborah Leff

BODY:

Today millions of Americans return home to feast and be thankful for the blessings of family and prosperity. And to be sure, there is much in America to be thankful for on this last Thanksgiving of the century. Our country is more prosperous now than in many generations. We have record low unemployment, inflation is in check, we have record profits on Wall Street, and home ownership is at historic highs.

But just as we give thanks for these blessings of abundance, we should also be aware that the sharing of this national bounty has been very unequal. On this Thanksgiving, nearly 4 million people--more than the entire population of Chicago--will have turkey dinner in a soup kitchen or emergency shelter. That is but a fraction of the 31 million Americans who are hungry or near hunger in our country.

America's Second Harvest knows something about the cruel paradox of hunger in the midst of unprecedented American prosperity. Our network of food banks and more than 50,000 local charities helped feed 26 million needy people last year. When I tell people this they're understandably shocked. That is, after all, one in 10 Americans. And when they learn that requests for emergency food have gone up 14 percent in the past year and that the 1 billion pounds of food we distribute to the poor are not enough to meet demand, the paradox becomes real.

Nearly half of the local **hunger relief** charities served by our food banks have been forced to stretch food resources in the past year. That means a needy family gets food rationed from its local church pantry, a meal at the synagogue for poor seniors is made sparse, a soup kitchen closes its doors, and in the worst cases they simply turn the hungry away. Nearly 1 million hungry Americans were turned away last year because the charity they turned to for help, often their place of last refuge, had no food.

The face of hunger in America is changing. Hunger today is no longer just a problem of inner cities or the Mississippi Delta. In fact, hunger and poverty are growing fastest in America's burgeoning suburbs. That is where many of the new jobs are for the unskilled, the undereducated, and those trying desperately to make ends meet without welfare support or day care or medical insurance.

Today the face of the person in a soup kitchen line is as likely to be that of a working mother as it is a homeless man. Worse yet, one out every five people in that soup kitchen line is now a child. Nearly 40 percent of all the households food banks serve include someone working, and more than half of those work full-time.

Fourteen million working poor families in America live paycheck to paycheck, walking a tightrope of

job and family without a safety net of support in case something goes wrong. They work, sometimes at two jobs, without health benefits, without access to affordable day care or housing.

In fact, 28 percent of the people served by food banks had to choose between filling prescriptions and getting medical care or buying food. Another 35 percent had to choose between rent and food. Most choose to go hungry rather than become homeless. Those are decisions that no American should have to make.

Fortunately, hunger in America is solvable, with the solution in everyone's hands. People can donate their time, extra food, or money to **hunger relief** efforts. But we know that is not enough. Lending a hand at a food drive or donning an apron at a soup kitchen will help satisfy someone's hunger today, but it won't solve the problem over the long term. As a people, we also have a collective responsibility to the needs of the vulnerable through government action. We are our brother's keeper.

Yet some of the most important anti-hunger programs, such as food stamps, WIC, school meals, summer feeding and food distribution programs, have been woefully underfunded. No elderly person should have to suffer the pangs of hunger behind closed doors. No child in America should go to bed hungry.

As a nation we have had many blessings in what has been called the "American Century." But we leave this century with work undone, with one in nine of us hungry, one in eight poor. We can do better, and we are all part of the solution. Let's commit, and urge our public officials to commit, to saving a place at America's table for all of our people.

The writer is president and CEO of the **hunger-relief** charity America's Second Harvest.

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The Boston Globe, January 21, 2000

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The Boston Globe

January 21, 2000, Friday ,THIRD EDITION

SECTION: METRO/REGION; Pg. B2

LENGTH: 581 words

HEADLINE: MORE WORKING FAMILIES SEEK FOOD AID, STUDY SAYS

BYLINE: By Benjamin Wallace-Wells, Globe correspondent

BODY:

Despite a continuing economic boom, hunger is becoming such an acute problem that increasingly many working Americans must rely on soup kitchens and food banks to feed their families, according to a Tufts University study released yesterday.

The report, by the university's Center on Hunger and Poverty, estimated that 67 percent of people who ask for food assistance nationwide are employed adults. In Massachusetts, nearly 500,000 people, many of them working, relied on regular assistance in order to eat in 1998 - a 22 percent increase from 1994. "The profile of hunger has changed quite dramatically in recent years," said Dr. J. Larry Brown, coauthor of the report. "What's so sad about this is that these people are playing by the rules, and the economy is so tight that they still need help to get enough food."

The report, compiled from local surveys across the nation since 1997, argued that government policies to reduce the welfare rolls have left many families in dire straits.

The report urged Congress to respond to the problem, a call seconded by Senator Edward M. Kennedy during a telephone news conference.

"Economic growth has brought great benefits for America," Kennedy said. "But that growth made America complacent. We can't afford to close our eyes to the persistent hunger in our midst."

Kennedy is coauthor, with Senator Arlen Specter, a Pennsylvania Republican, of the **Hunger Relief Act**, a bill aimed at expanding the Food Stamp program and restructuring the formulas the federal government uses to determine who qualifies for assistance. A vote on the bill is pending.

Conservative groups said giving the government more responsibility for dealing with poverty would be a mistake.

