Dorsia-
e-Mail

Welfare Reform June 6^{th}

Laura Tyson -

- disincentives for moving from part time to full time
- substance abuse/mental health.

Nightline - Dana Miller - producer.
Galston referred to Dreyer

call Carol after mtg. w/ Belle

Financing

- mtg. w/ Panetta Tuesday
- regulatory changes should be taken out so we didn't have to pay for them.

- make sure POTUS up to speed on where different groups stand.
- when will Bill be transmitted?

ROLLOUT SCHEDULE

WEEK OF JUNE 6–10

POTUS: Interviews with TIME, US News, Newsweek
Meeting with Rasco et al to brief him on the plan?

CONGRESS: Meetings with key Congressional leadership
Meeting with House GOP WR Task Force

OTHERS: Release of Child Support background paper
⇐ Briefing for NGA, DGA, NACO, NLC, NCSL, USCM, APWA
Briefing for Labor

WEEK OF JUNE 13–17

POTUS: Announcement speech at Georgetown (or outside DC)
-- Meet with mothers who testified at our WR hearings
Possible field trip to LINK program in Kansas City
Interviews with major newspapers

CONGRESS: Briefings begin for caucuses, Dem Policy Comm., etc.
Transmittal of bill? (or when cleared)

OTHERS: Background briefings for press
Briefings for advocacy groups, others
Editorial boards, morning shows, etc.
Brief Cabinet at DPC June 13 * Shalala/Panetta to lead briefing
Brief WH staff

WEEK OF JUNE 20–24 AND BEYOND

POTUS: Possible NAACP speech in Chicago July 9

CONGRESS: Subcommittee hearings begin after July 4 recess

OTHERS: Teen pregnancy, child support, and other events with Shalala, other interested Cabinet members

TO: BRUCE REED

FROM: KATHI WAY

SUBJECT: WELFARE REFORM ROLL-OUT

Before you get to the meeting at 10:30 tomorrow morning let me fill you in on the mood you are likely to encounter with Avis and Melissa. Evidently, after the meeting yesterday in the Oval office, David, Mary Jo and the Secretary blasted Avis and Melissa for not having a roll-out plan in place. This occurred in response to Carol's reaction to Shalala's rambling about the need for a plan. My read from Emily is that tomorrow will be absorbed by discussion of the roll-out plan.

The conversation we had yesterday is a good start but we need to talk tomorrow about the BIGGER roll-out. I continue to believe we need to add four items to the list of projects.

O We need to schedule a meeting for Congressional leadership with the President to talk vision and substance. I think the meeting could take place either next week or right after the announcement the week of the 13th of June.

O We need a meeting with leadership Governors from NGA. Next Wednesday was proposed by Governor Carper and the only date the leadership Governors are expected in D.C. in the near future. A bi-partisan meeting with the Governors where he looks them straight in the eye and asks for their support will be really helpful in getting the NGA letter of support we would like to have.

O After the announcement and show at Georgetown, I think we need to go out of town for an event. You know I favor Missouri but would be willing to use Colorado. This event should focus on welfare recipients giving the straight story to the President. I assume it could be done as a roundtable or town meeting for that matter.

O I also suggest a second out of town meeting. Maybe Georgia or Florida. Use the teen pregnancy prevention/parental responsibility theme. Use more of a rally theme with the President at a church or community center talking with teens(Unfortunately school will be out in most parts of the country by the time we announce the plan).

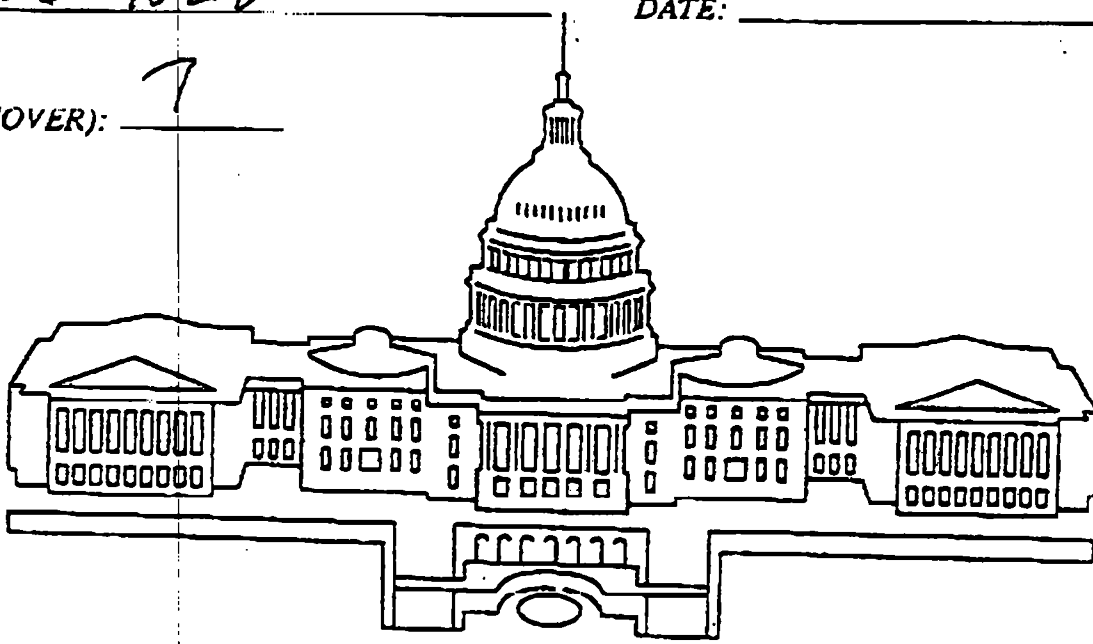
I think we need to focus Avis and Melissa on roll-out events for the Secretary, the co-chairs and the working group. There will be a number of events around the country we could take advantage of by talking about the plan. Also, I think we need to more fully develop the plan to use the print and other media to sell the message.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEGISLATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

PHONE: (202) 690-7627 **FAX: (202) 690-7380**

TO:		FROM:	
NAME:	Bruce Reed / Kathy Way	NAME:	Rich Tarplin
OFFICE:		OFFICE:	
ROOM NO.:		ROOM NO.:	
PHONE NO.:		PHONE NO.:	
FAX NO.:	456-7028	DATE:	

TOTAL PAGES (INCLUDING COVER): 7



REMARKS:

Bruce & Kathy –

Please review.
Thanks,
Rich

MEMORANDUM

TO: Susan Brophy

FROM: Rich Tarplin

THROUGH: Jerry Klepner

DATE: May 23, 1994

RE: **PROPOSED CONGRESSIONAL "ROLLOUT" ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE PRESIDENT'S WELFARE REFORM INITIATIVE**

BACKGROUND:

Please find below a description of the key elements of our congressional "rollout" strategy for welfare reform. We have also attached a suggested chronology of activities for the two month period between now and late July. For planning purposes, we assume that the Administration's proposal will be formally submitted to the Congress on June 14.

Several decisions need to be made as soon as possible. First, we need to determine what level of welfare reform activity is appropriate for the Memorial Day recess (i.e. site visits or public forums in targeted states and districts), based on White House plans for recess events related to health care reform. We also need to finalize the schedule and timing for a broad range of "rollout" activities on Capitol Hill (meetings, briefings, and hearings) in order to begin the complicated process of scheduling the President, Secretary Shalala, and the Working Group Co-Chairs for these events.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES:

1) Recess Events in Targeted States and Districts: Subject to White House plans for recess activities on health care reform, we would like to organize welfare reform events in targeted states and congressional districts during the Memorial Day and July 4th recesses. Scheduling for the Memorial Day recess specifically would have to begin no later than Tuesday, May 24. Possible events include the following:

a) Working Group Co-Chairs and/or Secretary Shalala to make site visits to welfare offices, education and training programs, etc. in key media markets and/or targeted states and congressional districts.
b) Working Group Co-Chairs and/or Secretary Shalala to participate in town hall meetings or public forums sponsored by members on key congressional committees.
c) Working Group Co-Chairs to participate in roundtable discussions organized by key

members of Congress with local welfare recipients, service providers, etc.
d) Working Group Co-Chairs and/or Secretary Shalala to speak to organizations of state and local officials or service providers.

2) Congressional Cosponsorships: As we have discussed, our goal is to have the Administration's welfare reform legislation introduced and cosponsored by the House and Senate Majority Leaders, and by the appropriate committee and subcommittee chairs. Preliminary indications are that those listed below will agree to cosponsor the legislation subject to review of the final statutory language. In addition, Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee Chairman Kennedy, Education and Labor Committee Chairman Bill Ford, and subcommittee chairmen Dodd and Martinez will be offered the opportunity to cosponsor the legislation. Kennedy and Dodd are expected to decline.

Senate	House
Majority Leader Mitchell	Majority Leader Gephardt
Chairman Moynihan	Chairman Rostenkowski
Senator Breaux	Rep. Harold Ford

3) Presidential Event(s): Subject to White House approval, we would like to schedule one or more events timed to coincide with the formal "rollout" involving President Clinton, Secretary Shalala, and congressional supporters of welfare reform. Possible events include the following:

a) White House meeting with Democratic leaders, committee and subcommittee chairs (cosponsors of legislation).
b) White House meeting with Democratic members of committees with jurisdiction over welfare reform.
c) White House meeting with a bipartisan cross-section of members of Congress interested in welfare reform.
d) Presidential meeting or luncheon with House and Senate Democratic party organizations on Capitol Hill.
e) Local presidential site visit with members of Congress from the Washington area and/or committee and subcommittee chairs.

4) Committee Hearings: As you know, we have been planning a series of hearings designed to showcase the President's leadership and highlight favorable themes in the Administration's welfare reform plan. However, due to the health care mark-ups scheduled to take place in June in all the major committees with jurisdiction over welfare reform, we will have to revisit our proposed hearing schedule with committee staff this week.

Scheduling changes notwithstanding, our plan has been for the Finance and Ways and

Means Committees to each hold a hearing during the "rollout week" focusing generally on the Administration's plan. Secretary Shalala and the Working Group Co-Chairs would be the only witnesses. Beginning the following week, the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Resources (Rep. Ford) and the Finance Subcommittee on Social Security and Family Policy (Senator Breaux) would begin a series of four "theme" hearings designed to highlight key initiatives contained in the Administration's plan. These "theme" hearings would last until mid-July:

a) Preventing Teen Pregnancy.
b) The Transition from Welfare to Work.
c) Promoting Parental Responsibility.
d) Changing the Culture of the Welfare System.

<u>5) Congressional Surrogates:</u> For the "rollout week" and beyond, we hope to enlist key Democratic members of Congress to act as "surrogates" with the press and in congressional hearings. These surrogates would be members who are willing to endorse key components of the plan, support the general direction of the plan, or speak favorably about the President's leadership and consultation with the Congress.

<u>6) Congressional Meetings and Briefings:</u> By May 27, we will have completed our ongoing series of meetings involving the Working Group Co-Chairs and key members of Congress and committee staff on our House and Senate target lists. Between May 31 and the beginning of the "rollout week", we would like to conduct a series of intensive meetings and briefings with key Democratic leaders, committee members, and members and staff at large to provide information on and build support for the Administration's plan. These discussions would take place as follows:

<u>May 31-June 3:</u> (Congressional Recess) HHS staff to conduct intensive briefings for Democratic leadership and committee staff on "final" details of the Administration's proposal.

HHS/ASPA and White House communications staff to brief House and Senate Democratic press secretaries.

<u>June 6-10:</u> Secretary Shalala and Working Group Co-Chairs to meet individually with Majority Leader Mitchell, Majority Leader Gephardt, and House and Senate committee and subcommittee chairs.

Secretary Shalala and Working Group Co-Chairs to conduct briefings for the Senate Democratic Policy Committee, House Democratic Party Effectiveness Group, House Democratic Study Group, and Republican Senators "Wednesday Group".

Secretary Shalala and Working Group Co-Chairs to conduct briefings for the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, the Congressional Black Caucus, the Congressional

Caucus on Women's Issues, the Mainstream Forum, and the Progressive Caucus.

Working Group Co-Chairs to conduct bipartisan staff briefings for Ways and Means, Finance, Education and Labor, Labor and Human Resources, and Appropriations committee staff. The Co-Chairs also would conduct large-group briefings for House and Senate Legislative Assistants.

7) Preparation of Briefing Materials: As you know, HHS staff are preparing summaries, talking points, and speech materials on various substantive and political aspects of welfare reform and the Administration's plan. We have had preliminary discussions with congressional Democratic party organization and committee staff about coordinated use of these materials. Possible uses include the following:

a) Information packets, including summaries and talking points, to be supplied next week to Democratic members of the House and Senate for use during the Memorial Day recess.
b) Packets to be handed out during final briefings for members and staff prior to "rollout" of the Administration's plan.
c) "One Minute" and "Morning Business" speeches on the House and Senate floors timed to coincide with the submission of the Administration's plan.
d) "Surrogate" packets for members of Congress to use when dealing with the press, making speeches, etc.

PROPOSED CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

May 23-27	Working Group Co-Chairs to complete meetings and briefings previously planned with members, committees, caucuses and staff on House and Senate target lists.
May 30-June 3	Congressional Recess Secretary Shalala and Working Group Co-Chairs to participate in site visits and/or public forums in target states and congressional districts **(subject to change based on plans for health care activities).** Secretary Shalala and Working Group Co-Chairs to participate in a Washington-area event related to child suport enforcement with members of the Congressional Caucus on Women's Issues. HHS staff to conduct intensive briefings for Democratic leadership and committee staff on "final" details of the Administration's proposal. HHS/ASPA and White House communications staff to brief House and Senate Democratic press secretaries.
June 6-10	Secretary Shalala and Working Group Co-Chairs to meet individually with Majority Leader Mitchell, Majority Leader Gephardt, and House and Senate committee and subcommittee chairs. Secretary Shalala and Working Group Co-Chairs to conduct briefings for Senate Democratic Policy Committee, House Democratic Party Effectiveness Group, House Democratic Study Group, and Republican Senators "Wednesday Group". Secretary Shalala and Working Group Co-Chairs to conduct briefings for the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, the Congressional Black Caucus, the Congressional Caucus on Women's Issues, the Mainstream Forum, and the Progressive Caucus. Working Group Co-Chairs to conduct bipartisan staff briefings for Ways and Means, Finance, Education and Labor, Labor and Human Resources, and Appropriations committee staff. The Co-Chairs also will conduct large-group briefings for House and Senate Legislative Assistants.

June 13 17	Rollout Week
	President Clinton and Secretary Shalala to participate in a welfare reform event involving members of Congress (Type of event and participating members to be determined).
	Secretary Shalala and Working Group Co-Chairs to testify at Finance and Ways and Means Committee hearings on the Administration's proposal **(Pending staff discussions on Committee schedules).**
	Supportive members of Congress to make "One Minute" and "Morning Business" speeches on the House and Senate floors timed to coincide with the submission of legislation to the Congress **(Subject to a sufficient number of members being interested and available).**
June 20-24	First "theme" hearing(s) in Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Resources and/or Finance Subcommittee on Social Security and Family Policy on "Preventing Teen Pregnancy" **(Subject to Committee schedules).**
June 27-July 1	Second "theme" hearing(s) in Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Resources and/or Finance Subcommittee on Social Security and Family Policy on "The Transition from Welfare to Work" **(Subject to Committee schedules).**
July 4-8	Congressional Recess
	Secretary Shalala and Working Group Co-Chairs to participate in site visits, public forums, roundtable discussions, etc. in targeted states and congressional districts **(subject to change based on plans for health care activities).**
July 11-15	Third "theme" hearing(s) in Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Resources and/or Finance Subcommittee on Social Security and Family Policy on "Promoting Parental Responsibility" **(subject to Committee schedules).**
July 18-22	Fourth "theme" hearing(s) in Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Resources and/or Finance Subcommittee on Social Security and Family Policy on "Changing the Culture of the Welfare System" **(Subject to Committee schedules).**

June 16, 1994

TO: Mark Gearan
Dee Dee Myers
Jeff Eller
Ken Chitester
Lisa Mortman
FR: Ernesto Carreon - Media Affairs
RE: Unveiling the welfare reform plan-- Kansas City, MO

The following regional newspapers published articles concerning the President's visit to Kansas City, MO to unveil the Clinton Administration's welfare reform plan:

Kansas City Star
St. Louis Post-Dispatch
Springfield News-Leader
St. Joseph News-Press Gazette
Joplin Globe
Jefferson City News and Tribune
Columbia Tribune
Independence Examiner
Kirksville Express and News
Blue Springs Examiner

In addition, stories were sifted from the wire services. The final article was released at 12:42 p.m. on Wednesday June 15, 1994.