"After generations of putting more and more money into government programs for the poor and it being an unmitigated failure, it astonishes me that anyone would want to go back to that for an answer," said Charles Chieppo, a spokesman for the Boston-based Pioneer Institute.

For directors of local soup kitchens and food pantries on the front lines of the problem, the issue goes beyond a political debate.

"Particularly over the last year, we've seen that many working families who didn't come to the pantries before are now appearing and coming on a regular basis, and they really need the groceries they get from us to get by," said Mary Todd, director of Somerville's Project Soup, who estimates that 35 percent of the people who seek assistance are working families.

Elizabeth Cannon, who directs pantries in Lowell and Haverhill, says that many working poor families have such tight budgets that even the most momentary setback can send them back to the pantries.

"We had a gentleman come in yesterday who hadn't been in for more than a year, because he had a job working construction," Cannon said. "But he couldn't get any work last week because of the weather, and so he was back in here immediately, needing food."

A surging real estate market also is forcing many poor families to spend so much on housing that they don't have enough money left for food, said Suzanne Shaw, director of Project Bread.

Dick Powers, a spokesman for the Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance, said hunger among the working poor is exacerbated because some people who get off welfare assume they no longer are eligible for food stamps.

Shaw said, "The economy's been going along fantastically, but the situation of the poor has remained unchanged."

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BOSTON - TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 1998

UNITED STATES

Is Economic Boom Leaving Too Many People Behind?

Unemployment rates low, but so are wages in places like Florida, creating new post-welfare challenges.

Isabelle de Pommereau
Special to The Christian Science Monitor

DAVIE, FLA.

It's on the outskirts of chic Fort Lauderdale, but the basement of St. David's Roman Catholic Church here is a haven of last resort for the have-nots seeking food.

But today there are new faces among the regulars at food pantries statewide.

They're the hotel maids who mop floors and change bed sheets; the waitresses who serve food; the workers who run Walt Disney World's rides. They work in the tourism industry.



BORDERING ON POVERTY:
Welfare recipients receive instructions at the Florida Department of Children and Families service center in Jacksonville. As more families move off the welfare rolls, low wages continue to keep them dangerously close to the poverty line.
(WILL DICKEY/AP)

They are - on the surface only - part of America's middle class.

One such worker is Doreen Brodnax, who made her way through the stacks of canned food shyly. Like

her, they may work six days a week. They may own a house. But they're just one missing paycheck away from disaster.

"I have no choice," says Ms. Brodnax, looking exhausted after working two shifts at a popular seafood restaurant. "I have to go to the church for food."

As the economy here expands to historic levels, the ranks of people who work but still live on the edge of poverty are growing, changing the face of poverty in ways that experts say are worrisome because they're largely overlooked by people and politicians.

Forty percent of the American families living below the threshold of poverty have at least one adult working, according to US census estimates. These families often tell the grim human stories hidden beneath the rosy unemployment statistics reported by the media. "There is a real undercurrent of increased economic poverty that is beneath the surface of the good times," says Julian Palmer of the National Center for Children and Poverty at Columbia University in New York. "It will have long-term consequences if we don't address it."

But just as America focuses on an economy that's never been better and welfare rolls never trimmer, a slow movement is beginning to take hold to pay attention to the lives of the working poor - and on ways to create jobs that lift people out of poverty.

From economists to legal-aid lawyers to activists, experts agree that while the nation has spent considerable energy moving people off welfare, the effort is bound to fail as long as the issue of adequate wages isn't addressed.

"We need as much focus on moving people from poverty to economic security," says Mr. Palmer. "Just moving poor people to work isn't enough."

"These are people doing what they're supposed to do, except that the outcome isn't the same," says Arthur Rosenberg, an attorney with Florida Legal Services.

Out of 26 million families who sought meals or groceries in food pantries and shelters across the country last year, 39 percent had at least one adult working, according to a new study by the nation's largest hunger-relief agency, Chicago-based Second Harvest. The numbers are more dramatic in south Florida, where 44 percent of the families needing help had one person working. In half of those households, someone was working full time but didn't earn enough.

"Most people are familiar with the homeless, the people asking for money," says Steve Krepcho, executive director of the Daily Bread Food Bank in Miami, one of 75 food banks that participated in the Second Harvest survey.

"But they represent the tip of the iceberg," Mr. Krepcho says. To be sure, the enthusiasm for the economy has pushed home prices upward and the housing to a historic low. But the sharp increase in the number of working families who need housing assistance has received far less attention. From 1991 to 1995, their numbers jumped 24 percent as low wages failed to keep pace with rapidly rising housing costs, according to the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Squeezed between the contradictions of a booming economy are, for instance, those who've been downsized, legal immigrants cut off from food stamps, and low-wage workers like Ms. Brodnax.

"These are the invisible poor," Krepcho says.

While the ranks of the working poor keep growing from Seattle to New York, nowhere is the problem as visible as in a region so highly dependent on service-oriented, low-wage jobs as South Florida is. Here, the unemployment rate is 6.5 percent, almost double the national average.

People like Doreen Dornax are losing out. They account for two-thirds of Florida's 388,000 families with poor children in Florida - and their numbers are growing faster in Florida than anywhere in the nation, experts say.

While the economy may create more jobs, many are low-wage jobs - often with no benefits or health insurance that enables a family to survive.

"Many people have stereotypes of the poor as being lazy, irresponsible, unemployed people," Mr. Palmer of the National Center for Children and Poverty says. "But what we see is a lot of people who do what society tells them to do, but it's not enough to get them out of poverty."

AND while nearly 10 million people have left the welfare rolls across the country, many end up with low-paying service jobs. Lacking the safety nets that catch the poorest of the poor they are, in many ways, worse off than welfare recipients.

"In an era of welfare reform, we should be looking at jobs that really pay as opposed to jobs that are temporary," says Daniella Levine, director of the Human Services Coalition of Dade County. She is lobbying for legislative change to give the working poor access to the same services welfare recipients receive.

The three-month-old coalition is lobbying for legislative change to give the working poor access to the same services welfare recipients receive. And Ms. Levine is among the growing number of experts who are pushing for the issue of the invisible poor to be on top of Congress's agenda this year.

"The issue of the working poor is one of the most important issue that's going to have to be addressed," says Julian Palmer. He and others believe that the issue will force officials to switch their focus from moving people off welfare to providing them with jobs that enable them to make a living.

Relaxing in a tidy three-bedroom house with her two children milling about her, Ms. Brodnax longs for the days she was not working. "At least I was getting Medicaid, I was getting food stamps," she says. "Now, I'm paying for everything."

When she can. Brodnax's daughter Amber was sick all week but her mother didn't take her to the doctor. She has no medical insurance.

Experts say children like Amber are why the issue of the working poor is a pressing one.

Between 1975 and 1994, the young child poverty rate increased by 39 percent, leaving 1 in 4 young children in poverty. But what's troubling, experts say, is that the increase comes mainly from families with working parents like Amber's.

"The face of child poverty is changing," says Palmer of the National Center for Children and Poverty. "Poverty is more likely to have a working face than before."

That, many say, is the irony of the contradictions of a booming economy.

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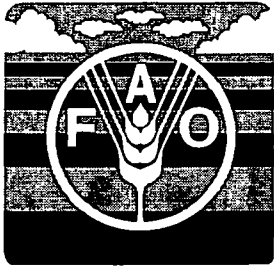
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HUNGER GROUPS

Divider Title: _____



A MILLENNIUM FREE from HUNGER

World Food Day
and TeleFood 2000 –
the vision and the challenge



With the theme “A Millennium Free from Hunger”, World Food Day 2000 invokes both a vision and a challenge. The vision is to live in a world where everyone has enough to eat, every day. The challenge is to make the vision a reality, liberating nearly 800 million people from chronic hunger and the fear of starvation.

Meeting the challenge and realizing the vision will not be easy. To make the new millennium free from hunger, urgent action must be taken on many fronts not just to provide food for the hungry but to eliminate the underlying causes of hunger worldwide – rapidly, sustainably and permanently.

Ending hunger and food insecurity is not simply a matter of growing more food. The world already produces enough to provide an adequate diet for everyone, if the food were distributed equitably. It is not. In many poor countries in the developing world, for example, average food availability amounts to less than 2 100 calories per person per day. In the wealthy countries of the North, on the other hand, the average is more than 50 percent higher, topping 3 200 calories per day.

Overall, about 20 percent of the people in the developing world struggle to survive on diets that do not provide the basic energy they need to be active and productive. If all these people were gathered together, they would represent a continent of the hungry with a population greater than those of North America and Western Europe combined.

Hunger not only cuts short the lives and hopes of individuals but also the peace and prosperity of nations. Studies suggest that hunger and micronutrient deficiencies decrease children's learning capacity by up to 10 percent and cost developing countries up to \$128 billion per year in productivity losses alone.

THE VISION – FOOD FOR ALL

Hunger does not exist in isolation. It is both a cause and a result of many of the other scourges that plague humanity, such as poverty, war, environmental degradation and discrimination.

Because hunger is so closely connected to other problems, eliminating it will almost inevitably contribute to – and require – reducing and eventually eradicating many other causes of human suffering. It is not unreasonable to expect, for example, that a world without hunger will probably also be:

- a world without extreme poverty – the World Bank estimates that about 1 500 million people struggle to survive on less than US\$1 per day. Most of the world's hungry people are also counted in the ranks of those suffering from absolute poverty; ①
- a world without the extremes of wealth reflected in the cruel inequality in the distribution of food – today, the richest one fifth of the people eat 45 percent of all meat and fish; the poorest one fifth get just 5 percent; ②
- a world without war – conflict invariably disrupts food production and distribution, uproots families and communities, and creates highly vulnerable populations of refugees; ③
- a world without widespread environmental degradation – hunger and poverty increase pressures on fragile environments. Millions of impoverished people and the productivity of agricultural systems are threatened by desertification, erosion, salinization and loss of biodiversity; ④
- a world without inequalities based on gender or ethnicity – while women produce most of the world's food, a substantial majority of hungry people are female. Studies show that improvements in women's education and status have been responsible for more than half of the reduction in undernutrition since 1970.

Freeing humanity from hunger would contribute enormously to eradicating most of these other scourges.