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[tx][cw18.9][by1]|DONALD BRADLEY|<

Kansas City Star
6/15/94

#President Clinton, meet Karla.<
She's not an economist or a social scientist, but
maybe her story can help you talk about the need to
reform America's welfare system.<
Karla is 31, a Midtown single mother of four. To
protect her identity, her last name is not being print"
ed. She was receiving $342 a month in welfare _
most of which went toward rent _ and $430 a
month in food stamps.<
Then she got a job as a waitress earning $463 a
month. Because of the job, she eventually lost all of
her welfare and $300 of the food stamps. She also
lost Medicaid for two of her children.<
By going to work, her income dropped to $593]<
[tx]from $772.<
''Plus I had to buy uniforms and
pay for bus fare,'' Karla said Mon"
day. ''I really wanted to work, be"
cause I was tired of sitting around
and I wanted things for my kids,
but I couldn't afford it after a
while.''<
Bingo, said Sister Berta Sailer,
director of St. Vincent's Family
Service day-care center at 31st
Street and Troost Avenue.<
''Karla should have been re"
warded for getting out and getting
a job,'' she said. ''But instead, it
was like the system wanted to put
her back in her place. She made a
sound economic decision by quit"
ting her job.''<
Sailer co-founded St. Vincent's
25 years ago to serve poor fami"
lies. More than half of the parents
of the center's 240 children re"
ceive welfare benefits.<
''Getting off welfare and going
to work must be an improvement
in their lives,'' she said. ''If not,
what's the motivation? These
moms have kids to care for.<
''Suburban America might say
these mothers are lazy for not
working. No, these mothers are
smart.''<
Here's what Sailer would like to
see included in the president's
plan:<

Kansas City Star 6/15/94

[sqr]Parents must not lose health
coverage by taking a job.<
[sqr]Child-care benefits must be
expanded, because parents can't
pay for child care with a mini"
mum-wage job.<
[sqr]Benefits must keep coming
for a year or so after the recipient
lands a job and then decrease
gradually.<
[sqr]Finally, there must be jobs
in the neighborhoods where
parents live, because many don't
have transportation.<
''You can have the best voca"
tional training in the world, but it
doesn't do a bit of good if there
are no jobs,'' Sailer said.<
''Our moms get offered jobs as
dishwashers out in Johnson Coun"
ty. They can't take jobs out there.
The bus lines quit running by the
time they get off work.''<
The biggest and most baffling
problem to her is child care.<
As long as a welfare recipient is
in school or vocational training,
she can receive free child care
through state subsidies. But that
aid ends when she gets a job.<
''There's at least a year's wait"
ing list to get child-care money
when you go to work,'' Sailer said.
''The system would rather seek
out the one woman who doesn't
want a job and they say, 'We're
going to make you work!'^''<
Another problem is the rule that
prohibits a man from living in a
single mother's home if she is re"
ceiving welfare.<
''We all know how important
having two parents around is for
children, but as soon as a man
moves in, the woman loses her
benefits,'' Sailer said.<
Mae Richardson has been there.
She used to be a welfare mother
before she managed to get off.<
''They would come in and
search your house for a man's
shoes,'' she said. ''And they would
ask when was the last time you
slept with him. That was degrad"
ing.''<
Richardson said the monthly
checks are so small that the recipi"
ent can't do much other than sit at
home. And families suffer because
their clothes, toys and food aren't
as nice as other families'.<
''Why should they have to eat
beans and neck bones all the
time?'' Richardson asked.<
''I don't know if I could get off
today,'' she added. ''It's a lot easi"
er to get on than it is to get off. It's
almost like they want to keep you
there.''<
When Richardson was on wel"
fare, her monthly payments were
augmented by a rent subsidy.<
Today there is a great shortage
of rent aid, said David English, a
program developer at St. Vin"
cent's.<
''Single mothers on welfare can"
not afford rent,'' English said.
''We've got all these nomadic fam"
ilies moving every two or three
months, because that's how long it
takes to throw them out of an
apartment.''<
Sailer thinks the system is so
flawed that reform might be im"
possible.<
''We might have to start from
scratch,'' Sailer said. ''I just know
that we need a government that
spends less on armies, oil compa"
nies and tobacco growers and
more to help poor working moth"
ers.''<

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Kansas City Star
6/15/94

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[tx][by2]|MATT CAMPBELL,<
BILL NORTON<
and MARY SANCHEZ|<
#Three Missouri programs aimed at turning welfare depen" dents into workers will get presi" dential scrutiny today when Bill Clinton comes to Kansas City to plug his own welfare-reform plan.<

Two of the programs, the state-run Futures and the nonprofit Women's Employment Network, have a track record of removing people from the welfare rolls. An" other state program, 21st Century Communities, will start in July and build on the Futures effort.<

Vicki [folo]Phelps, a 34-year-old mother of three, credits the em" ployment network with ending a five-year reliance on welfare checks.<

For 19 months she has been a computer operator for Con" tinuum Vantage, a local company that provides services for insur" ance companies. She also attends Penn Valley Community College at night.<

Phelps said the network topples barriers.<

''The reason most women can't go back to work is they can't af" ford child care or transportation,'' she said. ''They don't have skills to write resumes. Sometimes they don't have the self-esteem, don't have clothing.''<

The employment network helps with all that, and on a personal level.<

''You're not a number,'' Phelps said. ''The counselors give a great deal of attention to each person.''<

Kansas City Star 6/15/94

Most of the women come into the network dejected, literally looking downward. When they graduate they have ''a very real turnaround,'' said director Leigh Kline.<

It requires a commitment of four weeks of all-day classes. Teachers are on-site to help some women pass high school equiva" lency tests. After training, the net" work helps the women find jobs and keeps track of them.<

An average of 30 women gradu" ate each month _ about 1,700 since 1986. The job-placement rate is 75 percent to 80 percent. Some even go on to an entrepre" neurial program to start their own businesses.<

''We help them train for a ca" reer, not the first fast-food job,'' said Beth K. Smith, network chairwoman. ''We don't want to create the working poor.''<

Phelps is glad to see the Women's Employment Network approach being viewed as a model for welfare reform.<

''It should be given a chance to work on a bigger scale,'' she said. ''Now they are only equipped to take 30 to 35 women every month. I know that there are hun" dreds that need to be doing it.''<

[hd141]|A future with Futures|<

[tx]#Alfreda Gipson was working part time, usually as a waitress. And she was taking computer classes at a business college that closed unexpectedly.<

She had an infant son and a daughter. What she didn't have was a partner to help pay the way.<

''When the baby got sick, that was it,'' Gipson said. ''It was ei" ther get the baby's medicine or buy the bus pass (to school). I got the baby's medicine.''<

The dilemma drove her to apply for Aid to Families with Depen" dent Children eight years ago when she was 20.<

Sometimes she found work and dropped off the rolls. ''I was al" ways doing something. It's not like they all make it seem, that you're just sitting around the house, drawing checks,'' Gipson said. ''But you can't make too much money. They put you off'' the rolls.<

In 1992 she discovered Futures, a local variation on a federal job-training program coordinated by the Missouri Division of Family Services.<

The program provided her com" puter training, child-care expenses and bus fare and allowed her to keep receiving benefits from the state, especially Medicaid.<

She took classes in survival skills, such as managing her money and child rearing.<

Most important, she said, she was assigned an advocate, some" one she could talk to one-on-one.<

''Mine became my best friend,'' she said.<

She stayed 18 months; the ten" ure depends on the individual's needs. She shopped for jobs. Not everyone was impressed. ''A lot of people don't want to give you a chance.''<

Then the Futures program had a clerk-typist opening. Now she handles the Futures waiting list, which has more than 6,000 names.<

With the job comes health in" surance and freedom.<

''I don't get anything from the state now,'' she said.<

''They consider me a success story, but I don't think I'm through with it yet.''<

She intends to return to college and to send her two children as well.<

[hd141]|A new twist|<

[tx]#The 21st Century Communities program will require participants to work for their welfare benefits, which will be supplemented by local employers.<

The state will give employers the dollar equivalent of Aid to Families with Dependent Chil" dren and food stamp benefits to help subsidize the cost of hiring welfare recipients.<

For example, if the cash value of Aid to Families with Depen" dent Children and food stamps is $3.08 an hour, the employer would supplement that by $3.50 so that the actual wage would be $6.58 an hour, said Bert Berkley, chairman of the board for Tension Envelope Corp. and a strong sup" porter of the program.<

By allowing only companies that create new jobs to participate, the program ensures that no one is laid off or displaced by the pro" gram. Organizers hope the job op" portunities will allow people to eventually leave the welfare sys" tem.<

''It is essential that these are new jobs,'' Berkley said. ''We're trying to make this an opportunity for people to raise themselves up by their bootstraps.''<

The program also allows people to retain medical and day-care benefits, said Paula Cardello, dep" uty coordinator of the Local In" vestment Commission.<

The commission is a com" munity-based group that is help" ing the Missouri Department of Social Services oversee the 21st Century Communities program and other welfare reform efforts. Berkley is a founder of the com" mission.<

Kansas City is the only city in the nation piloting the 21st Cen" tury program.<

Georgeanna Designs, a Kansas City greeting card assembly com" pany, is the first company to join the program, but other businesses have expressed interest, Cardello said.<

''We're looking at it as an op" portunity for people who haven't had job opportunities before,'' Cardello said.<

Kansas City Star
6/15/94

Kansas City Star
6/14/94

Women off welfare to talk with Clinton

By MATT CAMPBELL
and BILL NORTON
Staff Writers

President Clinton will meet today with at least four area women who made the transition from welfare to work force.

The women, whose names were forwarded to the White House by the local Women's Employment Network and Missouri's Futures program, were expected to add a positive spin to the administration's national welfare-reform plan.

The women are to receive a 1½-hour briefing with White House officials before their meeting with Clinton, said Arlenda Moffitt, a 26-year-old Kansas City mother who has been on and off welfare since 1986.

She recently began earning $7 an hour working in customer service for Pitney Bowes Management Services and is supporting her two children.

Moffitt, who went through the network training program and now is enrolled in Futures, said she was eager to tell Clinton about her success.

Other women set to meet with Clinton include Pamela Ruhnke of Independence and Vicki Phelps and Birdella Smith of Kansas City.

In 1989 Ruhnke was working three jobs but was still unable to support her three children. She made too much money to qualify for welfare, so she quit two of her jobs and reapplied.

Through Futures, she received educational and job-training help and now earns $7.35 an hour as an apprentice with Cates Sheet Metal Industries. She could work her way up to earning more than $20 an hour.

Phelps, 34, is another graduate of the Women's Employment Network. Medical problems forced her to leave her insurance company job in 1987, and she received welfare checks for five years.

Phelps, a single mother of three, now earns $15,000 annually at Continuum Vantage, supervises three persons and handles billings for 700 clients.

Smith, also 34 and the mother of three, had been on and off welfare for years before Futures and the Women's Employment Network helped her get a secretarial job at Hellmuth Obata & Kassabaum Architects. She earns $6.75 an hour with full benefits.

Kansas City Star
6/14/94

Clinton's welfare reform plan

Highlights of the president's new plan to overhaul the welfare system:

- Spend $9.3 billion over five years on job training, child care, teen pregnancy prevention and public service jobs for welfare recipients
- Leave the current welfare system largely intact for welfare mothers born before 1972
- Target education, training on welfare mothers born in 1972 or later
- A 24-month, lifetime limit on cash benefits for welfare recipients over the age of 18. After the 24 months, they would be required to work in taxpayer-financed public service jobs if they did not get jobs on their own.
- Allow recipients to remain in public service jobs if they can't find private employment
- End welfare benefits for recipients who refuse to stay in school, look for work, go to job training or accept job offer
- Guarantee child care to welfare recipients during education, training programs and for one year after they leave welfare for the workforce
- Allow states to limit additional benefits for children conceived by women on welfare
- Initiate a national campaign against teen pregnancy; provide grants to about 1,000 middle and high schools for teen pregnancy programs
- Discourage unwed motherhood among teens by refusing to issue separate welfare checks to minors living apart from parents or responsible adult
- Require hospitals to establish paternity at birth as a way to improve child support collections
- Establish a national child support clearinghouse with registries of parents who owe child support
- Withhold wages and suspend professional and occupational licenses and driver's licenses from fathers who fail to pay child support
- Much of the money for the plan comes from cuts in social spending and restriction on health and welfare benefits for legal immigrants whose relatives can afford to support them.

Source: Summary of Clinton plan provided to Congress

Knight-Ridder Tribune

Kansas City [illegible]

Clinton's welfare program called a work in progress

Much of the package is subject to change; some question whether it goes far enough.

By BILL NORTON
Staff Writer

As with much of his domestic policy to date, President Clinton's plan "to end welfare as we know it" is a work in progress. Here are a few elements, although they are subject to change:

■ **Cost:** As of last week, $9.3 billion to be spent over five years. That's down from the original $15 billion to $16 billion.

Flashpoint: Spending. Some reformers are upset because Clinton plans to spend less. But he doesn't want to pay for this reform with a tax increase. That irritates supporters of programs to be trimmed, such as Supplemental Security Income for elderly immigrants and the environmental Superfund cleanup program.

■ **Target:** Young, unwed mothers who receive Aid to Families with Dependent Children. Forty-two percent of America's 5 million welfare families are headed by teen-age moms.

The Plan: No work, no welfare. Here is the nub of reform costs. The president pledged to bridge the gap between welfare dependence and private sector employment by subsidizing a recipient's schooling, job training, job finding fees, child care and health care — even government subsidized jobs.

Flashpoint: Weak job market. During the 1992 campaign, Clinton stumped on the slogan, "two years and out," the notion that a welfare recipient had two years to find a job or lose government support. Late last week, the administration softened a tad, saying people who made "good faith efforts" to find private sector jobs — but couldn't — could stay on government subsidized jobs two more years.

A problem: In some sectors, jobs that pay more than welfare are scarce. Still to be worked out: What if someone still can't find a job?

■ **Goal:** Fewer babies by welfare mothers. Called "family caps," analogous to salary caps in pro sports. The administration wants to deny extra welfare benefits to welfare moms who keep having children.

Flashpoint: So controversial it could fuse abortion opponents and feminists in opposition.

Clinton to visit Kansas City

Continued from A-1

wanted to return to Kansas City to make his announcement. He conducted a town hall meeting at an area television station April 7 as part of his effort to boost his national health-care reform plan.

That visit had political overtones because it included a trip to Topeka, where Clinton was photographed with U.S. Rep. Jim Slattery. The congressman is considered the front-running Democratic candidate for Kansas governor and a key swing vote on health-care reform.

Wheat, a Democrat, is engaged in a spirited three-way battle for his party's nomination for the U.S. Senate. Standing shoulder to shoulder with the president, even one as embattled as Clinton, could boost his stature.

Another prominent Senate candidate, Democrat Marsha Murphy, recently appeared to distance herself from the president, saying she'd rather campaign on her own instead of with Clinton. At the time, the Jackson County executive did not know the president would be coming this month.

Clinton's appearance with Wheat, coming on the heels of Murphy's comments, could make the president himself an issue in the Senate race.

The president's welfare plan is expected to take a back seat to his push for universal health-care coverage and is not expected to pass this year.

Still, details about the plan have leaked of Washington in recent days, and some members of Congress have said Clinton would be wise to have a welfare bill in place in case his health-care plan falters.

The president's plan calls for a 24-month limit on cash benefits for recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children, the nation's main cash-assistance program. Parents who exhausted their benefits and were unable to find a job would be enrolled in a subsidized job or community service program paying the minimum wage.

Futures, a state program funded primarily by the federal government, has been doing close to what Clinton wants to achieve since it began in 1991.

The voluntary program designs individual plans for each participant and helps them with education or job-training skills. Support services, such as transportation or day care, are provided.

"We feel it is unique in its approach and hope it is a model for others," said Diane Patrick, program manager for Futures. She declined to comment Saturday on whether White House officials had contacted her about Clinton's visit.

Patrick said 240 persons had graduated since the program began in Jackson, Platte and Clay counties. About 1,100 people are in the program now, and about 600 are on waiting lists.

"We try to achieve long-term sufficiency," Patrick said.

The Futures program in Missouri was made possible ... passage of the Family Support Act of 1988.

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"Reforming our welfare system is a top priority of mine — and of the president's," Wheat said.

Kansas City Star
6/12/94

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Kansas City Star
6/12/94

Political and practical needs guide Clinton's return to Kansas City

By STEVE KRASKE
Political Correspondent

Presidents don't just drop into major cities. They have reasons — both practical and political — that dictate where they go.

President Clinton has a basketful of each as he prepares for his trip to Kansas City Tuesday.

The visit, which will feature the announcement of his national welfare reform plan, marks the second time Clinton has stopped here since April 7. It is unusual for a president to visit a city twice in only 10 weeks unless he is running for re-election.

But Kansas City Mayor Emanuel Cleaver and others said Sunday that compelling considerations drew Clinton back again.

"This is, in my estimation, the most natural spot for the president," Cleaver said.

Sparking Clinton's interest in Kansas City is the area's recep-

See CLINTON'S, A-6, Col. 1

Kansas City Star 6/12/94

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tiveness to welfare reform. A series of innovative programs are under way here, officials said, and the Missouri General Assembly this year passed a major welfare package similar to Clinton's.

"This is an easy place to kick it off," Woody Overton, who headed Clinton's 1992 Missouri campaign, said about the president's welfare plan, which is called the Work and Responsibility Act.

Gov. Mel Carnahan, a Democrat, said in an interview Sunday that he expected Clinton's team to incorporate ideas from the Missouri plan into the national effort.

"I think they recognize that this is a place where we have some welfare programs that work," he said.

Cleaver said he was told by White House officials Sunday that the president originally planned to give his speech in Wilmington, Del. But he changed his mind after reviewing Missouri's programs.

"It was the president's personal decision to come to Kansas City," the mayor said.

The president may have other reasons for traveling here. The trip gets him out of Washington, where he has taken a critical pounding in recent months, and into Missouri, which Clinton won handily in the 1992 presidential race.

And Clinton has close ties with Cleaver, Carnahan and U.S. Rep. Alan Wheat of Kansas City, a longtime welfare reform advocate.

One other residual benefit could be the boost in stature Clinton gives to Wheat, who is a candidate for the Democratic nomination to the U.S. Senate.

"I think it will dramatize Wheat's potential effectiveness in the Senate because it will show he already has the ear of the president," Cleaver said.

The Missouri race is considered a key battleground as Democrats struggle to maintain a S :

jority. One of Wheat's main Democratic rivals, Jackson County Executive Marsha Murphy, is expected to be invited to Tuesday's events.

But there is little doubt the main purpose of Tuesday's trip is to highlight the urgency of welfare reform. Improving the system has been a Clinton objective from the earliest days of his administration when he promised to "end welfare as we know it."

Wheat, who is sponsoring a welfare reform bill this year with other Democratic members of Congress, said some of Kansas City's welfare programs stand out because they involve public agencies working with private businesses. The arrangement ensures that graduates of welfare programs get jobs when they are ready.

Education and job training are necessary components of any welfare reform plan, Wheat said. "But if there's not a job waiting, all of this may be for naught."

One of those programs offered in Kansas City is called the 21st Century. It allows a person's welfare payments and the cash value of his food stamps to subsidize wages for jobs created in low-income neighborhoods.

Another program that Clinton reportedly will review in Kansas City is Futures, which designs individual plans for volunteer participants and helps them with education and job-training skills.

A similar program that has drawn the interest of the White House is the nearly 8-year-old Women's Employment Network that focuses heavily on employment preparation and self-esteem, said Beth K. Smith, the network's board chairwoman.

"It is a step back before you can go forward," Smith said. "All the skill training and job readiness in the world won't work unless a woman can get out of bed in the morning and have some sense she can do it."

Some details of the president's plan already have been released. Clinton wants to place a 24-month limit on cash benefits. Parents who exhaust their benefits and cannot find a job would be enrolled in a subsidized job or community service program that pays minimum wage.

The proposal that passed the General Assembly in Jefferson City this year calls for a written pact between the state and the welfare recipient. The recipient would have four years to reach agreed-upon goals or risk having benefits reduced.

President Clinton tentatively is scheduled to arrive at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday at the TWA Overhaul Base at Kansas City International Airport.

He will announce his welfare package in a speech at 12:30 p.m. at the Commerce Bank, 922 Walnut St.

The event is closed to the public. The White House said it would invite 250 people, including local, state and national welfare experts.

Also in the audience will be people who have successfully gotten off welfare and hold private jobs. Clinton may meet with them after his speech.

The president is scheduled to depart for Washington at 3:15 p.m.

AK. Kansas City Star
Sunday June 12 $1.50
Pg. 1 Above Fold

Clinton plans KC trip

A welfare-reform plan will be unveiled Tuesday. It's his second visit in 10 weeks.

By STEVE KRASKE
Political Correspondent

President Clinton will visit Kansas City on Tuesday to announce his plan to reform the nation's welfare system.

In his second trip to the city in 10 weeks, the president is expected to make a speech and possibly visit a worker retraining center.

U.S. Rep. Alan Wheat, whose office announced the trip, said the president would review the Futures program, which is aimed at helping Missouri families move off welfare.

"I'm proud that the president will be coming here to talk about his welfare-reform plan while learning about Kansas City's successful Futures program," Wheat said in a written statement.

The White House on Saturday would confirm only that Clinton would be in Kansas City. Details of the trip were to be released today.

It unclear Saturday why Clinton

See CLINTON, A-18, Col. 1

Clinton to visit Kansas City

Continued from A-1

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Kansas City Star
6/12/94

Welfare-to-work tales lead Clinton to Commerce Bank

By TED SICKINGER
Staff Writer

If you need to make an ATM withdrawal at 922 Walnut St. today, you had better think again.

The president is coming.

Commerce Bank of Kansas City will play host to 250 guests from across Kansas City and to 150 journalists from across the country as President Clinton unveils his welfare reform initiative there.

"Things are pretty exciting around here," said Jonathan M. Kemper, president and chief executive officer of Commerce Bank of Kansas City. "It's hard to imagine a more prestigious guest to have at the bank."

Nor one who involves so much preparation. Normal banking at that location will come to a halt. Staff members have been transferred to a neighboring branch to handle the overflow business that is anticipated as customers discover their branch has been overrun.

Why Commerce?

"Commerce is one of many organizations in Kansas City that have successfully hired people and moved them from welfare to work," said a White House aide who helped organize the president's visit. "We looked at a number of locations. Commerce worked logistically."

A White House advance team was sent out Friday to look at prospective speech sites. Its concerns included such logistics as security, acoustics, space available and the television friendliness of the podium from which the president will speak.

The White House team also considered Payless Cashways Inc., the Kansas City building-materials retailer, but quickly ruled it out for security reasons. Eleven floors of balconies surround the atrium where the president would have spoken.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch 6/15/94

C[illegible]nton's Plan Has Several Pitfalls, Welfare Recipients Say

By Roger Signor and Cynthia Todd
Of the Post-Dispatch Staff

President Bill Clinton's plan to reform welfare drew high marks from Missouri officials and experts for its emphasis on job-training prog[illegible]

But recipients of welfare here say that Clinton and the experts failed to recognize the dearth of jobs with decent pay and benefits.

Gary Stangler, head of Missouri's Department of Social Services, says Clinton's proposal reinforces the state's own plan to get people off welfare and into jobs.

Like Clinton's plan, the state's program puts a two-year limit on welfare payments. The state plan, passed by the Legislature earlier this year, will spend $16 million in state and federal money. Nearly half of that is earmarked for job-training and day care, state officials say.

"We agree with President Clinton in making teen-aged mothers the top priority in welfare reform," Stangler said in a telephone interview. "If we're going to break the cycle of dependency on welfare, that's where we're going to break it."

But young women who've been on welfare doubt the reform packages hold enough to break the cycle.

"The plan's not comprehensive enough — people need more than a job," says Robin Acree, a single parent who lives in Mexico, Mo. In two weeks, Acree, 33, will end eight years on the welfare rolls.

She said she's already done everything that Clinton is now asking. First, she got a loan to earn a bachelor's degree in communications from the University of Missouri at Columbia. Then, she got two part-time jobs that pay her about $1,400 a month.

That gets her off welfare. But it isn't enough to support herself and her three children, ages 16, 14 and 1[illegible]. She spends $1,050 a month for rent, utilities, food and her loan payments. On July 1, her income also makes her ineligible for Medicaid, the state-federal program that pays medical bills for the poor.

But she can't afford the $37[illegible] monthly premiums that private health insurance will cost her. Acree's premiums are high because she has a chronic health problem.

Two women from Pine Lawn say Clinton's approach won't work because jobs are too scarce and the ones that are available pay too little. Neither woman gets child support from the father of her child.

Carmen Bailey, 27, says she was trained by Grace Hill Neighborhood Center for a job with the center. But her $920-a-month income isn't enough to support her and her son, James, 8. "If I could get food stamps, we would make it — but my income makes me ineligible for the stamps," Bailey said.

[illegible] Jackson, 36, also took a loan to get training as a nurse's aide. She left the welfare rolls in the late 1980s after she got a job in a nursing home to support herself and her son, Cl[illegible], now 14.

[illegible] $1,000-a-month income was just enough to pay her rent, utilities and food bills, she said. But after she injured her back on the job, her employer replaced her. Now, she's back on welfare. She gets Medicaid and food stamps.

"Some people think living on welfare is easy — but it's hard," said Jackson, who gets $2[illegible] a month — enough only for rent and utilities. "I can't buy new shoes or clothes for my son."

Welfare

From page one

voluntary welfare-to-work plans already in place on a limited basis in Kansas City and other parts of Missouri.

He [illegible] before about 250 people in the lobby of the downtown headquarters of Commerce [illegible] one of Missouri's largest statewide [illegible]al firms. Commerce is among the [illegible]s City businesses hiring former welfare recipients through the state and local progr[illegible]

Among other elements in Clinton's plan:

■ An education campaign against the rising number of teen pregnancies, which the [illegible]dent noted is a key reason for the nation's welfare problem.

■ A system of government-subsidized jobs for people who can't get regular private-sector employment. Individuals would work either for government programs or businesses and nonprofit groups that would get subsidies to help pay them.

■ New tools to crack down on deadbeat fathers who fail to kick in child support payments, including wage garnishment and suspension of drivers licenses and a national "new hire" registry. Clinton said such fathers owe approximately $34 billion.

■ A requirement that hospitals establish paternity at birth and that a female welfare applicant name and find her child's father before she can receive benefits.

■ A requirement that unwed teen mothers live with their parents or with a responsible adult, while teen fathers may be required to work off what they owe in child support.

Clinton said there's no greater gap "between our good intentions and our misguided consequences" than in the welfare system.

For many, he said, the system has undermined "the very values that people need to put themselves and their lives back on track."

Before his speech, Clinton met with 10 former welfare recipients who got jobs in Kansas City through the state and local pilot programs.

One of them, Yolanda Magee, 31, a Commerce Bank research clerk, introduced Clinton to the crowd. "I would like to tell my generation a training program can be a step toward a better future," said Magee, a single mother who was on welfare for nine months.

Clinton said other changes are needed so people aren't penalized for leaving the welfare system for jobs — including increased child care aid for the working poor and his administration's health care plan.

That would guarantee such individuals health insurance coverage after they lose the Medicaid benefits they get while on welfare.

"Today you have this bizarre situation where people on welfare, if they take a job in a place which doesn't offer health insurance, are asked to give up their children's health care, and go to work earning money, paying taxes to pay for the health care" of people still on welfare, Clinton said.

"Until we fix that we will never close the circle and have a truly work-based system."

Among other speakers were Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, Gov. Mel Carnahan, Kansas City Mayor Emanuel Cleaver and Rep. Alan Wheat, D-Kansas City. Wheat is co-sponsor of another welfare reform plan pending in Congress that contains some of the ideas Clinton backs.

One of Wheat's major foes for the Democratic U.S. Senate nomination in the Aug. 2 primary, Jackson County Executive Marsha Murphy, did not speak but was introduced to the crowd by Carnahan.

At Carnahan's urging, the Missouri Legislature passed a new state welfare plan last month that has some of the same goals as Clinton's national proposal. One difference is that some recipients will be given a longer period of time — as long as four years — before they lose benefits.

Some politicians have expressed skepticism that the plan has much chance of passage this year because Congress already is knee-deep in Clinton's health care plan.

But a Clinton aide said the issue could catch fire this year since some Republicans haven't been sharply critical in initial comments. The aide, who requested anonymity, pointed out that Govs. Carroll Campbell, R-S.C., and John Engler, R-Mich., had joined two Democratic governors Thursday in calling Clinton's plan "a positive contribution to the welfare reform debate."

British MP's Guide Dog Is Politically Incorrect

LONDON (AP) — Lucy led her master astray on her debut in the House of Commons, leading a Labor Party leader to the Conservative benches.

"It's a Tory dog," one lawmaker shouted as the Labrador retriever guide dog went astray with David Blunkett, the Labor Party's spokesman on health. One of Blunkett's colleagues got them pointed in the right way.

Blunkett, who is blind, had the last laugh, twitting Conservatives for their poor showing in European assembly elections last week.

Springfield News-Leader
6/15/94

Missouri plan, Clinton's mesh, officials say

Both welfare-reform blueprints stress training over simply taking benefits.

Terri Gleich / News-Leader

JEFFERSON CITY — Missouri's new welfare reform plan and President Clinton's proposal to "end welfare as we know it" were made for each other, said Missouri's division of family services director.

"They share a lot of common themes," said Carmen Schulze, division director. "They both have an emphasis on responsibility, on the importance of family, and on wages not welfare."

Both the administration's plan — which Clinton revealed Tuesday in Kansas City — and the legislation approved by the Missouri General Assembly last month focus on providing welfare recipients with education, job training and transitional benefits to ease the shift from welfare to work.

Also, both require single, teen mothers to live with a parent or responsible adult to receive Aid to Families with Dependent Children.

But there are key differences. Clinton's proposal takes a harder line by setting a two-year limit on cash assistance for mothers who were born in 1972 or later. At the end of two years, the women would

See **WELFARE**, Page 11A

About the plan

- The White House estimates the work program will have 394,000 aid recipients enrolled by 2000, a drastic increase from the 15,000 currently enrolled in special work in some states now.
- The Clinton plan will cost about $9.3 billion over five years. About $7 billion will come from cuts in other social programs.

Some of the larger cutbacks — an estimated $3.7 billion — would come from tightening Social Security benefit payments and eligibility requirements for Food Stamp and Aid to Families with Dependent Children programs. About $800 million in Social Security benefits to drug addicts would also be cut.

And, in a move sure to anger environmentalists, much of the remaining cost would come from a corporate tax that's now earmarked for hazardous waste cleanup.

Bond, Emerson say plan stops short of fixing problem. **2B**

Springfield-News-Leader
6/15/94

OUR VIEW

Welfare reform needs faster start

The issue:

President Clinton's welfare reform proposal is an overly compromised first step.

We suggest:

The plan needs the faster, more encompassing approach favored by conservatives, tempered by liberals' protection for children and for the dignity of the poor who want to work.

Call in:

If you wish to record a comment on today's editorial, please call 836-1212 or 1-800-695-1779. Please spell your name and include a phone number.

A view of the News-Leader Editorial Board

President Clinton's welfare reform proposal has its heart in the right place, but its legs just aren't moving fast enough.

The $9.3 billion proposal, unveiled at Kansas City's Commerce Bank on Tuesday, does many of the right things. But it strives too much for compromise in the delicate balancing act that any welfare reform must achieve: making adults accountable without punishing children.

That creates a series of trade-offs:

■ It sets as a goal moving welfare recipients toward self-sufficiency, placing a two-year lifetime limit on cash benefits for single parents over 18. But it does so very slowly, meaning it will barely make a dent in welfare numbers until well into the next century.

■ Looking to the future, the job training portion of the proposal concentrates on women under 28. While that makes sense, liberal critics are right in arguing it writes off a whole generation.

■ It recognizes that child care is vital to women seeking to get off welfare. One-fourth of the program's money is dedicated to providing day care.

Still, there's a trade-off here. Day care and training programs take $7 billion of the program, leaving only $1.2 billion for the expensive subsidized jobs that would go to people unable to find work.

That's likely to create the same kind of frustrating waiting list experienced by Futures, Missouri's stab at moving welfare recipients into the work force. The voluntary program has many of the same features as Clinton's proposal.

■ Early reports of the proposal didn't mention family issues. But whatever welfare proposal comes out of Congress must eliminate the ridiculous rules that force families apart for economic reasons.

■ While welfare reform is necessary — a large majority of Americans believe it discourages poor people from seeking work — Clinton's proposal is tainted by the obvious political moves behind it. With an increasingly unpopular health care reform bill bogged down in Congress, he needed something salable for the fall's midterm elections.

Clinton at least has nudged the debate beyond the empty words from Democrats and Republicans that too often accompany talk of welfare reform.

Now, it's vital for them to improve on Clinton's proposal. If conservatives can speed up and extend reform's scope, while liberals protect it from the draconian, anti-child measures conservatives want, we can fix 30 years of welfare mistakes.

OPPOSING VIEW

President's plan neglects cost control, illegitimacy

By U.S. Rep. Mel Hancock

President Clinton promised to "end welfare as we know it." But, once again, his tough rhetoric does not match the program he has proposed. If anything, the Clinton plan defends welfare as we know it.

The administration plan is missing the four key elements of any genuine reform: getting welfare costs under control, discouraging illegitimacy, enacting honest work requirements, and cutting off benefits to noncitizens.

Republicans, always seeking to be constructive, have offered an alternative that contains these elements. The gap between the Clinton plan and Republican alternative, however, is wide.

The Clinton plan actually increases welfare spending by $9.5 billion. This is on top of the "war on poverty" begun in the 1960s already costing taxpayers $300 billion a year and rising.

The Republican alternative contains rock solid spending caps that save taxpayers $30 billion over five years.

The Clinton plan's answer to the exploding welfare caseload of single parents with children born out of wedlock is more value-free sex education and condom distribution (one of the root causes of promiscuity and illegitimacy). Clinton's "family caps" provision, which is supposed to discourage welfare mothers from having more children by limiting cash benefits, is canceled out by Clinton's allowing promiscuous welfare mothers additional food stamps, Medicaid coverage and public housing.

The Republican plan, on the other hand, cuts off all cash aid to minors, who, from this point forward, have children out of wedlock. States would also be allowed to raise the age cutoff and refuse benefits simply on the basis of illegitimacy.

On another front, the Clinton plan actually weakens existing work requirements. His plan exempts anyone over 29 from work, letting 80 percent of current welfare recipients off the hook.

The Republican plan doubles the number of individuals required to participate in a work program and focuses on getting mothers with school-age children in the work force so they can end their dependence. Republicans also consolidate federal job training programs and give states more flexibility in administering them.

The bottom line is that the American people want real, honest welfare reform. They want reform that costs taxpayers less money — not more. They want more than tough rhetoric and weak follow-through. If the president feels like keeping his word, Republicans stand ready to help him.

Rep. Mel Hancock represents southwest Missouri in Congress.

Springfield News-Leader 6/15/94

Welfare / State, Clinton plans 'fit'

Continued from 1A

lose their AFDC grants and be required to take a government-subsidized job if they can't find work in the private sector.

Missouri's program is not mandatory and there's a smaller penalty for failing to become self-sufficient after two to four years — a benefit reduction of about $60 a month.

The state's plan builds on a four-year-old program Missouri calls FUTURES.

About 6,500 of the 90,000 Missouri families on welfare participate in the program, which provides support services to help recipients find and keep jobs. Schulze anticipates adding 2,000 families to the program next year because of a $7.7 million budget boost.

The program has been available in Greene County since January 1992, said Pam Burrell, a FUTURES case manager in Springfield. She said 112 families have successfully completed the program and become self-sufficient. The total number of program participants since inception was unavailable.

Currently, 160 of 2,890 county families on AFDC are in the program.

Under the program AFDC recipients who spend at least [illegible] hours a week on schooling, job training, community service or searching for a job are eligible for extra aid for day care, transportation and other work-related expenses. Also, a case manager works [illegible] to help with obstacles they encounter.

The new state plan, which is awaiting final approval by Gov. Mel Carnahan, asks welfare recipients to negotiate individualized self-sufficiency pacts with the state. The pacts will spell out what a family needs to get off welfare within two to four years and will identify services the state will provide, such as child care, job training and transportation aid.

As an incentive to participate in the pacts, the bill allows those who do to have a car, up to $5,000 in property and to keep two-thirds of any wages they earn, without losing state aid.

Senate President Pro Tem Jim Mathewson, D-Sedalia, a sponsor of the welfare reform bill, estimated it will move 480 families off welfare in the 1996-97 budget year.

St. Joseph
News-Press
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Clinton discloses plan to fix welfare system

By JAMES FITZHENRY
News-Press Staff Writer

KANSAS CITY — Invoking the work ethic of Harry Truman, President Clinton on Tuesday unveiled a $9.3 billion welfare reform proposal that he says reflects the heartland values of the former president.

Clinton spoke in the Walnut Lobby of the Commerce Bank, where a young Truman worked as a bank teller for $20 a week before he went on to become president of the United States.

"I have come out here to the heartland of America to the bank where Harry Truman had his first job to talk about the values that sustain us all," Clinton said.

The key point of the welfare-to-work plan calls for recipients to enter into a contract to receive education and job training — and when a two-year period is up, they will have to go to work or lose their benefits.

The proposal also calls for tougher penalties for parents who don't pay child support. There is an estimated $34 billion in outstanding child support payments across the nation.

"This is an important date for me, because I have worked on this issue for about 14 years and I care very deeply

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Clinton discloses his welfare plan in Missouri

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about it," Clinton said. "We have to repair the damaged bond between our people and the government over how the welfare system works."

The president was accompanied by Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, and U.S. Reps. Pat Danner and Alan Wheat, Missouri Gov. Mel Carnahan and Kansas City Mayor Emanuel Cleaver, all Democrats.

The room was filled with invited guests and former welfare recipients who have received job training and gone back to work under a unique welfare program in Kansas City.

Clinton praised Carnahan for the progressive welfare reform bill that was passed by the Missouri General Assembly during its last session. Carnahan is expected to sign the bill soon.

Missouri's welfare law mirrors much of the president's plan.

Danner said she likes what she has seen of the proposal. The bill is expected to be formally introduced in Congress next week.

"We can't have generation after generation that think this is an appropriate way of life," she said.

Danner has been a proponent of cutting off welfare payments to aliens, which is one of the means to pay for the $9 billion plan over the next five years.

About $7 billion of the plan will be paid for by shuffling entitlement spending, with the rest of the funding coming from stepped up collections of child support payments.

The plan singles out the youngest mothers on the rolls of Aid to Families with Dependent Children, the joint federal-state welfare program that supports 5 million poor families.

Women born after 1971 would get the education, training, job placement and child-care services needed to become self-sufficient.

The plan also pours far more money into child care, education and training — a total of $7 billion over five years — than into subsidized jobs — just $1.2 billion.

Clinton said the reform will push 1 million people off the welfare rolls or into work by the end of the decade, and that child support collections would have doubled to $20 billion from $9 billion.

Those who fail to find work before their cash benefits run out would be required to take subsidized or community service jobs paying the minimum wage.

The plan does not raise taxes or increase the deficit. Clinton said that's important in the overall scheme of things.

"The Congress is putting the finishing touches on a new budget that will give us three years of declining deficits for the federal government for the first time since Harry Truman was president," he said.

State Rep. Gary Witt, D-Platte City, who was among the delegation of state officials invited to hear the president, said Clinton's speech hit many of the same topics debated before passage of Missouri's welfare law.

"I think the State of Missouri is going to be one leg up on the rest of the country when the federal law goes into effect," Witt said. "The goal is to get people off of welfare and into work."

Beyond his plan, the president said the real change will have to come in the individual decisions of millions of Americans to value both family and work.

He said there is no substitute for the family.

"We can no longer say the business of having a child into this world has no responsibility," Clinton said. "We have to encourage teen-age parents to live at home, not have the welfare system force them to move out. We have to change the signals we're sending."

The Associated Press contributed to this story.

PROOF of Story 'welfare' (#4190) Requested by RICH ($T205) on 6/15/94 16:05:10

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Joplin Globe
6/15/94

Clinton: Break

welfare cycle

$9.3 billion plan proposes

job training, limited benefits

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. -- President Clinton announced a $9.3 billion plan Tuesday to transform welfare from a check-writing system into a job training program for tens of thousands of single mothers.

''I really believe that we have a chance finally to replace dependence with independence, welfare with work,'' Clinton told former and current welfare recipients.

Eula Duncan, a mother of four who is trying to get off welfare and get a job, whispered ''Amen,'' as the president promised to give women on welfare a second chance and to get tough with the parents who refuse to support their children.

''We cannot permit millions and millions and millions of American children to be trapped in a cycle of dependency with people who are not responsible for bringing them into the world, with parents who are trapped in a system that doesn't develop their human capacity to live up to the fullest of their God-given abilities and to succeed as both workers and parents. We must break this cycle,'' he said.

Joplin Globe 6/15/94

The White House proposal would cut welfare benefits to immigrants, drug addicts and alcoholics, and would slash subsidies to wealthy farmers to finance its scaled-back and often-delayed plan.

The cornerstone of the president's plan is a two-year limit on cash benefits, an idea Clinton used to define himself as a new and centrist Democrat during his 1992 campaign.

But Tuesday's plan to translate his popular campaign promises to ''end welfare as we know it'' singles out the youngest mothers on the rolls of Aid to Families with Dependent Children, the joint federal-state welfare program that supports 5 million poor families.