THE CHALLENGE – MAKING NUTRITIOUS FOOD AVAILABLE TO ALL

Putting an end to hunger necessarily starts with ensuring that enough food is available for everyone. To achieve that, food production will need to increase substantially over the next 50 years, as the world's population grows from 6 billion today to 8.9 billion in the year 2050.

Past experience suggests that this should be possible. Over the past 40 years, the population of the world doubled, but food production grew even more rapidly. At a global level the amount of food available per person increased by almost 20 percent.

However, simply growing enough food has not eliminated hunger in the past and will not guarantee its eradication in the future. Recent studies suggest that four out of five malnourished children in the developing world live in countries that boast food surpluses. The larger challenge is making sure that food gets into the hands and mouths of the people who lack it now – the poor, girls and women, isolated rural communities, ethnic minorities living on the economic margins of society, victims of war and natural calamities.

The vast majority of these hungry people live in countries where agriculture is the main source of employment and income. A central part of the strategy against hunger must be to increase rural incomes and access to food by improving agriculture and the rural economy. Whether or not food surpluses exist at the global or national level, the failure to develop agriculture and to increase food production locally often lies at the heart of local food insecurity problems. The long-term goal may be to reduce dependence on agriculture and pressure on strained agricultural resources. But the road to that goal may well lead through an initial phase emphasizing improved agricultural productivity.

Global shifts taking place far from the control of farmers also play a major role in the food security of the developing world. Increasing globalization of trade, the WTO negotiations, falling commodity prices, declining agricultural aid, growing debt and the proposed strategies for reducing/cancelling debt all influence people's ability to produce and buy food.

Farmers' lives and families' food security will also be affected by scientific and political developments involving biotechnology and genetically modified foods. These new technologies hold great potential for improving yields and nutritional quality. But they also pose potential risks to the

health of humans and the environment. A cautious, case-by-case approach will be required to ensure that technologies are applied in ways that address human needs and minimize risks.

MAKING IT HAPPEN

Ending hunger will require action in all of these areas – increasing agricultural productivity and raising the incomes of rural communities, improving access to food by those most in need, ensuring that developing countries' needs and contributions get a fair accounting in global trade, research and investment, giving priority to the 'hidden hunger' resulting from micronutrient deficiencies – at a level of commitment never seen before. But commitment is the only resource in short supply.

We know what needs to be done. The Plan of Action of the World Food Summit sets out a roadmap for achieving a world without hunger. There is little mystery about many of the key areas of action under that Plan, which includes commitments to

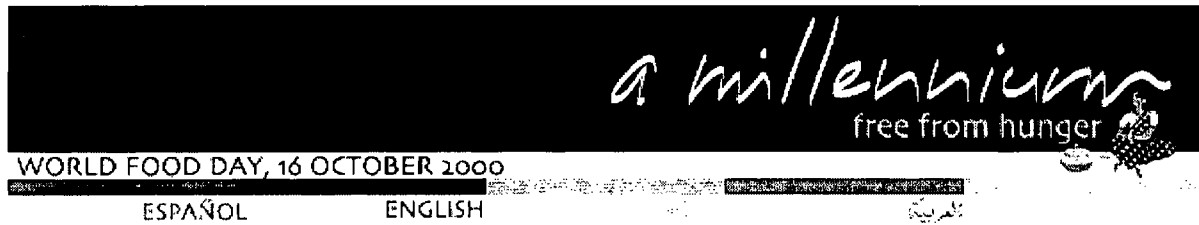
- poverty-reducing economic growth
- policies to enhance the employment and income-earning opportunities of the poor
- safety nets to protect the most vulnerable and marginalized
- adequate attention to agriculture and rural development

We also know the price that will have to be paid if we fail to take decisive action. The latest figures show that the number of hungry people was reduced by 8 million per year during the first half of the 1990s. That represents real progress ... but at less than half the rate needed to reach the goal set by the World Food Summit of reducing the number of hungry people by half by the year 2015. If we continue to follow this "business-as-usual" course, nearly 700 million people will still suffer from chronic hunger in the year 2015, locked in a vicious cycle of human deprivation and societal stagnation.

But that does not have to be the end of the story. With a commitment to make full use of the tools we already have in our hands, we can create a new cycle – a 'virtuous cycle'. It would start with well-fed, healthy people full of the energy needed to solve the problems that have plagued and imprisoned humankind. A millennium free from hunger could then become a millennium free from environmental degradation, from inequality and discrimination, and from want and war.

For further information, contact:
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fax: +39-06-570-53210



The vision and the challenge

"A Millennium Free from Hunger" is the theme for World Food Day and TeleFood 2000. This theme invokes both a vision and a challenge. The vision is to live in a world where everyone has enough to eat, every day. The challenge is to make the vision a reality.

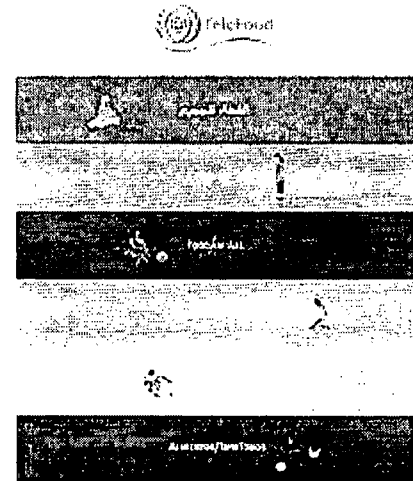
World Food Day commemorates the anniversary of FAO's founding on 16 October 1945. This annual celebration, which has been observed in 150 countries over the last two decades, also coincides with TeleFood – FAO's campaign to raise awareness about the plight of the world's hungry people and mobilize resources to help them.