And at the end of the decade, fewer than 8 percent of welfare recipients would actually be enrolled in a work program, although Clinton declared that his proposal would push 1 million parents into the work force by 2000.

The plan also pours far more money into child care, education and training -- a total of $7 billion over five years -- than into subsidized jobs, just $1.2 billion.

According to the proposal, women born after 1971 would receive the education, training, job placement and child-care services they need to become self-sufficient. Those who fail to find work before their cash benefits run out would be required to take subsidized or community service jobs paying the minimum wage.

Although they would be allowed to remain in the work program indefinitely, parents who refuse a private-sector job would be kicked out. Advocates for children and the poor say the plan does little to lift those participants out of poverty, and takes away the social safety net for children whose parents refuse to comply.

Joplin Globe 6/15/94

Alfreda Gipson, 28, a graduate of a Missouri training program who began work recently as a clerk-typist, said she never wanted to be on welfare. ''I did it for the medical benefits,'' she told reporters. ''The public thinks you make millions and millions of dollars. That's a lie.''

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Jefferson City News and Tribune 6/15/94

Clinton touts scaled-back welfare reform

WASHINGTON (AP) — Moving to redeem President Clinton's pledge to "end welfare as we know it," the White House today unveiled his $9.3 billion reform package imposing a two-year limit on cash benefits and steering aid recipients into the work force.

"Under the president's reform plan, welfare will be about a paycheck, not a welfare check," according to a summary of the plan obtained by The Associated Press.

The five-year plan, which Clinton will announce today in Kansas City, Mo., would largely be paid for by cutting social programs, especially aid to immigrants and the homeless. Subsidies to wealthy farmers would be cut at a savings of $500 million.

A huge chunk of the money — about $7 billion — would be spent on education, training and day care programs, with only $1.2 billion targeted for work programs.

The tilt away from jobs programs is expected to draw criticism.

Clinton's speech forum was the Commerce Bank, where Harry Truman once worked as a teller. Now, the bank is known for hiring people from training programs intended to move them from welfare to jobs.

More than a year in the making and long delayed in its presentation, Clinton's plan is intended to frame a national debate on welfare reform, a politically popular issue among Democrats and Republicans alike.

With health reform already clogging both houses of Congress, it's doubtful that welfare reform will be enacted this year even though there's strong support for change.

Polls find that the overwhelming majority of Americans are disgusted with the current welfare system; most people believe it discourages poor people from finding work.

Clinton said overhauling welfare is an issue that cuts across political lines. "This is something the Bubbas of America and the liberals can get together on," he said in an interview published this week by U.S. News & World Report magazine.

The centerpiece of Clinton's plan is a two-year limit on cash benefits for single parents 18 and older. The proposal singles out the youngest women on the rolls — those born after 1971 — for intense job training, placement and child care to help them prepare for the work force.

Parents who exhaust their cash benefits and are unable to find a job on their own would be enrolled

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☆Welfare

From page one

in a subsidized job or community service work that pays minimum wage. They would be allowed to remain in the work program indefinitely, as long as they were doing everything possible to find jobs.

Anyone who refuses a private sector job or fails to make a good faith effort to find work would lose welfare benefits.

Critics say the plan is phased in so gradually that it will be "well into the next century" before significant numbers of parents are required to work for their benefits, and that it writes off the generation of women born before 1971.

The administration estimates the subsidized work program would grow to 394,000 participants by 2000. That's up from 15,000 now, the White House said. If 5 million families were still on welfare by the end of the century, as they are now, just 8 percent would be enrolled.

House Republicans have written a plan providing at least 700,000 public service jobs.

A 32-member task force that shaped Clinton's plan had recommended an ambitious plan costing up to $15 billion, but that was scaled back when the president refused to raise taxes to pay for it.

Much of the money to finance Clinton's proposal comes from cuts in social spending, including a homeless prevention program, and restrictions on health and welfare benefits for legal immigrants whose relatives can afford to support them.

Some of the larger cuts include:

- $3.7 billion would come from tightening Social Security, Aid to Families with Dependent Children and food stamps sponsorship and eligibility rules for non-citizens. "Sponsors of legal aliens would bear greater responsibility for those whom they encourage to come to the U.S.," the document said.
- State spending on emergency homelessness programs would be capped, saving $1.6 billion. States have tended to use the program for non-emergency programs, the White House said.
- Social Security eligibility for drug and alcohol addicted recipients would be limited, saving $800 million.
- The earned-income tax credit, aimed at the working poor, would be denied to non-resident aliens, saving $300 million.

The program would cost $10.8 billion over five years, but $1.5 billion would be saved from caseload reductions and reduced fraud, the White House said.

Clinton welfare plan will cost $9.3 billion

The Associated Press

Moving to redeem President Bill Clinton's pledge to "end welfare as we know it," the White House today unveiled his $9.3 billion reform package imposing a two-year limit on cash benefits and steering aid recipients into the work force.

The president was to present the plan today in Kansas City. He was to address community leaders, welfare reform activists and former and current recipients of welfare early this afternoon at Commerce Bank in downtown Kansas City, the White House said.

Clinton picked Kansas City to unveil his package because a Missouri-sponsored pilot program called Futures, already in place in Kansas City, suggests what reforms might accomplish.

"Under the president's reform plan, welfare will be about a paycheck, not a welfare check," according to a summary of the plan obtained by The Associated Press.

The five-year plan would largely be paid for by cutting social programs, especially aid to immigrants and the homeless. Subsidies to wealthy farmers would be cut at a savings of $500 million.

A huge chunk of the money — about $7 billion — would be spent on education, training and day-care programs, with only $1.2 billion targeted for work programs.

The tilt away from jobs programs is expected to draw criticism.

Clinton's speech forum was the Commerce Bank, where Harry Truman once worked as a teller. Now, the bank is known for hiring people from training programs intended to move them from welfare to jobs.

More than a year in the making and long delayed in its presentation, Clinton's plan is intended to frame a national debate on welfare reform, a politically popular issue among Democrats and Republicans alike.

Polls find that the overwhelming majority of Americans are disgusted with the current welfare system; most people believe it discourages poor people from finding work.

Clinton said overhauling welfare is an issue that cuts across political lines. "This is something the Bubbas of America and the liberals can get together on," he said in an interview published this week by U.S. News & World Report magazine.

The centerpiece of Clinton's plan is a two-year limit on cash benefits for single parents 18 and older. The proposal singles out the youngest women on the rolls — those born after 1971 — for intense job training, placement and child care to help them prepare for the work force.

Columbia Daily Tribune
Columbia, MO
6-14-94

END

Cl nton to unve l proposal in KC

Plan would reform welfare

By The Associated Press

A welfare reform plan advanced by the Clinton administration that has drawn qualified support from the nation's mayors will be officially unveiled in Kansas City Tuesday, the White House announced Sunday.

President Clinton will make a brief visit to Kansas City to outline his plan. Clinton will fly in for a midday speech and immediately fly back to Washington after making his second visit to the area in 10 weeks.

News of the trip first came from U.S. Rep. Alan Wheat, a six-term Democratic congressman who is seeking to build statewide name recognition as he runs for the Senate seat of retiring Republican John Danforth.

Clinton will address community leaders, welfare reform activists and former and current recipients of welfare, the White House said. Otherwise, his visit is closed to the public.

Wheat said the president would review a Missouri program aimed at helping Missouri families move off welfare.

"I'm proud that the president will be coming here to talk about his welfare reform plan while learning about Kansas City's Futures program," Wheat said Saturday.

In magazine interviews released Saturday, Clinton said his reform plan to put a two-year limit on cash benefits for most adults and steer them to jobs would "make a dramatic difference."

The U.S. Conference of Mayors outlined "areas of concern" in Clinton's $9.3 billion plan in a resolution to be voted on during its

Please see **CLINTON**, Page 10A

Clinton: To unveil welfare reform plan

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annual meeting in Portland.

The mayors objected to cuts in entitlement programs and the treatment of community service jobs that could put welfare recipients to work. But they said they support Clinton's overall plan because it is "generally consistent" with their own previous proposals.

In an opening address Sunday, Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala told about 200 mayors that she anticipates great input from local officials as the plan moves through Congress. The administration plans to unveil the details Tuesday.

The heart of Clinton's plan is a 24-month limit on cash benefits for most adults on the rolls of Aid to Families with Dependent Children, the chief welfare program.

During his last visit to Kansas City in April, Clinton conducted a town hall meeting at a television station as part of his effort to boost his national health care reform plan.

That visit had political overtones because Clinton also stopped in Topeka, where he was photographed with Rep. Jim Slattery, D-Kan., who is a front-runner for the Democratic nomination for governor.

Wheat is fighting for his party's nomination to the U.S. Senate. An appearance with Clinton could boost his stature.

The Examiner
6/13/94

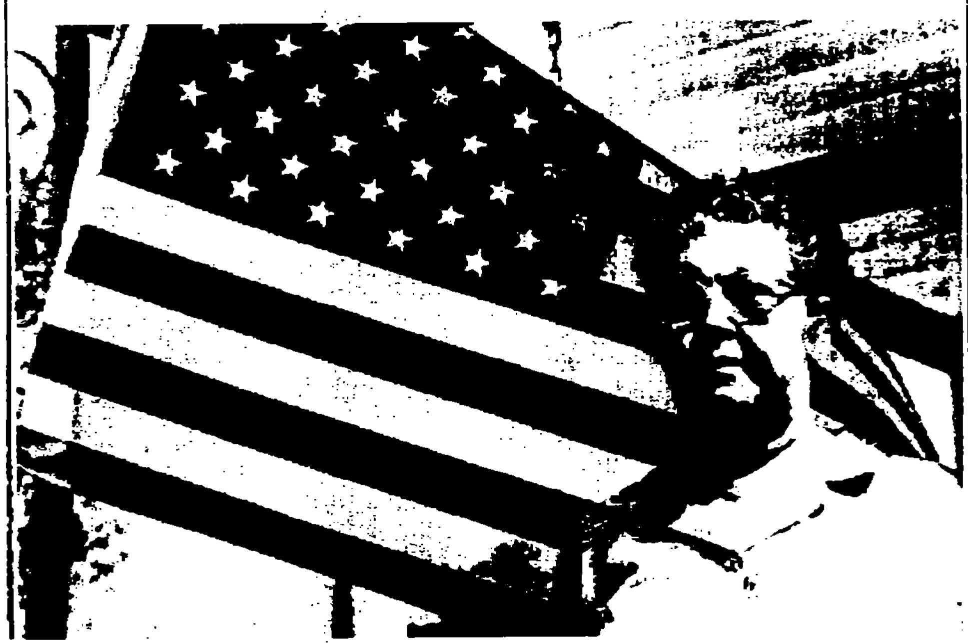
Kirksville Daily Express 6/14/94

KIRKSVILLE DAILY EXPRESS

And Kirksville Daily News

VOL. 93, NO. 139 TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 1994

Flag Day



Laughlin Plans To Close

Laughlin Pavilion psychiatric hospital announced it will stop admitting patients today and officially close on August 13, 1994.

The closing affects 98 employees.

The licensed, full-service 119-bed psychiatric hospital is operated by National Medical Enterprises, Inc. The company also operated Kirksville Osteopathic Medical Center, which will remain open and is unaffected by today's announcement.

"Our decision to close Laughlin Pavilion in no way affects our close association with Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine," said Barry P. Schooet, president and chief operating officer of NME's Hospital Division.

NME previously announced its intent to divest its psychiatric hospital business and accounted for it as a discontinued operation as of Nov. 30, 1993. Since then the company has been focusing on its [illegible] facility.

Employees impacted by the closing will receive severance benefits, including outplacement counseling and related services.

Laughlin made a series of cuts in recent years. They are as follows: 30 positions, January, 1991; 17 positions, January 1992; 17 positions, Feb, 1992, and 13 positions, June 1994. Hours of 15 employees were reduced in the June 1993 downsizing and three in-patient units were consolidated on the first floor, rather than on three floors, providing a total 49 in-patient beds.

Laughlin Pavilion was one of nine of 61 NME psychiatric hospitals raided in August 1993 by FBI agents in part of a nationwide search of facilities owned or leased by NME. The search warrants which were executed were part of an ongoing investigation into possible criminal misconduct on the part of the psychiatric hospital [illegible] eral's office launched a sweeping investigation to the operations of psychiatric hospitals across Texas. Patient complaints about practices at the Colonial Hills Hospital led to state hearings that focused nationwide attention on NME's sprawling psychiatric operations. These hearing culminated in a $9 million civil settlement in 1992 with the Texas attorney general. And in November 1993, NME announced it agreed to plead guilty to federal criminal charges and to pay $2 million to settle government claims involving its closed psychiatric hospital in San Antonio.

Laughlin closed its Columbia Cope Care site in May 1991 after irregularities were exposed in its operation. Laughlin Administrator Jim LeBaron said irregularities were corrected and cited the soft economy and cuts in health care as reasons for its closing.

NME put the psychiatric opera- [illegible]

Kirksville
Daily Express 6/14/94

Clinton Proposes Scaled-Down Welfare Plan

WASHINGTON (AP)—Moving to redeem President Clinton's pledge to "end welfare as we know it," the White House today unveiled his $9.3 billion reform package imposing a two-year limit on cash benefits and steering aid recipients into the work force.

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Parents who exhaust their cash benefits and are unable to find a job on their own would be enrolled in a subsidized job or community service work that pays minimum wage. They would be

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Welfare

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Anyone who refuses a private sector job or fails to make a good faith effort to find work would lose welfare benefits.

Critics say the plan is phased in so gradually that it will be "well into the next century" before significant numbers of parents are required to work for their benefits, and that it writes off the generation of women born before 1971.

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Blue Springs Examiner
6/15/94

Education key factor in welfare reform

Plan would cost $9.3 billion

By The Associated Press

Whatever the chances that President Clinton's welfare reform plan will succeed, he seems to have one thing pegged: Most people on welfare would love to get off.

They're just not sure his plan gives them enough time. Its cornerstone is a two-year limit on cash benefits.

"Two years would cut off the ones who will take a little longer," said Cynthia Reese of Kansas City. "Everybody has a different situation, and it takes longer than two years if you want to get through certain barriers."

Clinton unveiled his proposed a $9.3 billion program to move people from welfare to jobs on Tuesday at a press conference in Kansas City. Most of the money — about $7 billion — would be spent on education, training and day-care programs, and $1.2 billion would be targeted for work programs.

Portions of his plan would require more responsibility for welfare recipients, increasing child support collection and decreasing teen-age pregnancies.

Reese, 34, had worked steadily since age 17. But four years ago, newly divorced and with three children to support, she went on public aid.

She finally fought her way off welfare with the help of Missouri's Futures program, begun in 1992. The program paid Reese's child care and transportation costs so she could attend a community college.

Like the Clinton proposal, Futures requires people to sign a plan for moving off welfare. But it has no time limit, which pleases Alfreda Gipson of Kansas City, another graduate who is now a typist in the program's offices.

Gipson spent eight years on welfare. She said she was forced to public assistance when she had to choose between medicine for her infant son and buying a bus pass to get to her job.

"I knew I didn't want to be on (welfare)," she said. "I did it for the medical benefits. The public thinks you make millions and millions of dollars. That's a lie."

She added, "Two years and out, I don't agree with. It didn't take me that long, but some people don't have the ability to grab that (opportunity)."

Blue Springs Examiner
6/14/94

Clinton's visit not an accident

By Doug Glass
The Associated Press

The architects of Missouri's welfare reform legislation say it's no accident that President Clinton chose Kansas City as the place to unveil his own package of reforms today.

"I think the president is coming someplace where (welfare) works, and the prospects for the future are bright," said Gary Stangler, director of the state Department of Social Services.

Gov. Mel Carnahan hasn't yet signed the welfare reform bill the General Assembly passed May 10, but it's expected he will. Money already has been set aside for the reforms in the state budget that takes effect July 1, Stangler said.

Clinton said Saturday that he wants a two-year limit on cash payments to welfare recipients.

Such a limit is at the heart of the Missouri reforms.

Recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children would sign an agreement to move off welfare over two years. During that time, the person would receive job training and greater short-term assistance.

Those refusing to go along with the plan or violating the terms of their agreement would face cuts in their monthly benefits.

The bill also offers $5 million in tax credits to businesses that invest in poor areas; requires teenagers to be enrolled in school to qualify for AFDC payments; and makes grandparents liable for child support if their teen-age son or daughter doesn't take care of their children.

"I think Missouri reached a balance between requiring responsibility and giving tools to get people there," said state Rep. Joe Maxwell, who sponsored Missouri's legislation in the House.

Blue Springs Examiner
6/13/94

President will talk welfare during visit to Kansas City

By The Associated Press

A welfare reform plan advanced by the Clinton administration that has drawn qualified support from the nation's mayors will be officially unveiled here tomorrow, the White House announced Sunday.

President Clinton will make a brief visit to Kansas City to outline his plan. Clinton will fly in for a midday speech and immediately fly back to Washington after making his second visit to the area in 10 weeks.

News of the trip first came from U.S. Rep. Alan Wheat, a six-term Democratic congressman who is seeking to build statewide name recognition as he runs for the Senate seat of retiring Republican John Danforth.

Clinton will address community leaders, welfare reform activists and former and current recipients of welfare, the White House said. Otherwise, his visit is closed to the public.

Wheat said the president would review a Missouri program aimed at helping Missouri families move off welfare.

"I'm proud that the president will be coming here to talk about his welfare-reform plan while learning about Kansas City's Futures program," Wheat said Saturday.

In magazine interviews released Saturday, Clinton said his reform plan to put a two-year limit on cash benefits for most adults and steer them to jobs would "make a dramatic difference."

The U.S. Conference of Mayors outlined "areas of concern" in Clinton's $9.3 billion plan in a resolution to be voted on during its annual meeting in Portland.

The mayors objected to cuts in entitlement programs and the treatment of community service jobs that could put welfare recipients to work.

In an opening address Sunday, Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala told about 200 mayors that she anticipates great input from local officials as the plan moves through Congress. The administration plans to unveil the details tomorrow.

The heart of Clinton's plan is a 24-month limit on cash benefits for most adults on the rolls of Aid to Families with Dependent Children, the chief welfare program.

During his last visit to Kansas City in April, Clinton conducted a town hall meeting at a television station as part of his effort to boost his national health-care reform plan.

After Year Of Preparation, Welfare-Reform Plan Unve

By Ron Suskind

Staff Reporter of The Wall Street Journal
KANSAS CITY, Mo. -- President Clinton's welfare-reform

, unveiled here after nearly a year of preparation, illustrates how lofty rhetoric can be throttled in an era of budget austerity.

"None of this will be easy to accomplish," Mr. Clinton at a Kansas City bank where Harry Truman once worked, striking a more cautious tone on welfare reform than during his presidential campaign. "But we have to make a beginning. We can't let millions continue in a cycle of dependency."

Mr. Clinton's plan, which wraps an array of programs around a maximum of two years of welfare benefits without work, is already being attacked as being too slow in completion and too gentle in design to repair a flawed welfare system that most agree is causing more damage than good. The attacks are mostly coming from the political right, which saw one of its natural "get tough" issues seized by Mr. Clinton with his dramatic campaign pledge to "end welfare as we know it."

With more money, he might have come closer to delivering that bold promise -- and winning an outright political victory. But the president's desire to avoid new taxes and on politically acceptable cuts in other antipoverty programs to pay for his proposals has resulted in a program that will at best gradually change the lives of a record 14 million Americans on welfare.

The Clinton welfare plan -- the legislation for which will be sent to Congress in a few weeks -- will involve less than half of all recipients by the year 2000, and leave thinly funded a variety of hoped-for provisions such support of two-parent families and child care for the working poor.

Still, as the congressional battle over welfare commences, Mr. Clinton appears to be assured of getting credit for offering a basic package that will most likely be passed -- probably by next year's Congress rather than the current one -- in some recognizable form.

A reform proposal by House Democrats and another by moderate Republicans are both built around a two-year limit similar to one in the Clinton plan. But both would be phased in faster by relying on sharp cuts in programs to immigrants that could yield nearly $20 billion for new programs. The administration also proposed cuts in benefits to immigrants, but only at onefifth the level of congressional proposals.

In Washington news conferences and news releases, congressional Republicans were chiefly critical of the president's plan as a "jobs program," though a House GOP alternative would provide many more such public-service jobs to beneficiaries forced from the welfare rolls. They also complained that the president's proposal doesn't cut off additional benefits to mothers who have children while on welfare, or cut off payments entirely to alcohol and drug addicts and legal aliens.

Mr. Clinton also drew criticism from his own party. Iowa . T ı Harkin, typically a liberal, attacked the administration plan as too liberal for not seeking to force people off welfare before two years.

The Clinton plan, which would cost $9.3 billion over five years, would include only those born after 1971 -- about 2.4 million adults by the year 2000, or about half of the total projected case load. The remaining recipients would mostly receive what they are getting now: continuing benefits with training and placement programs that would get some additional funding. While politicians have attacked the slow phasing, most welfare experts are more forgiving about the reason: No one is quite sure what works in moving recipients from welfare to independence.

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Gates Gets The Presidential Nod

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) No one escapes the greeting boomed at customers of Gates & Sons Bar-B-Q, not even President Clinton.

``HI, MAY I HELP YOU?" reverberated through the restaurant during Clinton's brief visit to Kansas City Tuesday, which included
a luncheon stop at Gates.

``He took the mixed plate," said Arzelia Gates, the catering manager. Ribs, ham, beef, bread and fries, washed down with red soda, said owner Ollie Gates, who sat at Clinton's table along with U.S. congressional members Alan Wheat and Pat Danner.

It was a big moment for the Kansas City barbecue scene, particularly for Gates. Fifteen years ago, former President Jimmy Carter ate ribs at Arthur Bryant's;

``Finally, a president comes around to Gates," Ollie Gates crowed as Clinton left about 2:30 p.m.

Clinton has reportedly favored Ricky's Pit Bar-B-Que in Kansas City, Kan.

Both Ricky's and Gates supplied food for the president's traveling party earlier Tuesday.

----> Governor's Son Arrested for Driving While Intoxicated

ST. CHARLES, Mo. (AP) Gov. Mel Carnahan's youngest son, Thomas, is scheduled to appear in traffic court here June 27 on charges of driving while intoxicated.

St. Charles County authorities said Thomas Sidney Carnahan, 25, of Rolla, was stopped late Sunday in Lake St. Louis after a deputy spotted him driving erratically. They said a Breathalyzer test showed he was legally drunk.

Carnahan, who was arrested on a similar charge three years ago, posted a $5,000 bond and was released.

The younger Carnahan was charged with driving while intoxicated in Columbia in August 1991. Boone County Circuit Court officials said he was convicted of DWI and careless and imprudent driving in January 1992. He was fined $500, ordered to attend classes for DWI offenders and placed on two years' probation.

The maximum penalty for a second DWI offense is a year in and a $1,000 fine.

In a statement Monday afternoon in Jefferson City, Gov. Carnahan said the incident was ``obviously a tragic episode in Tom's life. He fully understands the gravity of the situation, and he deeply regrets what has occurred.

``As a father, I am committed to helping my son get through this difficult time," the governor said.

Thomas Carnahan is the youngest of the governor's four children. He is a law student at the University of Missouri.

---> Veteran Sen. Norman Merrell Dead of Cancer at 70

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) Battling the ravages of cancer, Sen. Norman Merrell took a non-prescription tonic of personal politicking and crafting Missouri's $12.3 billion budget.

As Senate Appropriations chairman, the veteran Democrat put a big imprint on the state spending plan including, for example, major funding for airport improvements in Monticello, his northeast Missouri hometown.

But Merrell didn't last to see the state budget kick in July 1. He died of cancer at age 70 on Tuesday just a month and a day past the session's final gavel in the Senate, where he had served since January 1971.

Merrell was diagnosed with colon cancer a year ago. By late January, chemotherapy had the cancer in remission.

He didn't go on the Senate floor until the session was about three weeks old. When he did, it was with an oxygen machine, hooked up because his lung collapsed. The hine's quiet purr became part of the soundscape of appropriations hearings and floor debate.

Merrell entered the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., last Saturday. He died Tuesday afternoon at the clinic's St. Mary's Hospital, with his wife nearby.

Besides his wife, Merrell is survived by two children and five grandchildren. Funeral arrangements were incomplete Tuesday night.

---> Danforth, Bond Took Nine Expense-Paid Trips in 1993

WASHINGTON (AP) Financial disclosure forms show Mi uri Republican Sens. Christopher Bond and John Danforth took nine trips paid for by others in 1993.

Danforth listed four expense-paid trips in 1993, including a Jan. 9-15 visit to Jamaica, for a conference on Russia and the Ukraine paid for by the Aspen Institute. Hotel and meal expenses were included.

B d listed five trips, including the well-publicized Se ors' Ski Cup in Park City, Utah, Jan. 14-17 with his wife.

The documents released Tuesday show Danforth remained among the Senate's wealthiest members in 1993, while Bond's assets and income were a bit more on the modest side.

One thing they had in common was a Senate salary of $133,600.

Danforth, a grandson of the founder of Ralston-Purina Co. who is retiring after three terms, listed several trusts that manage a diverse portfolio of investments for him, some valued at more than $1 million each.

Danforth listed no liabilities, took no honoraria for speeches and accepted a single gift, a $600 crystal bowl from the Suffolk University Law School Association for which he obtained an Ethics Committee waiver.

Bond donated $7,500 in honoraria to charities for seven speeches made in 1993, most of them in Washington.

Bond's liabilities included two bank loans of between $50,001 and $100,000 and a car loan of between $10,001-$15,000.

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(ndy) (ATTN: National editors) (Includes optional trims)

Clinton Introduces His Plan to Fix Welfare Woes (Kansas City)

By Susan Page= (c) 1994, Newsday=

KANSAS CITY, Mo. President Clinton Tuesday unveiled a scaled-down $9.3 billion plan to ``end welfare as we know it," an expansive and popular campaign pledge that has proven remarkably difficult to fulfill.

``There is no greater gap between our good intentions and our misguided consequences than you see in the welfare system," Clinton told an audience that included current and former welfare recipients. He said he would submit legislation within a few days to change welfare ``from a system based on dependence" to one that would use time limits to steer and then force some recipients into the workplace.

But the proposal on an issue that helped Clinton portray himself as ``a different kind of Democrat" drew immediate fire from Republicans and conservative Democrats. They argued it amounted to little more than tinkering with a system that has inspired disdain and frustration among many Americans, including some of those who benefit from it.

``This is classic Clinton, except to the nth degree: Over-promise, under-deliver, and then try to fudge the difference," said William Bennett, former education secretary and drug czar in Republican administrations who now heads an advocacy group called Empower America. ``What we've got here is marginal tinkering which will cost more money."

Li s were not especially happy either. New York's Gov. Mario Cuomo issued a two-page written statement that pra Clinton for some of the welfare-to-work provisions, but criticized his proposal to pay for them by cutting other benefits for the poor and for legal immigrants. ``I am disappointed that the administration not resisted the urge to capitalize on the current tide of anti-immigrant sentiment," he said.

The Clinton package is likely to face a logjam on Capitol Hill, where the key committees already are struggling to enact a health care plan this year. House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt, D-Mo., and administration offi conceded Tuesday that action on welfare probably won't take place until next year.

But working in its favor is widespread dismay over a welfare system that has fostered generations of dependency and even encouraged pregnancies among unwed teen-agers. While proposed prescriptions differ, more than eight in 10 A icans told a CNN-Time survey last month that the system needed reform.

The White House calculates that fewer than half of all welfare families would be subject to the new work rules by the year 2000, and only a fraction 331,000 out of 5.7 million actually would be pushed off the public dole by that time. Others would be in exempt categories or would be working in publicly subsidized jobs.

But administration officials portrayed the plan as a r dical start to changing a ``culture of dependency" to a system that would encourage and, eventually, require recipients to work for a paycheck instead of cashing a benefits check.

``Today we have to restore faith in the beginning in certain basic principles that our forebears took for granted the bond of family, the virtue of community, the dignity of work," Clinton said, standing in the lobby of the Commerce Bank, where President Truman once worked as a clerk. The bank now participates in local and state programs that help welfare recipients get jobs.

(Begin optional trim)

If Clinton's proposal was enacted:

Welfare recipients born after 1971 would face a limit of two years of cash benefits; then they would have to get a private-sector job or accept a community service job. To help them, the plan would spend $4.8 billion over five years to provide child care and another $2.8 billion on job training and education. Older recipients would not be subject to the time limit.

The government would spend $1.2 billion over five years to subsidize 350,000 community-service jobs. But officials conceded that number could swell if private jobs prove harder to get than expected, and recipients could continue to work in the subsidized jobs indefinitely.

More aggressive efforts would be made to get parents to pay child support, including requiring hospitals to establish paternity at birth and withholding wages of ``deadbeat dads." A national child support clearinghouse would track errant parents across state lines.

A national campaign against teen-age pregnancy would require teen-age mothers to stay in school, identify their child's father and live at home or with a responsible adult in order to receive benefits.

States would be given new flexibility to experiment, including measures that would cut off additional benefits for mothers who have children while on welfare.

(End optional trim)

To pay for the plan, the administration proposed an odd combination of budget cuts and revenues ``cats and dogs," one administration official called them put together after Clinton decided not to propose any new taxes. The biggest single component, $3.7 billion, would come from limiting benefit payments to legal aliens.

More than $2 billion would come from caps and cuts on federal assistance programs for the poor and $500 million would be trimmed from agricultural subsidies. Another $1.6 billion would be ``borrowed" from the Superfund, collected to pay for environmental cleanup.

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(ATTN: National editors) (Includes optional trims)
Clinton Unveils Welfare Reform That Emphasizes Jobs
(Kansas City)
By Elizabeth Shogren= (c) 1994, Los Angeles Times=

KANSAS CITY, Mo. Decrying the ``cycle of dependency" that keeps millions of Americans on welfare rolls for years, President Clinton unveiled Tuesday a $9.3 billion reform initiative that would impose a two-year limit on cash benefits and require younger recipients to find work themselves or take a government job.

``We propose to offer people on welfare a simple contract," Clinton said during an address in the lobby of a Kansas City bank where Harry Truman once worked where former welfare recipients have become productive wage-earners.

``We will help you get the skills you need," Clinton said. ``But after two years, anyone who can go to work must go to work, in the private sector, if possible, in a subsidized job, if necessary. But work is preferable to welfare, and it must be enforced."

If his package is enacted, the president said, 1 million people who would otherwise be unemployed and receiving welfare benefits will be holding jobs by the year 2000. That would represent roughly one in five all adults who now receive Aid to Families with Dependent Children. Clinton's plan applies only to AFDC, and not to Food Stamps or other programs for the needy.

The initiative is designed to flesh out Clinton's campaign promise to ``end welfare as we know it" by addressing some of the factors that tend to make public assistance more attractive than gainful employment to recipients, particularly single mothers. Welfare reform is considered a central element of Clinton's ``New Democrat" agenda, which attempts to find common ground between traditional liberal and conservative approaches to social policy.

``Work," the president declared in the lobby of Commerce Bank, ``is the best social program our country has ever devised."

(Begin optional trim)

But White House officials acknowledge that the initiative probably will languish until the fate of Clinton's health care reform campaign is resolved. Moreover, concerns about the cost of the welfare package and the eventual scope of its public employment provisions could endanger passage in an era of tight budgets and public skepticism about big social programs.

The welfare initiative attempts to discourage long-term dependency by extending both a carrot and a stick: Welfare recipients would be provided with additional education, training, job placement services and child care to help them become self-sufficient. But if they failed to play by the new rules, they could see their benefits reduced or cut off.

But in taking a ``tough love" approach to dependency, it must overcome a significant obstacle that has blocked reform efforts: In most cases, it costs the government less money to simply send checks to unemployed welfare beneficiaries than to provide the kind of training, subsidies and public sector jobs needed to turn them into wage-earners.

(End optional trim)

Under the Clinton plan, public sector jobs would be provided to participants who hit the two-year time limit without finding work in the private sector. Commerce Bank, for example, is active in a city program that trains and places Missouri welfare recipients in private jobs.

Clinton said his plan makes it clear that both parents will be held responsible for the welfare of their children. It would emphasize establishment of paternity, and crack down on fathers who fail to provide mandated child support. It includes measures to discourage teen pregnancy and illegitimacy, which Clinton says have contributed to welfare dependency.

``Children should not be born until parents are married and fully capable of taking care of them," the president said.

Most of the plan's provisions would apply only to adult recipients born after 1971, who represent the youngest one-third of the total adult AFDC population of 5 million. The age threshold is intended to reduce the total cost and lighten the administrative burden imposed on states, which would be required to create hundreds of thousands of education, training and subsidized-work slots.

The president said he would introduce his legislation in the next few days. It already faces competition from several congressional proposals that represent different visions of welfare reform. Liberals tend to oppose the proposed time limit as too severe, while conservatives argue that the Clinton plan does not do enough to discourage illegitimacy.

In unveiling his proposal, Clinton stressed that it must be accompanied by health care reform. Without universal health coverage, he said, welfare recipients will continue to be faced with an unacceptable trade-off: If they leave welfare for a low-wage job, they probably will have to give up the medical coverage the government provides them and their children.

The plan calls for no tax increases to finance welfare reform. Instead, the president proposed to offset its costs largely through reductions in entitlement programs targeted at the poor. The largest portion, an estimated $3.7 billion over five years, would come from denial of public assistance to non-citizens. Immigrants whose sponsors earn more the median income, now about $40,000, would not qualify for such benefits unless they become citizens.

Another $1.6 billion would come from capping AFDC's emergency assistance program, which states use at their own discretion to help poor people and the remainder would come from offsets from an assortment of programs.

(Optional add end)

The Clinton plan would require hospitals to devise procedures to establish paternity when possible. Tougher child support regulations, including a national clearinghouse to track fathers who fail to make their payments, would cause government child support collections to more than double, Clinton said. New teen pregnancy prevention programs would be established in 1,000 middle schools and high schools in disadvantaged neighborhoods.

To discourage recipients from having babies, mothers of infants would be exempt from work requirements for only 12 months after the birth of their first babies, and just three months for subsequent births. Under current law, the grace period is three years.

States would be allowed to impose restrictions to prevent parents from receiving additional benefits by having more children. That concept is opposed by liberals, who argue that it will punish children without really discouraging women from having more.

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bc-welfare-post
(wap) (ATTN: National editors)
GOP Blasts Clinton Welfare Overhaul (Washn)
By Ruth Marcus and Dan Balz= (c) 1994, The Washington Post=

WASHINGTON President Clinton Tuesday called for a welfare overhaul that will begin to require recipients to go to work, but Republicans immediately lambasted the plan for falling far short of his pledge to ``end welfare we know it."

Clinton unveiled his plan in Kansas City, Mo., and at this late date it virtually has no chances of passage in Congress this year. But in offering the plan now, Clinton hoped to redeem his image as a ``New Democrat," and put his stamp on an issue that Democrats are trying to make their own.

``We propose to offer people on welfare a simple c ract," Clinton said. ``We will help you get the skills you need, but after two years anyone who can go to work must go to work in the private sector if possible, in a subsidized job if necessary. But work is preferable to welfare. And it must be enforced."

Republicans denounced Clinton's plan, signaling both their differences over the specifics of what he proposed and their fears he may be stealing a potent issue from them

The president faced criticism from the left and right Tuesday, as a long-simmering political debate broke into public view. But liberal critics were drowned out by a Republican chorus that portrayed Clinton's plan as a political impostor.

``It is timid, it is weak, it does not address the central issue," said William Bennett, a leading conservative who advocates a far more radical approach.

In unveiling the plan, expected to cost $9.3 billion over five years and to be paid for in part by cuts in other social programs, Clinton stressed themes of personal responsibility and moral values that resonated with voters during the presidential campaign and that he has been trying to return to as president.

The plan falls short of Clinton's 1992 pledge to ``end welfare as we know it," but White House officials were betting it was enough to satisfy, as a first step at least, the public's desire to overhaul a system widely seen as broken.

``The president's plan reflects the public mood, which is not to abolish welfare as the right would do, but replace it with a social policy based on work," said Will Marshall, president of the Progressive Policy Institute.

Clinton emphasized that one of the keys to fixing welfare is to discourage teen-age pregnancies that are propelling a growing number of young mothers onto the welfare rolls.

``We cannot permit millions and millions and millions of American children to be trapped in a cycle of dependency with people who are not responsible for bringing them into the world, with parents who are trapped in a system that doesn't develop their human capacity to live up to the fullest of their God-given abilities and to succeed as both workers and parents," Clinton said. ``We must break this cycle."

Clinton spoke in the somewhat unlikely setting of the lobby of a bank here, where Harry S. Truman had his first job as a clerk. The bank now helps welfare recipients enter the job market as part of a state welfare-to-work program.

The plan, to be implemented in 1996, is an effort to transform the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program, the main federal welfare program, which primarily assists single mothers. Clinton ruled out new taxes to pay for reform and decided to fund it by reducing benefits to legal immigrants and making other cuts in existing programs.

The program is designed to spur recipients to get off welfare by requiring them to participate in job-training and -placement programs, cutting off cash benefits to most welfare mothers after two years, and providing subsidized jobs for those who are unable to find other work after that time.

But because of financial constraints and political realities, the overhaul was scaled back dramatically from the larger program originally envisioned by Clinton's advisers, who originally had proposed a $15 billion plan.

``The president is brilliant at describing a Ferrari, but his staff continues to deliver a Yugo," said House Minority Whip Newt Gingrich, R-Ga.

``The president's proposal is both intellectually and substantively behind the curve," said William Kristol, a conservative theoritican in a memo sent to Republicans and the media this week. He added, ``We should make plain what this welfare proposal amounts to: marginal tinkering. ...
"

The tougher restrictions in Clinton's plan would apply only to those born after 1971 meaning that only one-third of those projected to be on the welfare rolls in 1996, when the program is implemented, would be affected by the two-year lifetime limit. By the year 2000, half of those on welfare would be covered and by 2004, two-thirds would be covered.

The Clinton program envisions creating 400,000 community-service or subsidized private-sector jobs by the 2000 far fewer than many welfare-reform advocates believe is necessary to end dependence on the welfare system and a fraction of the 1.5 million jobs that Clinton advisers discussed during the transition. A rival Republican plan would provide at least 700,000 jobs.

In addition to the high cost of maintaining a large jobs program, one obstacle the administration encountered while designing its program was opposition from public-employee unions concerned about creating jobs at the cost of union members.

Economy: Clinton Unveils Welfare-Reform Plan That Is Limited by Budget Austerity — By Ron Suskind
Staff Reporter of The Wall Street Journal

KANSAS CITY, Mo. -- President Clinton's welfare-reform plan, unveiled here after nearly a year of preparation, illustrates how lofty rhetoric can be throttled in an era of budget austerity.