As the millennium dawns, around 800 million men, women and children are chronically hungry. Hunger not only cuts short the lives and hopes of individuals, it also damages the peace and prosperity of nations. Urgent action must be taken on many fronts not just to provide food for the hungry, but also to eliminate the underlying causes of hunger worldwide – rapidly, sustainably and permanently.

Meeting this challenge will not be easy. Ending hunger and food insecurity is not simply a matter of growing more food. The world already produces enough to provide an adequate diet for everyone. Ending hunger also means making sure that the food gets into the hands and mouths of those who really need it – the poor – especially poor girls and women, isolated rural communities, ethnic minorities living on the economic margins of society and victims of war and natural calamities.

The 1996 World Food Summit's Plan of Action maps out the road towards a millennium free from hunger. The plan includes commitments to increase economic growth, to enhance employment for the poor, to provide safety nets to protect those in need and to pay adequate attention to agriculture and rural development. Living up to these commitments is essential if we are to succeed in fulfilling our vision and creating a world without hunger.

Raising people's awareness about the problems of hunger and food insecurity is a vital first step. Celebrations of World Food Day focus on heightening public awareness and understanding of world hunger and strengthening international and national solidarity in the struggle against hunger, poverty and malnutrition. The related TeleFood campaign continues to do the same through a variety of events involving several sectors of society in many countries.



To view World Food Day spot, click on image

SH = "Second Harvest," which is a nationwide network of food banks(including Jacksonville chapter). The largest charitable hunger relief organization in the county, it oversees the distribution of surplus food and grocery products through nearly 200 food banks and 50,000 charitable agencies. These food pantries, soup kitchens, and homeless shelters serve nearly 26 million people each year. In 1995, Second Harvest distributed 811.3 million pounds of food to hungry people. National contact: Christine Vladimiroff (312) 263-2303.

First Coast Food Runners
Second Harvest of NE Florida (SH) (FC)
1502 Jessie Street
Jacksonville, FL 32206
(904) 353-3663
Fax: (904) 358-4281



We distributed over
one billion pounds
of food to hungry
Americans last year

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About America's Second Harvest

How We Work

America's Second Harvest solicits donated food and grocery products from the nation's food and grocery industry and distributes it to hungry people across America.

Growers, manufacturers, distributors, and retailers all support America's Second Harvest through their generous donations. These donations consist primarily of surplus food that might otherwise go to waste were it not for the effective distribution channel provided by the America's Second Harvest network.

Donating is a one-stop process because of America's Second Harvest's product distribution system. America's Second Harvest records and verifies all donated over 200 food banks and food-rescue programs. Reports are generated for every donor's corporate records, and a specialized tracking system is maintained in case of product recall.

The donated food is provided to more than 50,000 charitable feeding programs through over 200 food banks and food-rescue programs. This network of agencies serves nearly 26 million people each and every year.

Find out more about who we serve.

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America's Second Harvest Fact Sheet

America's Second Harvest is the largest domestic hunger-relief organization in the United States. The America's Second Harvest mission is to feed hungry people by soliciting and distributing food and grocery products through a nationwide network of certified affiliate food banks and food-rescue programs and to educate the public about the nature of solutions to the problem of hunger in America.

In 1999, the *Chronicle of Philanthropy* calculated an efficiency rating for America's Second Harvest of 99.3% - the highest among the nation's charities. 99.3% of all product and money donations received by America's Second Harvest go directly towards feeding hungry people.

Operations

The America's Second Harvest network of over 200 regional food banks and food-rescue programs serves all 50 states and Puerto Rico by distributing food and grocery products to approximately 50,000 local charitable hunger-relief agencies, including food pantries, soup kitchens, women's shelters, Kids Cafes, and other organizations that provide emergency food assistance.

Donations

America's Second Harvest works with more than 500 national grocery and food service companies (food growers, processors, manufacturers, distributors and retailers) to secure surplus food and grocery products. The list, which reads like a "Who's Who" in corporate America, includes such donors as Kraft Foods, Inc., General Mills, Inc., Nabisco, Inc., The Proctor & Gamble Company, Kellogg Company, The Pillsbury Company, ConAgra, and hundreds more.

Funding

America's Second Harvest depends entirely on the support of individuals, corporations and charitable foundations. For every \$1 received, America's

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Second Harvest distributes 35 pounds of food and grocery products to network food banks and food-rescue programs.

History

America's Second Harvest was founded in 1979. In the first year, the organization distributed 2.5 million pounds of food through a network of 13 food banks. The America's Second Harvest network now constitutes over 200 regional food banks and food-rescue programs that annually distribute one billion pounds of donated food and grocery products, providing food assistance to more than 26 million hungry Americans, including eight million children and four million seniors.