"None of this will be easy to accomplish," Mr. Clinton said at a Kansas City bank where Harry Truman once worked, striking a more cautious tone on welfare reform than during his presidential campaign. "But we have to make a beginning. We can't let millions continue in a cycle of dependency."

Mr. Clinton's plan, which wraps an array of programs around a maximum of two years of welfare benefits without work, is already being attacked as being too slow in completion and too gentle in design to repair a flawed welfare system that most agree is causing more damage than good. The attacks are mostly coming from the political right, which saw one of its natural "get tough" issues seized by Mr. Clinton with his dramatic campaign pledge to "end welfare as we know it."

With more money, he might have come closer to delivering on that bold promise -- and winning an outright political victory. But the president's desire to avoid new taxes and rely on politically acceptable cuts in other antipoverty programs to pay for his proposals has resulted in a program that will at best gradually change the lives of a record 14 million Americans on welfare.

The Clinton welfare plan -- the legislation for which will be sent to Congress in a few weeks -- will involve less than half of all recipients by the year 2000, and leave thinly funded a variety of hoped-for provisions such as support of two-parent families and child care for the working poor.

Still, as the congressional battle over welfare commences, Mr. Clinton appears to be assured of getting credit for offering a basic package that will most likely be passed -- probably by next year's Congress rather than the current one -- in some recognizable form.

A reform proposal by House Democrats and another by moderate Republicans are both built around a two-year limit similar to one in the Clinton plan. But both would be phased in faster by relying on sharp cuts in programs to immigrants that could yield nearly $20 billion for new programs. The administration also proposed cuts in benefits to immigrants, but only at onefifth the level of congressional proposals.

In Washington news conferences and news releases, congressional Republicans were chiefly critical of the president's plan as a "jobs program," though a House GOP alternative would provide many more such public-service jobs to beneficiaries forced from the welfare rolls. They also complained that the president's proposal doesn't cut off additional benefits to mothers who have children while on welfare, or cut off payments entirely to alcohol and drug addicts and legal aliens.

Mr. Clinton also drew criticism from his own party. Iowa Sen. Tom Harkin, typically a liberal, attacked the administration plan as too liberal for not seeking to force people off welfare before two years.

The Clinton plan, which would cost $9.3 billion over five years, would include only those born after 1971 -- about 2.4 million adults by the year 2000, or about half of the total projected case load. The remaining recipients would mostly receive what they are getting now: continuing benefits with training and placement programs that would get some additional funding. While politicians have attacked the slow phasing, most welfare experts are more forgiving about the reason: No one is quite sure what works in moving recipients from welfare to independence.

Modest Though nearly 30 states have requested federal waivers to launch their own welfare experiments, the few that have begun are showing results that are either modest or inconclusive. The largest of them is in California, which conducted a three-year study on the effects of a job training and placement program much like that in the Clinton plan and involving 33,000 welfare recipients. Though the program lacks the bite of a two-year time limit, the results released yesterday showed that only 3% more escape welfare from the group receiving intensive training, education and job placement compared with a group that receives no special treatment. For those who did find work, however, earnings were 22% higher for those in the education and job-search program.

In the welfare debate, often overlooked is how burgeoning welfare rolls are linked to problems in the low rung of the U.S. economy. In fact, 70% of recipients escape from the welfare system within two years of entering it, though most end up eventually returning to the rolls. While this group is now assisted by the earned-income tax credit, which essentially makes low wages tax-exempt, and would be greatly helped if universal health-care coverage becomes law, a hoped-for boost -- child care for the working poor -- was sharply cut back in final revisions of the Clinton plan.

Much discussed, but difficult to attack, is another force driving growth in the welfare rolls: out-of-wedlock births, which will increase to 50% of all births, if current trends continue over the next decade, the ient said in his speech. This trend, especially c erning teen pregnancies, "will not be turned around overnight," he said, "but be sure of this: No government edict will do it."

The Clinton plan offers little to directly prevent -of-wedlock births, relying instead on cracking down on fathers. In his speech, the president called his program for child-support enforcement the toughest in the country's history: starting with establishing paternity in the delivery room, tracking deadbeat fathers across state lines, and, in some cases, making them work off what they owe.

But on some controversial measures that might attack the problem head on, Mr. Clinton backed off. Notable among them is the "family cap," which would halt the current practice of giving welfare recipients increases for each additional child. After vigorous debate in the administration over the past few weeks, the president decided to allow the states an option of whether to institute such a change.

Jackie Calmes in Washington contributed to this article.

CLINTON UNVEILS HIS PLAN TO OVERHAUL WELFARE
By DOUGLAS JEHL
c.1994 N.Y. Times News Service

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - President Clinton sought to give a harder edge to his domestic policy agenda Tuesday by putting forward a long-postponed proposal to toughen the rules for millions of Americans on the welfare rolls.

The plan that Clinton announced would expand training to young welfare recipients but require those still on the rolls after two years to join a work program or risk losing their benefits.

That would represent the first time limit imposed on welfare payments, and it would be reinforced with the most aggressive effort ever to extract child-support payments from delinquent fathers.

While a pledge to overhaul the welfare system was a central feature of Clinton's 1992 campaign for president, aides say he has no intention of pushing hard for the passage of legislation this year. The White House and most congressional Democrats are determined to focus their energy first on a health care overhaul.

Tuesday's announcement was instead in no small part an effort to insulate a president facing sharp criticism from the right as he and his party look apprehensively toward the mid-term elections in November.

Nearly all of the details of the five-year, $9.3 billion welfare plan have already been made public during wrangling within the administration in which the White House trimmed the plan's scope to limit congressional fights over its financing.

And while Clinton kicked off his campaign to overhaul health care last fall in an address to a joint session of Congress, he chose to introduce the welfare plan Tuesday to an audience of 250 people in the lobby of a downtown bank here.

Adopting the phrase of a former welfare mother who joined him on the stage, Clinton said the program should be ``a stepping stone, not a way of life."

The proposal to require welfare recipients to move on to paying jobs, some subsidized by the government, would affect only Americans born after 1971, or about one-third of the 5 million families who now receive welfare.

But the plan has other sweeping aspects, including a plan to establish paternity of all children at birth and to force absentee fathers to make regular payments for child support.

Some congressional Democrats have expressed concern that a Clinton decision to offer a welfare bill this year might detract from efforts to pass health care legislation.

But Republicans and a rump group of Democrats have been more vocal in accusing the president of dragging his feet, aides to the president have said Clinton felt bound by the promise he made in this year's State of the Union Message to present a welfare proposal by ``this spring."

Clinton nevertheless waited until less than a week before summer begins. And because any welfare plan must travel through the same congressional committees now enmeshed in battles over health care, senior presidential aides said they expected no real legislative attention to welfare until next year.

Republicans immediately criticized Clinton's proposal inadequate, in part because it includes a loophole that would let those who make a good-faith effort to find a job receive government benefits even after two years.

At a press conference in Washington, about a dozen Republicans said the plan would lock recipients into poverty and did not discourage illegitimate births.

``Why did it take 18 months to come up with something minimal as this?" asked Rep. Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania.

On the other hand, the proposal won general praise from the leaders of both parties of the National Governors' Assocation. And with elections now less than five months away, it serves at least to add a more conservative plank to a White House platform that some Democratic candidates have appeared hesitant to run upon.

Along with the two-year lifetime limit on welfare benefits, Clinton would provide training and job-search programs to help indigent mothers move on to work.

His plan would reduce benefits for people who did not enroll in the programs and after two years would cut off payments altogether to those who refused to look for a job or who turned down one that was offered. Mothers with a child under the age of 1 would be exempted.

Clinton did not call for new taxes to pay the $9.3 billion for education, job subsidies, child care for participants and other programs over the next five years.

Instead, he said the money would largely come from reductions in other social programs. The heaviest axe would fall on those giving benefits to immigrants, and that has made the plan unpopular with some city and state governments who fear that they will have to make up the difference.

A study released Tuesday by the White House underscores progress will be slow even if Clinton's plan is adopted. By the year 2000, the study says, only one in seven of parents under age 29 who would otherwise have remained on welfare will have left it.

But with many more people working in part-time or government-subsidized jobs, Clinton said the changes he proposed would move 1 million adults into a work program of some kind or off welfare altogether by the turn of the century.

``We know what the problems are," he told the invited gathering of community leaders and welfare mothers, ``and we know that they did not develop overnight. But we have to make a beginning. We owe it to the next generation."

Clinton has spent much of his public life as an advocate of change in the welfare system, and he reminded the audience of that today, saying he believed ``we have a chance finally to replace dependence with independence, welfare with work."

Still, his appearance at the Commerce Bank in Kansas City, in a lobby decorated with tacked-up signs bearing the works ``work" and ``responsibility" conveyed little of the zeal he has previously brought to the issue.

That may have been because his announcement represented such a clear payment on the debt Clinton owes to Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, the New York Democrat who heads the Senate Finance Committee and who threatened earlier this year to hold health care ``hostage" if Clinton did not produce a welfare plan this year.

Some White House officials said they held out hope this week that a welfare plan might win passage along with a health care overhaul in a legislative flurry this fall.

They also said the White House believed that the country could not succeed in moving people off welfare without universal health care, since many people stayed on welfare because it provided them with health insurance.

At the press conference in Washington, about a dozen Republicans, including Sen. Bob Dole of Kansas, the minority leader; Rep. Newt Gingrich of Georgia, the House minority whip, and Gov. George Allen of Virgina accused the president of promising conservatives a plan they could endorse while producing instead a liberal project.

-END-OF-AUTOBREAK(1)-
-AUTOBREAK(2)-FOLLOWS

BC-MO--Presidential Barbecue,0260

Gates Gets The Presidential Nod

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) No one escapes the greeting boomed at customers of Gates & Sons Bar-B-Q, not even President Clinton.

``HI, MAY I HELP YOU?" reverberated through the restaurant during Clinton's brief visit to Kansas City Tuesday, which included a luncheon stop at Gates.

``He took the mixed plate," said Arzelia Gates, the catering manager. Ribs, ham, beef, bread and fries, washed down with red soda, said owner Ollie Gates, who sat at Clinton's table along with U.S. congressional members Alan Wheat and Pat Danner.

It was a big moment for the Kansas City barbecue scene, ticularly for Gates. Fifteen years ago, former President Jimmy Carter ate ribs at Arthur Bryant's;

``Finally, a president comes around to Gates," Ollie Gates crowed as Clinton left about 2:30 p.m.

Clinton has reportedly favored Ricky's Pit Bar-B-Que in Kansas City, Kan. Ricky Smith hands out business cards claiming to be the ``President's Choice," featuring a color photograph of Clinton and Smith shaking hands. Smith is a native of Arkansas.

And during Clinton's last visit to Kansas City in April, the president's crew ordered ribs, sausage and beans from Ricky's.

``The Secret Service told us the president didn't want" any other kind besides Ricky's, Smith said then.

But Smith remains confident. It was Ricky's that supplied food to the president's inauguration, and it was Ricky's where Clinton stopped during the 1992 campaign.

Both Ricky's and Gates supplied food for the president's traveling party earlier Tuesday.

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bc-welfare-pm

CLINTON PUTS FORWARD WELFARE PROPOSAL

By BILL NICHOLS=

USA TODAY=

KANSAS CITY, Mo. President Clinton followed through on one of his most popular campaign promises Tuesday, proposing a $9.3 billion welfare reform plan he says meets his pledge to ``end welfare as we know it."

Speaking at Commerce Bank, where former president Harry Truman was a teller, Clinton said the plan to impose a two-year limit on cash benefits and move recipients into public or private-funded jobs harks back to values of Truman's generation.

``There's no greater gap between our good intentions and our misguided consequences than you see in the welfare system," Clinton said.

``We have to restore faith ... in certain basic principles that our forebears took for granted the bond of family, the virtue of community, the dignity of work."

Clinton's long-awaited announcement got wide criticism from the right for not going far enough, and from the left for threatening the social safety net and failing to provide enough jobs as an alternative.

``This is a joke half joke, half fraud," said William Bennett, a Republican former secretary of Education.

``There's a lot less here than they want to claim," said Republican National Chairman Haley Barbour. ``This is hardly an end to welfare as we know it."

Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole, R-Kan., quipped the plan would ``end welfare reform as we know it."

Even Democrats weighed in.

Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, a liberal sponsoring his own reform bill, called Clinton's plan ``too liberal" and said it fails to cover enough families: ``A lot of nice words, but there's no action."

The head of the Congressional Black Caucus, Rep. Kweisi Mfume, D-Md., called it ``more punitive than progressive" and said Clinton didn't provide enough money or jobs.

Scaled back to control costs, Clinton would phase in new work requirements over a generation by covering only the youngest welfare parents those born since 1971.

Fewer than one-third of the 5 million families in the main welfare program, Aid to Families With Dependent Children, would be included initially.

By 2000, the administration estimates 2.4 million welfare parents would be covered.

Financing, since Clinton decided against any tax increase, comes almost totally from cuts in social programs. The largest chunk $3.7 billion is from limiting benefits to legal non-citizens, although Clinton did not go as far as rival plans.

After two years of benefits, recipients would get a minimum-wage public or subsidized private job if they cannot find a job on their own. They could stay in the work program indefinitely, as long as they make a good-faith effort to find a job a provision opposed by conservatives.

White House officials clearly understand the potential danger of proposing reforms congressional leaders say will see no action this session. Some key Clinton aides and allies wanted the proposal delayed, so as not to blur focus on health-care reform.

But political experts from both parties, however, say Clinton had to act. Not only did he promise in his State of the Union address to submit a welfare bill by spring, but this is an issue on which an overwhelming majority of voters want attention paid.

``Welfare reform is one of those issues that probably 70 percent of the country believes is important," says political analyst Charles Cook. ``They don't necessarily believe it's going to happen this year but they want to see the president working on it."

(Contributing: William M. Welch)

BC-CLINTON-PARTYING

CLINTON GOES PARTY HOPPING IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, June 14 (Reuter) - President Clinton went party hopping Tuesday night in the exclusive Kalorama section of Washington.

After returning from a day trip to Kansas City, Clinton returned to the White House briefly and then drove to the home of Jim Freeh, a local Democratic supporter, for a reception in honour of visiting Tennessee Governor Ned Ray McWherter.

Emerging from that party, Clinton walked next door to the home of retired Senator William Fulbright of Arkansas who helped get Clinton started in politics. Fulbright is recovering from a stroke suffered two months ago.

After seeing Fulbright, Clinton drove around the block to the home of Texarkana, Texas rancher and businessman Truman Arnold, a long-time Clinton backer. Arnold had invited Clinton confidante Bruce Lindsey to the dinner party and Lindsey brought Clinton along with him.

Clinton frequently goes out on the town to parties and restaurants, usually with his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton.

REUTER

PM-Clinton Visit, Bjt,0620

Clinton Welfare Plan Reviewed by People Who've Been There

With AP Photos

By DOUG GLASS= Associated Press Writer=

KANSAS CITY, Mo. Whatever the chances that President Clinton's welfare reform plan will succeed, he seems to have one thing pegged: Most people on welfare would love to get off.

They're just not sure his plan gives them enough time. Its cornerstone is a two-year limit on cash benefits.

``Two years would cut off the ones who will take a little longer," said Cynthia Reese of Kansas City. ``Everybody has a different situation, and it takes longer than two years if you want to get through certain barriers."

Clinton on Tuesday proposed a $9.3 billion program to move people from welfare to jobs. Most of the money about $7 billion would be spent on education, training and day-care programs, and $1.2 billion would be targeted for work programs.

Portions of his plan would require more responsibility for welfare recipients, increasing child support collection and decreasing teen-age pregnancies.

Reese, 34, had worked steadily since age 17. But four years ago, newly divorced and with three children to support, she went on public aid.

She finally fought her way off welfare with the help of Missouri's Futures program, begun in 1992. The program paid Reese's child care and transportation costs so she could attend a community college, and now she's a clerk/typist in the program's offices.

Like the Clinton proposal, Futures requires people to sign a plan for moving off welfare. But it has no time limit, which pleases Alfreda Gipson of Kansas City, another graduate who is now a typist in the program's offices.

Gipson spent eight years on welfare. She said she was forced to public assistance when she had to choose between medicine for her infant son and buying a bus pass to get to her job.

``I knew I didn't want to be on (welfare)," she said. ``I did it for the medical benefits. The public thinks you make millions and millions of dollars. That's a lie."

She added, ``Two years and out, I don't agree with. It didn't take me that long, but some people don't have the ability to grab that (opportunity)."

Several women in the Futures program are taking nursing classes at a local community college and can't finish their work in two years, Gipson said.

One of them is Rita Thompson, 44, of Kansas City. She went on welfare in January 1993 when her employer, a company that sold caller ID devices for telephones, went bankrupt.

``I have never wanted to go on welfare, but when you can't find a job and your unemployment runs out, you've got to feed your child," said Thompson, who is divorced with a 16-year-old son.

Thompson worries about a two-year benefits limit, but she also worries about how much time the Clinton plan would give people to find a job.

``He can't just drop us after 90 days like a hot potato," Thompson said. ``We have to get a good job with good benefits."

Vicki Phelps, a 34-year-old Kansas Citian, spent five years on welfare after medical problems forced her to give up her job at a medical insurance company. She finally got off welfare in 1992 and now works for another insurance company.

Despite Phelps' lengthy stay on the welfare roll, she supports a two-year limit.

``The federal government has to be persistent in this two-year limit," Phelps said. ``As long as there's job training. You can't just take (assistance) away. There's got to be something there to replace it."

LaRhonda Smith, 25, of Kansas City, also doesn't mind the two-year limit. Another graduate of the Futures program, Smith got her high school equivalency degree in February and was nervous about an interview Thursday for a telemarketing job at Sprint.

``I really want the job," she said. If she gets it, she added, ``I will work. I will go back to college and further my education so I can go up the ladder."

BC-WELFAREPLAN national editors:DA

Clinton welfare plan aims to break cycle of dependency for next generation

(HAS TRIMS)

By Kathy Lewis

Dallas Morning News

KANSAS CITY, Mo. President Clinton on Tuesday offered a welfare-to-work plan that takes aim at the next generation of Americans, trying to break the cycle of poverty.

``We have to make a beginning. We owe it to the next generation," Clinton said. ``We cannot permit millions millions and millions of American children to be trapped in a cycle of dependency."

The president pledged that his plan would transform the welfare system from a one based on dependence to one that ``works toward independence."

To that end, the cornerstone of the Clinton proposal is a two-year limit on welfare benefits for younger recipients, who would have to get either private or government-subsidized jobs.

Concerns about cost led the administration to apply the limit to only those born after 1971. Although it was largely an economic decision, administration officials emphasized that this ``young people first" approach will target those most at risk young single mothers.

It will, the White House said, also send a strong message to teen-agers that ``welfare as we know it has ended."

But the prospects for welfare reform this year are slim, analysts said, because Congress already is struggling to pass health-care reform.

Clinton has made welfare and health-care reform, which he often links, top priorities of his administration. But the White House missed self-imposed deadlines for sending both plans to Congress.

The president unveiled his welfare reform plan Tuesday at Missouri's Commerce Bank, where Harry Truman was once a teller.

Repeating an oft-used phrase from his 1992 presidential campaign, Clinton said welfare should offer ``a second chance, not a way of life."

Before his speech, Clinton met with several women who under Missouri's welfare-to-work programs now have jobs. The bank where he spoke is among Kansas City businesses that have participated in the program.

Some critics have said Clinton's plan does not live up to the promises of his campaign.

Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, said the president's plan does not meet the test of putting welfare recipients into ``productive tax-paying jobs with a future." He called the plan ``limp" and said it leaves most welfare programs untouched.

The two-year limit applies to cash benefits for poor mothers, but there is no limit on food stamp programs for those who qualify.

In addition to the deadline, other provisions of the Clinton plan are aimed at a young generation of Americans and are designed to discourage teen-age and unwed pregnancies.

(EDITORS: NEXT GRAF OPTIONAL)

``Welfare reform will send a clear and unambiguous message to adolescents: You should not become a parent until you are able to provide for and nurture your child," according to a White House fact sheet. ``Every young person will know that welfare has changed forever."

(END OPTIONAL TRIM)

Under the plan, the administration would embark on a national campaign against teen pregnancy, provide $300 million in grants to 1,000 schools to develop teen pregnancy-avoidance programs, $100 million for community programs and set up a national clearinghouse to share information about local programs that are working.

The two-year deadline applies to recipients age 18 and older. Teen-age parents who receive benefits must stay in school and take advantage of job initiatives. Unmarried teen-age mothers must live with their parents and must identify the child's father to get benefits.

States would be allowed to limit additional benefits to mothers who become pregnant after they are on welfare.

(EDITORS: NEXT 2 GRAFS OPTIONAL)

Clinton, however, emphasized that the government cannot halt pregnancies among unwed mothers. Communities and families, he said, must play a strong role.

``This trend did not develop overnight. There are many reasons for it. It will not be turned around overnight. But be sure of this: No government edict can do it," he said.

(END OPTIONAL TRIM)

Clinton would raise $7 billion of the $9.3 billion for the five-year program from spending reductions in programs for legal immigrants, caps on homeless emergency assistance programs, limits on supplemental benefits for drug and alcohol addicts and ending agriculture deficiency payments for wealthy farmers.

The rest of the money would come from extra revenues from the corporate Superfund tax and extended fees for passenger, custom services and railroad safety inspections.

(EDITORS: STORY CAN TRIM HERE)

Several other welfare plans already on Capitol Hill call for more limits on benefits to legal immigrants. The House GOP plan, for example, raises $20 billion from such cutbacks.

In his speech, Clinton said welfare reform must be a bipartisan issue, and he noted the ``serious" efforts being waged by members of both political parties.

Still, most political experts believe welfare reform will have to wait until next year. On Tuesday, House Majority Leader Dick Gephardt, D- Mo., said it is unlikely Congress would act on welfare reform this year because of the ongoing debate over health care reform.

The National Governors' Association issued a statement embracing the ``principles" outlined in Clinton's program.

BC-WELFAREBILL national editors:GL

Clinton outlines welfare reform plan with less funds for child care

(GRAPHIC; details below.)

By Michael Kranish

Boston Globe

KANSAS CITY, Mo. President Clinton unveiled his welfare reform plan here Tuesday, a limited proposal that would leave at least 80 percent of recipients on public assistance in the year 2000 and that contains only half as much money for child care as originally suggested, presidential aides said.

With most details of the plan previously made public, Clinton outlined the program without providing new specifics. Instead, in a campaign-like speech, he repeated his favorite positions about welfare and renewed his call for a reduction in the number of births by unwed mothers.

In a bow to conservatives, Clinton proposed a ``paternity establishment program" that would try to determine the father of a child born to a unwed mothers on welfare and to track down ``deadbeat dads." The program seeks to double current child support collections from $9 billion to $20 billion in six years.

``We have a big welfare problem because the rate of children born out of wedlock ... is going up dramatically," Clinton said. ``At the rate we're going, unless we reverse it, within 10 years more than half of our children will be born in homes where there has never been a marriage."

The key element of Clinton's plan is to force people off welfare and into a job after two years. However, a shortage of funds forced him to modify that requirement, allowing welfare recipients to remain on the dole indefinitely if no private or public job is available.

The president, indicating his eagerness to avoid a fight with Republicans over the issue, reached out to the GOP Tuesday, saying, ``This ought to be a bipartisan issue ... I don't care who gets the credit for this if we can rebuild American families."

But in Washington, some Republicans reacted harshly, calling the plan halfhearted, while some Democrats and a large coalition of advocacy groups decried it for punishing the poor and their children. Political analysts say the plan has little chance of passage this year.

``It's like diagnosing a patient with a terminal disease and prescribing him with aspirin," said Rep. James Talent, a Missouri Republican, who co-sponsored alternative welfare reform plan that create stricter work requirements, end benefits to unwed mothers under 21 and establish an employment voucher system.

In Massachusetts, Gov. William Weld, who has sought a federal waiver to impose a 60-day limit on Aid to Families with Dependent Children, said, ``Not only does President Clinton's plan apparently not end welfare as we know it but it appears that he's going to make it impossible for states to end welfare as we know it."

He also said, ``Now, my concern is that it may displace the ability of states to try the 60-day approach," which has drawn opposition from Democrats in the state's congressional delegation.

Meanwhile, Sens. Kit Bond, a Missouri Republican, and Tom Harkin, an Iowa Democrat, released a bipartisan alternative plan that omits the prospect of government jobs. Harkin said he was ``sorely disappointed" by Clinton's plan, which he described as an anachronistic, ``New Deal" approach.

The program has much less money for child care than originally envisioned. Clinton's aides once proposed spending $3.5 billion for child care support for people who leave welfare and get a job. The plan outlined Tuesday proposes spending only $1.5 billion.

The child care cutback became necessary when Clinton decided against using new taxes to pay for the welfare proposal and to finance it largely by trimming back other programs.

Under the plan, welfare recipients born before 1971 about one-third of the current caseload are exempt from the requirements to get off public assistance after two years. But because of various exemptions, half of welfare recipients in the year 2000 will not be affected.

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(Contributing reporter Heather Bruce assisted from Washington in this report. Doris Wong of the Globe staff contributed from Boston.)

(Graphic 06/13 CLINTON WELFARE PLAN available from KRT Graphics; call (202) 383-6064.)

Chicago activist: welfare reform will cost state

CHICAGO, June 14 (UPI) President Clinton's welfare reform proposals, which he unveiled Tuesday in Kansas City, will end up costing Illinois because of the state's large population of legal immigrants, according to the director of a Chicago immigrant advocacy group.

David Marzahl of the Chicago Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Protection, says Clinton's plan depends too much on cutting benefits to legal immigrants in order to pay for much of the $9.3 billion reform effort.

``Support for the program is based on the erroneous belief that immigrants, particularly illegal immigrants, are a drain on the economy, receiving far more in benefits they pay in taxes," Marzahl said. ``This misperception plays neatly into deep-seated, anti-immigrant feelings popular among some segments of the American public."

Marzahl contends that nearly half of the funding will come from denying welfare benefits to a large segment of legal immigrants, increasing from three to five years the amount of time some immigrants have to live in the U.S. before they become eligibile.

``This will greatly affect Illinois, because we have the fifth- highest number of immigrants," Marzahl said. ``It essentially becomes an unfunded mandate for states like Illinois, who will have to pick up the costs of providing benefits to immigrants who are otherwise taxpayers."

Clinton's new tough welfare reform plan would limit many recipients to two years of benefits and require them to find jobs within that time.

The program is expected to affect 2.4 million adults and cost taxpayers $9.3 billion over five years. As conceived by the administration, reforms would not require new taxes or increase the federal deficit because added costs would be offset with cuts in existing benefits.

Illinois Sen. Paul Simon released a statement about the plan on Tuesday evening, giving it a mixed review.

``It's a start toward true welfare reform," Simon said. ``As Congress begins work on this, I will continue to push for a meaningful jobs component. It makes little sense to have a job requirement if there aren't jobs for people when they leave the welfare program."

BC-Clinton-Unveils-Welfare-Plan-Meant-to

Clinton Unveils Welfare Plan Meant to Reward Work (Update1)

(Updating throughout with analysts' comments and additional information on the plan)

Kansas City, June 14 (Bloomberg) -- President Clinton officially unveiled his long awaited welfare reform plan in Kansas City today saying that now welfare would be about a paycheck, not a welfare check.

Speaking from Missouri's Commerce Bank, where President Truman was once a teller, Clinton said that he had to ``change (welfare) from a system of dependence to independence. Change it so the focus is clearly on work," he said.

Clinton said under his program 1 million adults would move off welfare and into the workforce by the year 2000.

Yolanda Magee, who introduced Clinton, is just the sort of welfare success story President Clinton hopes his plan will produce many times over.

The 21-year-old single mother of a two-year-old son was on welfare for some nine months before she started working as a research clerk at Commerce Bank.

``I was tired of sitting at home... I wanted to work for a living," Yolanda said. So she joined a computer training program sponsored by the Urban League, used their child care services while she trained, and landed a job at Commerce Bank. Now she makes $6.71 an hour.

Clinton is hoping that his plan will please those lawmakers who want to get tough with those who take advantage of welfare and also mollify those who see welfare as keeping the unemployed under the government's thumb.

Caseworker as Job Counselor

He hopes to get that done by assigning each welfare recipient to a caseworker who will help the recipient develop a way to find a job and stay in it.

``There's a myth that these folks are job-ready and can just go out and get a job if they want to," said Patricia Miller, co-chair of Futures, a Missouri welfare reform program. She added that such basic problems as illiteracy still had to be addressed.

Recipients will be permitted to a lifetime maximum of 24 months on welfare and if they are offered a job, they will be required to take it, according to a summary of the plan released by the White House today.

Those who can't find a job after two years on welfare will have to take public sector jobs at a minimum wage. They'd be required to work between 15 to 35 hours a week,

it said. That program is only good for
a year.

People who can't find another job after that will be wiped off the welfare rolls.

Not Cheap

Clinton's plan for changing welfare won't come cheap. He is asking for some $7 billion in additional funding for education, training and placement and another $1.2 billion to pay for the public sector jobs.

The White House says it can fund the reform by cutting entitlement programs by $7 billion over five years. The biggest cut is a $3.7 billion in estimated savings from tightening eligibility for welfare programs and food stamps to non-citizens. It also proposes saving $500 million by ending deficiency payments to full-time farmers who have $100,000 in non-farm income.

``We're paid for," said Bruce Reed, co-chair of Clinton's Welfare Reform Task Force.

The money, by the year 2000, would have a dramatic impact, according to the White House. By 2000, 14% of parents under age 29 who would have been on welfare without the reforms will have left the rolls. Some 26% of mothers under age 29 would be working, it said.

``It is always easier for Congress to strip out benefits in a program like this and keep in the punitive measures because that's what voters want to see," said Mark Rom, assistant professor of government and public policy at Georgetown University. ``Clinton is going to have a tough time getting the money out of them."

Child Support

The system will also rachet up child support payments as fathers' incomes rise and will withhold wages and suspend professional, occupational, and drivers' licenses to enforce compliance.

``This plan includes the toughest child support measures in the history of this country," Clinton said, adding that there was $34 billion in uncollected child support payments in the U.S. a year and some of that shortfall came out of welfare coffers.

The president's plan also calls for a national campaign against teen pregnancy. Teen parents will also have to stay in school and prepare themselves for jobs if they want to receive any welfare payments.

Most see that as good news.

``Anything that brings more responsibility to the family and encourages economic opportunity brightens the prospects for business," said Richard Green, chairman of Utilicorp United Inc, a utility holding company based in Kansas City.

Clinton also hopes to beef up safeguards against fraud. His plan calls for state to state tracking systems using national identification numbers for anyone on welfare. -- Dina Temple-Raston at the White House (202) 434-1884 with Jenell Wallace in Kansas City/mfr/ (For more on Clinton, NI EXE. For more on Congress, NI CNG) -0- (BBN) Jun/14/94 19:03 EOS (BBN) Jun/14/94 19:04 86

AM-Welfare-Clinton,940

President Opens Campaign For $9.3 Billion Welfare Reform

EDS: Adds information and edited for Texas members; similar version moving nationally

By JENNIFER DIXON= Associated Press Writer=

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) President Clinton announced a $9.3 billion plan Tuesday to transform welfare from a check-writing system into a job training program for tens of thousands of single mothers.

``I really believe that we have a chance finally to replace dependence with independence, welfare with work," Clinton told former and current welfare recipients. He spoke in the walnut and marble lobby of the historic Commerce Bank in downtown Kansas City, where Harry Truman found a job as a young man.

Eula Duncan, a mother of four who is trying to get off welfare and get a job, whispered ``Amen," as the president promised to give women on welfare a second chance and to get tough with the parents who refuse to support their children.

``We cannot permit millions and millions and millions of American children to be trapped in a cycle of dependency with people who are not responsible for bringing them into the world, with parents who are trapped in a system that doesn't develop their human capacity to live up to the fullest of their God-given abilities and to succeed as both workers and parents. We must break this cycle," he said.

The White House proposal would cut welfare benefits to immigrants, drug addicts and alcoholics, and would slash subsidies to wealthy farmers to finance its scaled-back and often-delayed plan.

In Washington, Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, called the president's plan ``limp" and said it does not meet the test of placing welfare recipients in ``productive tax-paying jobs with a future."

``The plain effect of the president's proposal is to leave most welfare programs untouched while spending more on some and trusting bureaucrats to invent a handful of new welfare programs to take up the slack," Gramm said.

Opposition also came from a Democratic senator. Tom Harkin of Iowa, who is sponsoring his own welfare reform bill providing for individual welfare-to-work contracts, said the Clinton proposal resembles a New Deal program that promises government jobs. ``What kind of nonsense is that?" he said. ``We don't have the money for that."

The cornerstone of the president's plan is a two-year limit on cash benefits, an idea Clinton used to define himself as a new and centrist Democrat during his 1992 campaign.

But Tuesday's plan to translate his popular campaign promises to ``end welfare as we know it" singles out the youngest mothers on the rolls of Aid to Families with Dependent Children, the joint federal-state welfare program that supports 5 million poor families.

And at the end of the decade, fewer than 8 percent of welfare recipients would actually be enrolled in a work program, although Clinton declared that his proposal would push 1 million parents into the work force by 2000.

The plan also pours far more money into child care, education and training a total of $7 billion over five years than into subsidized jobs, just $1.2 billion.

Texas Human Services Commissioner Burt Raiford said it ``makes good sense" to target the youngest welfare recipients, and that ending welfare dependence requires affordable child care, health care and effective job training.

However, Raiford added, ``Meaningful welfare reform will address the needs of all of our youngest citizens."

He said that means educating young people for jobs that pay a living wage; giving them goals that serve as ``a true alternative" to premature parenthood, truancy and drugs; and addressing substance abuse and delinquency before they lead to welfare dependency.

``None of these is easy. But each will do more to reform welfare than all the quick-fix sound bites that pass for good public policy on welfare reform combined," said Raiford.

According to the president's proposal, women born after 1971 would receive the education, training, job placement and child-care services they need to become self-sufficient. Those who fail to find work before their cash benefits run out would be required to take subsidized or community service jobs paying the minimum wage.

Although they would be allowed to remain in the work program indefinitely, parents who refuse a private-sector job would be kicked out. Advocates for children and the poor say the plan does little to lift those participants out of poverty, and takes away the social safety net for children whose parents refuse to comply.

Alfreda Gipson, 28, a graduate of a Missouri training program who began work recently as a clerk-typist, said she never wanted to be on welfare. ``I did it for the medical benefits," she told reporters. ``The public thinks you make millions and millions of dollars. That's a lie."

The Clinton plan also tackles teen-pregnancy, child support enforcement, welfare fraud and the welfare bureaucracy.

Under the plan, teen mothers would be required to live at home. Those who refuse to stay in school, look for work or attend training programs face stiff sanctions generally their family's share of their monthly AFDC check. It also calls for spending $400 million on a campaign against teen pregnancy, including grants to a thousand schools.

Hospitals would be required to establish paternity at every birth, child support awards would be updated regularly, and parents who refuse to pay could have their professional, occupational and driver's licenses revoked.

The administration believes its plan could double public child support collections from $9 billion a year to $20 billion by 2000.

Clinton's plan also establishes a national clearinghouse that would track parents who slip across state lines to avoid paying their child support, as well as those who receive welfare, monitoring compliance with time limits and work requirements.

Nearly all of the money to finance the plan comes from cuts in social programs, particularly benefits for immigrants.

Under the plan, the relatives and other sponsors of new immigrants would be required to bear greater financial responsibility for them, saving $3.7 billion over five years.

The plan also saves $1.6 billion by capping spending on an emergency welfare program that advocates say protects the poor against homelessness. Additional savings come from cutting subsidies to wealthy farmers and putting limits on federal disability benefits to drug addicts and alcoholics.

The plan also wrings $1.6 billion from the Superfund hazardous waste clean-up fund.

BC-CLINTON national editors:WA

Clinton presents welfare reform proposal

(GRAPHICS; details below)

(HAS TRIM)

By Robert A. Rankin and David Hess

Knight-Ridder Newspapers

KANSAS CITY, Mo. President Clinton proposed attacking the costly national problem of welfare dependency with a plan Tuesday that would force growing numbers of young welfare mothers into public or private jobs.

``Work is the best social program ... it gives hope and structure and meaning to our lives," Clinton told an audience here at the Commerce Bank, which hires former welfare recipients under an innovative Kansas City program that White House aides said is a model for much of what Clinton proposes.

The heart of Clinton's plan would make young single mothers self-sufficient by giving them money and child care while they get job training but then to cut off their cash benefits after no more than 24 months.

However, those who can't find jobs would be given temporary tax-subsidized work, usually at the minimum wage, either in the private sector or in community vice. And some people would be exempt from the two-year ti period: for example, mothers with infants would get a 12-month deferral for their first child, but only three m s for a second child.

The reforms would be phased in slowly because of high projected costs. Republicans sharply criticized the plan falling far short of Clinton's 1992 campaign promise to `` welfare as we know it."

Democrats defended the program as a good start toward ing with a crucial social problem. But congressional leaders said they do not expect serious work on welfare reform legislation to begin until next year.

``We're not going to drop health care reform to take up welfare reform," said House Majority Leader Richard A. Gephardt, D-Mo. ``The biggest step in welfare reform is health-care reform. The biggest reason people stay on welfare is the fear of loss of health insurance. They're scared to death and they should be of losing their Medicaid. ... If we can get health-care reform (this year), we've done two-thirds of welfare reform."

Clinton proposes to go slow with reforms, largely because he lacks the money to do it faster. The new requirements would apply to welfare recipients born after Dec. 31, 1971 roughly one-third of the total case load expected in 1996. Half of all adult welfare recipients would be covered by 2000, and two-thirds by 2004.

Even at that moderate pace, Clinton's reforms would drive up welfare costs by an estimated $9.3 billion over five years and that takes into account $1.5 billion in savings from assumed reductions in case load and fraud.

By their own estimates, the Clinton administration's reform proposals would have only a marginal impact in reducing the total welfare population, currently 14.3 million people.

By fiscal year 2000, administration documents say, the reforms would remove some 331,000 adults from welfare rolls entirely, put 222,000 others in part-time jobs while they continue to receive welfare, and place 394,000 more in tax-subsidized employment.

Clinton appealed for bipartisan support for his proposals Tuesday, saying ``this is not a partisan issue, this is an American issue."

But Republicans in Congress, who have proposed an alternative plan, said Clinton's approach is defective on several counts.

``It's hopelessly weak and falls short of his own goal of ending welfare as we know it," said House Minority Leader Robert H. Michel, R-Ill.

Rep. Rick Santorum, R-Pa., who co-chaired a GOP task force on welfare reform, said the work requirements for recipients are ``far too weak" in the president's bill.

Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., said the GOP ``believes welfare should be transitional support toward private sector jobs, not unending government-sponsored make-work. ... Under the Clinton plan, after two years of welfare checks, recipients could be indefinitely supported by a government-subsidized paycheck."

Clinton seemed to anticipate the criticism in his speech Tuesday, defending his relatively modest proposal by saying, ``We have to make
a beginning. We owe it to the next generation."

One major goal of the president's plan is to stimulate a sense of parental responsibility in the welfare population. It emphasizes the need to discourage teen-age pregnancy, both by changing welfare incentives and by mounting a national campaign through the schools stressing delayed sexual activity.

Noting that America's rate of illegitimate births has quadrupled over the last 30 years and will exceed 50 percent within 10 years, the president said welfare incentives must be changed ``to send a profound message that it is wrong to continue this trend ..."

``No government edict can do it," Clinton said. ``To change the country on a profound issue like this requires the efforts of millions and millions and millions of you, talking openly and honestly and freely about these things."

(EDITORS: STORY CAN TRIM HERE)

A related parental responsibility proposal would require hospitals to establish paternity at birth, and would stiffen efforts to collect child support payments from absent fathers.

While generally praising Clinton's plan, few Democrats would sign on to his method of paying for it.

``He wants to take it from other entitlements," said Senate Finance Committee chairman Daniel Patrick Moynihan, D-N.Y., a strong advocate of reform. ``I'd hope that would work, but ... if I start talking about that, I'd be negative and I want to be positive now."

Sen. Joseph I. Lieberman, D-Conn., said Clinton's plan is ``tough, sensible and effective."

But Republicans contended that Clinton's plan does not go far enough in dealing with teen-age pregnancies and proliferating numbers of illegitimate births among welfare clients.

They also complained that the plan permits too many aliens to continue to qualify for benefits and allows too many drug addicts to receive payments.

``We oppose the president's plan," said House Minority Whip Newt Gingrich, R-Ga. ``We have a superior bill and we're going to push very hard to get it adopted."

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(Graphics 06-14 WELFARE PLAN COSTS and 06-13 CLINTON

WELFARE PLAN
available from KRT Graphics Network; for information on graphic, call 202-383-6064.)

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bc-CNSwelfare,1173

Clinton introduces welfare reform plan

By Amy Bayer
Copley News Service

KANSAS CITY, Mo. President Clinton unveiled Tuesday (June 14) his long-awaited plan to ``end welfare as we know it," a plan that stresses making welfare recipients become workers but was panned by critics as too timid.

At its toughest, Clinton's plan would force welfare parents off the dole after two years, insisting that they find work, get a government-subsidized job or enroll in education and training programs.

At its most generous, Clinton's plan would give valuable new benefits to welfare recipients, guaranteeing them education, training, job placement services and child care.

But the $9.3 billion proposal, which Congress is unlikely to consider this year, would barely pare the welfare population, easing only about 7 percent of recipients off government rolls by the year 2000.

A record 5 million American families or 14 million people now receive welfare under Aid To Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), the nation's best-known and most widely-criticized welfare program.

Welfare programs now cost the nation about $150 billion a year, with AFDC accounting for about $22 billion of that. Welfare spending makes up about 12 percent of the federal budget.

Under Clinton's plan, that cost would rise over the next decade until sufficient numbers of people are weaned off the dole.

``Today we have to restore faith in certain basic principles that our forebears took for granted the bond of family, the virtue of community and the dignity of work," Clinton said introducing the plan at Kansas City's Commerce Bank, which hires participants in Missouri's welfare-to-work programs.

In the bank lobby, filled with state officials and former welfare mothers, hung stark black and white signs, each with a one-word message: ``Work," ``Responsibility," ``Opportunity" and ``Family."

Clinton acknowledged the value of welfare for people negotiating ``rough spots" in their lives. But he criticized the current welfare system as one that undermines basic values, discourages work and leads to generations of welfare dependency.

He also decried ballooning illegitimacy rates, warning that under current trends, half of all American children will soon be born to single mothers.

``There is no greater gap between our good intentions and our misguided consequences," Clinton said of the welfare system.

Clinton's plan, which will be introduced as legislation later this month, faces many obstacles on Capitol Hill, where health care reform and election-year pressures are competing for time and attention. Privately, White House aides said there is little chance Congress will pass the plan this year.

Congressional Republicans are sponsoring at least two competing plans, both more conservative than Clinton's proposal. The GOP would deny AFDC benefits to young, unwed mothers and force a larger share of the welfare population into work programs.

Republican Rep. Rick Santorum, chairman of the House GOP Task Force on Welfare Reform, charged Tuesday that Clinton's plan is nothing but a ``political document."

``The Democrats want to be able to talk tough on welfare reform when they go home to campaign, but don't expect much action," Santorum said.

Conservative Republican Bill Bennett, who served in the cabinets of Presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush, dismissed the plan as ``more misguided Democratic do-goodism," that creates a new set of entitlements for welfare recipients.

``Wait until the great American middle class discovers the welfare population is getting more benefits, not fewer," Bennett said.

Clinton's plan faces criticism from his own party, too, both among liberals who say it is too tough to conservatives who say it too lenient.

Labor leaders worry that government jobs programs steal work from union members, while other critics complain that Clinton's plan offers special benefits to welfare recipients that are not enjoyed by the working poor particularly child care.

``It might end welfare as we know it, but it won't end poverty," said Sunny Harris Rose of the national Association of Social Workers.

In addition, immigration advocates say Clinton unfairly targets immigrants to pay for the plan, a proposal that also riles officials from states like California that are home to a large number of immigrants.

During his speech, Clinton did not mention the high price of the package, which initially would increase the nation's welfare bill. The costs were spelled out to reporters by White House aides.

To pay for the program, Clinton would raise most of the funds by restricting welfare benefits for legal igrants, forcing their sponsors to pay more for their support.

Under long-standing law, would-be immigrants must show the government that they have sponsors who will make sure they do not become public charges. But this requirement often is not met for a variety of real-life reasons, such as an inability to find or hold a job or a sponsor no longer able to provide aid, and many immigrants end up on welfare.

Nationally, about 1 million non-citizen immigrants receive benefits from the Supplemental Security Income, Medicaid, Food Stamp and AFDC programs at a cost of about $5 billion a year.

In addition, the plan would trim spending on other welfare programs, cut agricultural subsidies for wealthy growers and divert money from Superfund environmental -up taxes and Customs Service fees.

Still, Clinton's package is much smaller than what he initially promised in his 1992 election campaign and the first year of his presidency, in part because he ruled out any tax increase to pay for it.

To cut costs, Clinton would target reforms only at welfare parents born after 1971. White House aides said that decision ``sends a message" to teenagers that welfare is not a way of life. But it would exempt two-thirds of the adults on welfare.

At the heart of the program would be a two-year limit on cash aid in exchange for new benefits. Recipients would excused from the two-year time limit if they or their children are disabled. In addition, a new mother would be iven a one-year exemption after the birth of her first child, and three months for a second child.

The program would fund about 300,000 subsidized jobs for those welfare recipients who can't find private sector work.

Among the other provisions, the Clinton plan would:

Require welfare participants to take any job offered them.

Force unwed teen mothers to stay in school and live at home or with a responsible adult.

Provide more federal money for state education and jobs programs and allow states more flexibility to devise welfare programs, including allowing two-parent families to qualify for benefits.

-END-OF-AUTOBREAK(1)-
-AUTOBREAK(2)-FOLLOWS

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bc-clint-welf

CLINTON DETAILS PLAN TO END
`WELFARE AS WE KNOW IT'
Eds: With sidebar, WELFARE-SIDE
Graphic: On GGN
By DEBORAH MATHIS=
GNS White House Reporter=

KANSAS CITY, Mo. President Clinton unveiled his long-awaited plan to reform welfare Tuesday, proposing to propel recipients toward independence with a raft of job-training programs, child-care assistance and child-support enforcement.

``We must do this work," Clinton told an audience at Kansas City's historic Commerce Bank, where Harry Truman once worked as a teller. ``This is not a government mission, this is an American mission."

Making people work the heart of the five-year, $9.3 billion plan would apply only to those born after Dec. 31, 1971. That is less than one-third of the 14 million people receiving assistance, but estimated to represent two-thirds of the welfare caseload by the year 2004.

In most cases, welfare recipients would be dropped from the rolls after two years unless they can prove they are unable to work or have extenuating circumstances, such as caring for a disabled child.

But the plan would look at even those situations skeptically, in some cases requiring the recipient to devise a plan for an eventual break from public assistance. The lifetime limit for cash benefits would be two years, total.

``We will help you get the skills you need," Clinton said, ``But after two years, anyone who is able to go to work must go to work. In the private sector is preferable."

The two-year cutoff is a staple among welfare reform enthusiasts, many of whom have plans of their own. Several have been introduced on Capitol Hill.

But where all plans require recipients to eventually find work, Clinton's is more generous toward recipients, even casting the government in the jobs business as a last resort.

His plan to ``end welfare as we know it" a staple promise of his 1992 presidential campaign but much-delayed as the administration struggled to pay for it was attacked by liberals as well as conservatives as too lenient.

``I have some fundamental concerns and disagreements with the Clinton plan," said liberal Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa. ``First, the Clinton plan has at its center an arbitrarily set one-size-fits-all, two-year time limit. I believe that is far too liberal and far too costly."

Harkin also objects to a public jobs program for recipients who cannot find a private sector job.

``This part of the president's program is wrong-headed it's outdated. Self-sufficiency must be the focus of welfare reform, not just rhetoric. The president has a lot of nice words, but there's no action in this plan."

Conservative Texas Rep. Dick Armey, chairman of the H Republican Conference, did not wait for Clinton to unveil his plan before blasting it by throwing the vow to `` welfare as we know it" back in the president's face.

``Maybe," Armey said sarcastically, ``he said, `defend welfare as we know it.' "

Under Clinton's system, recipients unable to find positions after two years on welfare will have to accept jobs from ``WORK" a new program for placing people in short-term, low-paying private and public sector jobs. Money formerly spent for Aid to Families with Dependent Children will subsidize the jobs.

``If we do the things we propose in this welfare reform program, these changes will move 1 million adults into work and off welfare ... by 2000," Clinton told the crowd, which included 11 women who once were on welfare but have since moved on to full-time employment. ``Work is the best social program this country ever devised."

Getting people off a welfare check and onto a paycheck is costly. The plan, scaled back from original proposals, would cost $9.3 billion

about $7 billion for education, training and child-care programs. It would be paid for largely by cutting social programs, such as aid to immigrants and the homeless.

But in what surely will be a rallying cry to end ``welfare for the wealthy," Clinton also proposed that $500 million come from cutting deficiency payments to full-time farmers who make more than $100,000 in non-farm income.

Although he proposes cracking down on wayward and neglectful parents and fraudulent practices, the plan obviously was written with an eye toward unwed, teen-age mothers the group most likely to turn to welfare and stay on it.

To qualify for food, child and health benefits, underage single mothers would be required to identify their child's father, to live at home and to stay in school or in job training programs. For them, the two-year clock would not begin running until their 18th birthday.

The plan also would mount an intensive education campaign against teen pregnancy, with emphasizing abstinence.

Clinton said the program would ``send a powerful message that it is wrong to continue this trend; that children should not be born until parents are married and fully capable of taking care of them."

Since the entire House and one-third of the Senate are up for election in November, and because health care reform is riveting lawmakers' attention on Capitol Hill, most observers believe prospects for welfare reform in 1994 are slim.

Polls find the public overwhelmingly is in favor of change. And Clinton said in an interview published this week that welfare reform ``is something the Bubbas of America and the liberals can get together on."

Yet even the president's chief of staff, Thomas ``Mack" McLarty, has acknowledged passage this year is in doubt.

Kohl disappointed with welfare plan

WASHINGTON, June 14 (UPI) Sen. Herb Kohl Tuesday criticized President Clinton's newly unveiled welfare plan, saying it focuses on the right themes but fails to go far enough.

Clinton, in a trip to Kansas City, presented his plan, limiting recipients to two years of benefits and requiring them to find jobs. The program is expected to affect 2.4 million adults and cost taxpayers $9.3 billion over five years. As conceived by the administration, reforms would not require new taxes or increase the federal deficit because added costs would be offset with cuts in existing benefits.

Kohl, D-Wis., said the plan relies on a ``souped up" version of the current system. He said it also appears more than half of those on welfare today will not be affected by the plan, something that will be unacceptable to taxpayers.

(ED: 13grafldpickup8thgraf: Under the: changing dateline, pvs washington, adding Clinton comments, reaction)

Clinton offers tough welfare reform plan

KANSAS CITY, Mo. June 14 (UPI) President Clinton unveiled a new tough welfare reform plan Tuesday that would limit many recipients to two years of benefits and require them to find jobs within that time.

The program is expected to affect 2.4 million adults and cost taxpayers $9.3 billion over five years. As conceived by the administration, reforms would not require new taxes or increase the federal deficit because added costs would be offset with cuts in existing benefits.

The plan would require recipients born after Dec. 31, 1971, to develop a so-called personal employability plan. And it would provide support, job training and child care with an emphasis on finding private or public sector jobs for recipients to move them off the welfare rolls.

In his address at the Commerce Bank, which has helped a number of Missouri women to move from welfare to work, Clinton portrayed the plan as paving the way for those on welfare to receive a paycheck rather than a welfare check.

The president hit hard on the problem of teenage pregnancy, saying that it ``will not be turned around overnight" but noting that ``no government action can do it."

The president called for a ``national campaign" against teen pregnancy and said pregancy should be avoided until parents ``are totally capable of taking care of them."

Clinton said his plan ``includes the toughest child support enforcement in the history of the country" to help families collect an estimated $34 billion in delinquent child-support payments to reduce the need for public assistance.

He said his proposal is intended to restore ``bedrock values" and help the nation wean recipients from government assistance by fostering family and community support structures and affirming the ``dignity of work."

The new system is focused heavily on helping young mothers, who are the bulk of welfare recipients.

While generally endorsed by the U.S. Conference of Mayors as ``sound and fair," the organization expressed concern over some provisions, including the entitlement cuts to pay for the changes.

And Raul Yzaguirre, president of the National Council of La Raza, a non-profit Hispanic rights group, cautioned the administration's proposal ``risks doing more harm than good."

``We believe the Clinton administration is attempting to do the right thing," he said, but added that ``unfortunately, by insisting that welfare reform be financed through cuts in existing benefits...is not the way to engage in an effective strategy to reduce poverty."

And the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League opposed language to deny benefit increases to women who have children while receiving assistance, calling the proposal a ``terrible idea."

``This child exlusion policy, if passed by Congress, would harm already hard-pressed families, punish innocent children and coerce some low-income women to have abortions," said NARAL Vice President James Wagoner.

Under the program:

Each recipient, working with a caseworker, would develop an employability plan identifying the education, training and job placement services needed to move that individual into the work force.

Most welfare recipients would be limited to 24 months of cash assistance.

Anyone offered a job would be required to accept it.

Jobs would be linked with job training programs offered under the Jobs Training Partnership Act, the new School-to-Work initiative, some federal college grants to students and other programs.

Parents who refused to stay in school, look for work, or attend job training programs would lose their share of the welfare check.

Mothers with disabilities and those caring for disabled children initially would be exempt from the two-year limit but will be required to develop plans aimed at leading them to jobs.

In addition, mothers with infants will receive only short-term deferrals from the restrictions 12 months for the first child and three months for the second. At the discretion of states, a small number of young mothers completing education programs could receive extensions.

Under the current system, welfare recipients who work lose benefits, dollar for dollar, and are penalized for saving money.

Clinton said his proposal would change these rules by setting higher earned income and child support standards.

In addition, the administration proposal raises the federal match and provides additional funding.

AM-Clinton-Bar-B-Q,70
President Samples Kansas City Barbecue
With AM-Welfare-Clinton, Bjt

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) President Clinton took advantage of his trip to Kansas City Tuesday to sample some of the city's famous barbecue.

He stopped for a meat platter at Gates Bar-B-Q, a popular eatery owned by Ollie Gates, a prominent local Democrat.

Clinton was in town to announce details of his proposal for changes in welfare laws.

BC-CLINTON-WELFARE (SCHEDULED)
CLINTON PROPOSES $9.3 BILLION WELFARE REFORM PROGR
By Susan Cornwell

KANSAS CITY, Mo, June 14 (Reuter) - Declaring America must break the cycle of dependency that has produced generations on the dole, President Clinton proposed Tuesday a $9.3 billion welfare reform plan limiting younger recipients to two years of benefits without work.

Clinton said the plan, if passed by Congress, would mean nearly 1 million Americans who would otherwise be on welfare would be off it or working in government-subsidised jobs by the year 2000.

Critics say this is only a small part of the current caseload and point out that government-subsidised jobs also cost the taxpayer money. There are 5 million adults on welfare now, and nearly 10 million American children dependent on them.

But Clinton said that while he could not change the entire system overnight, he also could not allow it to remain the same.

``We cannot permit millions of American children to be trapped in a cycle of dependency ... We must break this cycle," he told an audience at the Commerce Bank in Kansas City, which has participated in a Missouri state welfare-to-work programme not unlike the one Clinton is proposing on a national scale.

The president, who promised during his 1992 campaign to ``end welfare as we know it," said he wants to wean younger Americans off the dole by offering them job training, education, and if necessary subsidised private-sector or community service jobs.

He has rejected raising taxes to finance his plan, a decision which limited its scope. Clinton targeted his programme at people born after December 31, 1971 -- a group that will grow as time passes.

``Phasing in the new system will direct limited resources to young, single mothers with the most at risk," a White House statement said.

They will face a lifetime limit of 24 months of cash assistance. If they still can't find work, they will be required to take government-subsidised jobs in the private sector or community service jobs.

They will also have access to job training and education, and child care for up to a year after they leave welfare.

Clinton said his programme would also include ``the toughest child support enforcement measures in the history of this country." He said both parents would have to be identified at a hospital when a baby is born, and parents who don't pay court-ordered child support would have their wages garnished and they would be ``tracked across state lines."

At the same time he said his proposal would give states great flexibility to continue programmes such Missouri's FUTURES prgoram, which has placed 240 former welfare recipients in jobs in three years.

Clinton was introduced by Yolanda Magee, a 21-year-old who had successfully gone through the FUTURES programme.

Clinton's proposal includes $2.8 billion for education, training and placement; $1.2 billion for subsidised jobs; $4.2 billion for child care; $600 million for child support enforcement and $300 million for a ``massive" effort to counter teen pregnancies through educational programmes in schools.

Another $200 million is earmarked for various services.

The president proposed paying for his five-year reform plan largely through cuts in federal ``entitlement" programmes which automatically confer benefits on those deemed eligible.

The biggest chunk of the proposed cuts, $3.7 billion, comes from cutting back welfare for non-citizens by making it harder for them to qualify for benefits. The only hit on wealthy Americans ends agricultural support payments to farmers who earn more than $100,000 in non-farm income. This would produce $500 million.

The president will introduce his proposals in Congress in the next two weeks, officials said. But the bill may move slowly on Capitol Hill. ``It's probably something we won't be able to complete until next year," House Democratic leader Richard Gephardt of Missouri told reporters in Washington.

He said Congress could only get to welfare reform this year if it finished the rest of its agenda, including health care reform.

Republicans have resisted Clinton's proposals and an alternative authored by Pennsylvania Republican Rick Santorum would require welfare recipients to work in return for their welfare payments. It would be financed by more draconian cuts on benefits received by non-citizens.

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