Hunger

America's Second Harvest defines hunger as the inability to purchase enough food to meet basic nutritional needs. Hunger does not discriminate on the basis of age, race or sex. It affects the elderly, the unemployed, the disabled, the homeless, the working poor and victims of natural disaster. In 1997, America's Second Harvest released the most comprehensive research study on emergency food providers and recipients ever undertaken. Hunger 1997: The Faces & Facts provides thorough data and analysis on the nonprofit charitable sector's response to hunger. Key findings of this study include: of the 26 million Americans served each year by the America's Second Harvest network, 39% are from households with working individuals, 62% are female, 38% are children (17 and under), and 16% are seniors (over 65).

For More Information: To learn more about America's Second Harvest and how to help fight domestic hunger, please call 1-800-532-FOOD.

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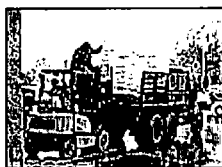
We distributed over
one billion pounds
of food to hungry
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National Programs

Choose a Program



Disaster Relief

In the case of a disaster we play a key role in providing relief supplies to emergency feeding centers serving disaster victims. [MORE](#)



Fresh Food Initiative

This initiative has helped us distribute more fresh foods to hungry people through our network of food banks and food-rescue programs than ever before. [MORE](#)

Harvest Center USA

Harvest Center USA is a new reclamation business run by America's Second Harvest to encourage more food manufacturers to choose to donate their unsaleable food items. [MORE](#)



Kids Cafe

Kids Cafe is the nation's largest charitable meal service and nutrition education program exclusively for needy children. [MORE](#)

Seafood Initiative

This program has enabled America's Second Harvest to distribute enough donated fish through its network to provide 12 million meals to hungry Americans across the country. [MORE](#)

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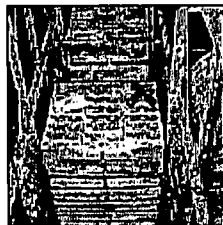
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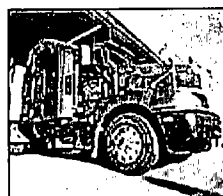
Pallet for the Hungry

This program gives produce growers and shippers the opportunity to work together to bring fresh produce to food banks and food-rescue programs nation-wide. [MORE](#)



Production Alliance

Production Alliance utilizes a company's philanthropy budget and available production capacity to produce first-line product for America's Second Harvest food banks and food-rescue programs. [MORE](#)



Relief Fleet

The Relief Fleet program brings donated transportation together with donated food to feed more hungry Americans.

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America's Second Harvest
Ending Hunger



Hunger and the Elderly 1.9 million seniors must choose between buying food and buying needed

medicine.

New bill narrows red tape
dilemma for hungry Californians.

the largest domestic hunger-relief organization
with a national network of over 200 food banks
and food-rescue programs.



Hunger

September 29, 2000

- A recent survey shows that Americans underestimate the severity of hunger in America. [MORE](#)
- George magazine looks at hunger in Gore and Bush's own backyards. [MORE](#)
- Learn more about how a food bank in Washington state is addressing some of the underlying causes of hunger. [MORE](#)

Help End Hunger

Stop Online!

Up to 15% of each purchase benefits America's Second Harvest.

- ☑ - Ask your representative to support the Hunger Relief Act.
- ☑ - Every dollar helps end hunger.
- ☑ - Contact your local food bank for volunteer opportunities.

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America's Second Harvest
Ending Hunger

Bipartisan legislation
aims to expand aid
to hungry people.

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Hunger 1997: The Faces & Facts¹

In March 1998, America's Second Harvest released the most comprehensive research study on emergency food providers and recipients ever undertaken. Hunger 1997: The Faces & Facts provides thorough data and analysis on the nonprofit charitable sector's response to hunger. Approximately 28,000 emergency food recipients were interviewed, face-to-face, in order to develop an accurate profile of hungry Americans.

[READ THE FULL REPORT.](#)

Key findings of this study follow:

The America's Second Harvest network of nearly 200 regional food banks serves 26 million Americans each year, 21 million of whom are seeking emergency food assistance.

General Demographic Profile of Network Clients: ²

Gender:	Female	62%
	Male	38%
Age:	Children (17 and under) ³	38%
	Seniors (over 65)	16%
Ethnicity:	White	47%
	Black	32%
	Hispanic	15%
	Native American	3%
	Other	3%
Education:	Less than High School Diploma	40%
	High School or GED	36%
	College/post College	5%
Single Parent Households		33%

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**Household
Incomes of less
than \$15,500
(4 person)**

80%

**Employment
Status:**

Employed 21%

Households 39%
w/working individuals

Unemployed 37%

Unemployed, seeking 62%
employment

Clients enrolled in 2%
JOBS or job training

Retired 12%

Disabled 21%

Housing Issues:

Clients choosing 35%
between food and
rent

**Health Related
Issues:**

Children have missed 9%
meals

Delaying medical 37%
care due to cost

Choose between 29%
medicine/care & food

Medicaid participation 40%

¹ Hunger 1997: The Faces & Facts research was conducted for America's Second Harvest by an independent marketing research consulting firm, and funded with generous grants from The Aspen Institute Nonprofit Sector Research Fund, Chicago Tribune Holiday Fund, J. Willard Marriott Foundation, Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger, Nabisco Foundation, Sara Lee Foundation, Share Our Strength, and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

² All percents are rounded to the nearest point.

³ 54% of households with children under 17 are single parent households.

⁴ The "Children have missed meals " standard is the same used by the CPS "Household Security" Report to define households with "severe hunger". The CPS study determined that 800,000 people were classified with severe hunger, or 0.8% of the total U.S. population.

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Taste of the Nation

Join Our Community

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Share Our Strength (SOS) works to alleviate and prevent hunger and poverty in the United States and around the world. By supporting food assistance, treating malnutrition and other consequences of hunger, and promoting economic independence among people in need, Share Our Strength meets immediate demands for food while investing in long-term solutions to hunger and poverty.

SHARE OUR STRENGTH
733 15th St, NW, Ste 640
Washington, DC 20005
PH: 800-969-4767
FX: 202-347-5868

It Takes More Than Food to Fight H

Give Children's Hunger the Boot!



With the introduction of their smallest boot ever, Timberland Company will make big contributions against childhood hunger. For each pair of Crib B Timberland will make a donation to Share Our St. [Click here for more information](#) or to find the Crit a store near you.



Share Our Strength's Ethiopia Relie

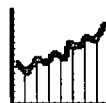
Bill Shore, founder and executive director of Share Our Strength, has announced a new fund to assist the reoccurring famine in Ethiopia. The Share Our Ethiopia Relief Fund will channel 100 percent of donations to partners doing the most effective work ground in Ethiopia. [Click here](#) to learn more about Shore's visit to Ethiopia and how you can help!



"Design-a-Chef's-Jacket" Contest w Chefwear and Share Our Strength

Share Our Strength is teaming up with Chefwear a recipe for the most creative chef jacket with the "Design-A-Chef's-Jacket" contest. Chefwear will select finalists from the entries and fly them to New York for a charity fashion event. The winning jacket will be made and sold by Chefwear with a portion of the proceeds benefitting Share Our Strength. [Click here](#) for information on how to enter!

Hunger in a Booming Economy



More than 31 million Americans - one in ten households - can not afford enough food to meet their basic needs. Despite the booming economy, where wealth is being created at unprecedented levels, millions of Americans are unable to participate in our nation's prosperity. For more information, [click here!](#)



www.strength.org



It Takes More Than Food to Fight Hunger

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Introduction

Share Our Strength is one of the nation's leading anti-hunger, anti-poverty organizations. The organization began in the basement of a row house on Capitol Hill in 1984. In the beginning we organized a handful of chefs to cook for fundraisers. Today we mobilize thousands of individuals in the culinary industry to organize events, host dinners, teach cooking and nutrition classes to low-income families and serve as anti-hunger advocates. And we mobilize hundreds of literary professionals to conduct benefit readings and contribute works to Share Our Strength books.

To bring even more resources to the fight against hunger and poverty, we build creative partnerships with a range of industries, including retail, financial services and music -- and we create community wealth, resources generated through profitable enterprise to promote social change.

In 1997, Share Our Strength launched Community Wealth Ventures, Inc. to provide strategic counsel to corporations, foundations and nonprofit organizations interested in creating community wealth.

As a result, we have raised more than \$90 million since 1984 and have funded more than 1,000 local, state, national and international organizations working to prevent the causes and consequences of hunger and poverty.

We're fueled by a simple but powerful philosophy: It takes more than food to fight hunger. We believe it takes both short- and long-term solutions, such as food assistance, job training, economic development programs and advocacy, to have a lasting impact. We also believe it takes each one of us, sharing our strength, to make a difference. Through our creative events and programs, chefs, restaurateurs, authors and artists as well as accountants, consultants and business executives help raise awareness and funds to end hunger and poverty.

Share Our Strength is a fiscally responsible organization. Each year our financial statements are reviewed and approved by an independent auditor. The organization is operationally lean -- 89 percent of our budget goes to anti-hunger initiatives.


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SOS Founder and Executive Director

Bill Shore is the founder and executive director of Share Our Strength, one of the nation's leading anti-hunger and anti-poverty organizations. Since its founding in 1984, Share Our Strength has raised more than \$90 million and has funded more than 1000 organizations. Shore is author of the recently released book, *The Cathedral Within* which provides a blueprint for charitable action in the next century. In 1997, Shore launched his first for-profit enterprise, Community Wealth Ventures, Inc. to provide strategic counsel to corporations, foundations and nonprofit organizations interested in creating community wealth.

Shore was appointed chair of the private sector task force for the President's Summit for America's Future in 1997. From 1988 to 1991, he was chief of staff for U.S. Senator Robert Kerrey (D-NE). From 1978 to 1987, Shore served on the senatorial and presidential campaign staffs of U.S. Senator Gary Hart (D-CO) as legislative director and political advisor. Shore earned his B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania and his J.D. from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. He is also a recipient of numerous awards, including the 1991 Humanitarian of the Year, the 1994 Washingtonian of the Year and the Caring Institute's top ten caring people of 1995, one of 1999's *The Non Profit Times* "Power and Influence Top 50 Leaders" and *Bon Appetit's* 1999 Humanitarian of the Year.

Share Your Thoughts with Bill Shore, address your email to his attention: info@strength.org

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Hunger in the U.S.

[Federal Response to Hunger](#) | [Hunger & Poverty](#)
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[National Statistics](#) | [Recent Hunger Studies](#)



Approximately four million American children under age 12 go hungry and about 9.6 million more are at risk of hunger according to estimates based on the results of the most comprehensive study ever done on childhood hunger in the United States -- the Community Childhood Hunger Identification Project (CCHIP). Based on the results of over 5,000 CCHIP surveys of families with incomes below 185 percent of poverty, applied to the best available national data, FRAC estimates that approximately 13.6 million children under age 12 in the United States -- 29 percent -- live in families that must cope with hunger or the risk of hunger during some part of one or more months of the previous year.

Other surveys conducted throughout the last decade also document the existence of hunger in this country:

- ✧ On July 14, 1999, the U.S. Department of Agriculture released national data that track the prevalence of food insecurity and hunger in the United States in 1996, 1997, and 1998. Previously, USDA had released the 1995 data. The data are derived from the annual Food Security Supplement, a questionnaire that is part of the Current Population Survey of the U.S. Bureau of Census. Based on the Census Bureau survey, USDA estimates that in 1998, 10.5 million U.S. households were food insecure, meaning that they did not have access to enough food to meet their basic needs. This adds up to 10.2 percent of all households in the U.S. About 31 million people lived in these households, including 19 million adults and 12 million children. (Children made up 40 percent of the total number of food insecure individuals). This number is up by 3 million adults and 2 million children from 1997. Among these food insecure households, 3.7 million reached a level of food insecurity in 1998 that was great enough to cause one or more members of their household to be hungry due to inadequate resources for food. This meant that 6.1 million adults and 3.2 million children lived in households suffering outright from hunger in 1998.
- ✧ The Second Harvest National Food Bank Network released a study in 1998 showing that the food bank network of emergency food providers serves more than 25.7 million people. The study found that children make up a significant portion of emergency food clients. Nearly 38 percent of emergency food clients surveyed were age 17 or younger. In 38.6 percent of client households, one or more adults was working.
- ✧ The U.S. Conference of Mayors has documented an annual increase in the demand for emergency food in major cities

across the nation since 1983. In 1997, requests for emergency food increased in the survey cities by an average of 16 percent over the previous year. The number of families with children requesting assistance increased by 13 percent. Fifty-eight percent of those requesting emergency food assistance were members of families. In 93 percent of the cities surveyed, emergency food assistance was relied on both in emergencies and as a steady source of food over long periods of time. Low-paying jobs, unemployment and employment-related problems led the list of causes of hunger, although 38 percent of the adults requesting food assistance were employed. Other causes of hunger frequently cited were food stamp cuts, poverty or lack of income, and low benefits in public assistance programs.

- ✧ A national survey conducted by Catholic Charities USA, the nation's largest private human service organization, found over 5.6 million persons receiving emergency food services from Catholic Charities agencies in 1996. Of these, over one million were children. Food banks served 2.7 million people and soup kitchens over one million people.

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For Immediate Release

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Peace Corps Observes World Food Day, October 16; Volunteers are Working to Eradicate Hunger World-Wide

Washington, D.C., October 14, 1999 -- In honor of World Food Day on October 16, the Peace Corps is sponsoring a speech Friday on hunger by senior members of the Worldwatch Institute, a non-profit organization that analyzes global environmental and resource issues.

Gary Gardner and Brian Halweil will speak at Peace Corps headquarters at 12:30 p.m. Friday, October 15.

Peace Corps Acting Director Charles Baquet III praised the efforts of more than 4,000 Peace Corps volunteers working to eradicate hunger around the world.

"Peace Corps volunteers have a long history of helping people in developing countries gain access to secure supplies of food," Baquet said. "The special role that our volunteers play is at the micro-economic or 'household' level, where we believe a big part of the solution lies. Volunteers work directly with families to bring food to their table. No other agency has the people power to develop direct relationships with families in so many countries."

Peace Corps volunteers play a variety of roles in food security, especially working to educate youth on agricultural development and nutrition.

In Africa, volunteers in Senegal are working to educate villagers about youth malnutrition by preparing workshops and educating residents about appropriate foods. Through their efforts, a system to train local villagers to care for and monitor malnourished youth has been implemented.

Peace Corps volunteers in Belize established the Youth Enhancement Service as a non-governmental organization to provide an alternative for young women aged 13 to 18. The Service provides teenage mothers with programs that emphasize pre- and post-natal care as well as health and nutrition training for mother and child.

In Eastern Europe, Peace Corps volunteers in Armenia set up a school lunch program through a

grant from the United Nations World Food Program. The lunch program provides substantive meals for children as well as education about the importance of proper eating. This program is spreading rapidly to other schools as well.

The Peace Corps is also sponsoring a food drive at its headquarters in Washington, D.C. The food collected will go to the Capital Area Food Bank, which provides millions of pounds of food each year to nearly 600 hunger relief organizations in Washington, Maryland, and Virginia.

About 1,000 Peace Corps volunteers work directly in "food production," while another 3,000 work indirectly on household food security. Overall, 7,000 Peace Corps volunteers serve in 78 countries, bringing clean water to communities, teaching children, helping start new small businesses, and preventing the spread of AIDS. Since 1961, more than 155,000 Americans have joined the Peace Corps.

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