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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. draft	Remarks on Welfare-to-Work Initiatives. MW Edits. (2 pages)	01/22/1999	P5
002. list	Fleet's Corporate Program. Success Stories. [partial] (4 pages)	01/21/1999	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Speechwriting
Jeff Shesol
OA/Box Number: 19944

FOLDER TITLE:

Welfare-To-Work 1/25/99 [1]

2006-0467-F
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RESTRICTION CODES

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

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
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b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
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K.E.

Revised Final 01/25/99 8:30am

'99 JAN 25 AM8:38

Jeff Shesol

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON

REMARKS ON WELFARE-TO-WORK INITIATIVES

THE WHITE HOUSE

January 25, 1999

Acknowledgments: Secs. Herman, Shalala, Slater, ~~Cuomo TDD~~; Reps. Ben Cardin & Ruben Hinojosa; ~~Janice LaChance, Dir. of OPM; Aida Alvarez, Administrator of SBA~~; Gov. Mel Carnahan; + JEAN CARAHAN Robert Higgins, Fleet Bank President and Chief Operating Officer; Carlos Rosas

- JANE CAMPBELL, County Commissioner, Cuyahoga County, Ohio
- ELI SEGAL — ~~other guests~~

In 1992, when I ran for President, ~~I told Americans~~ I said we had to move welfare from a system that promoted dependence in the name of humanity ~~that there were few things more important than reforming~~ to one that promoted independence and supported work and family. ~~our welfare system~~. A lot of people agreed that we should change welfare, but not everybody believed that we could do it. After all, this was a system that had trapped generations in a culture of dependency~~; there were neighborhoods where, quite simply, no one worked~~.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
1-27-99

~~The government's compact with the people seemed, somehow, to have broken down.~~

In the past six years we have done much to change all that. When I became President, I worked with 43 states, freeing them from federal strictures, enabling them to create new, innovative programs that move Americans from welfare to work; and, in 1996, I signed the landmark bipartisan welfare reform law, ending the old system as we knew it. I said then that "our nation's answer to the problems of poverty will no longer be a never-ending cycle of welfare; it will be the dignity, the power, and the ethic of work."

Today, if we stay on the new path we have forged, I believe we will break that cycle of dependence for good, and it will be one of our greatest accomplishments as a nation.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
1-27-99

Already, ~~even our greatest hopes are being surpassed~~.
1st time below 8m

Welfare rolls are the smallest in 30 years, down by 44 percent since I took office. In the same period, the number of welfare recipients who are working -- taking that first step toward responsibility -- has tripled. And every state is meeting the work participation standards required under welfare reform. Simply put, America is working again, -- ~~proving that something as basic as a full-time job can transform a life or a whole family~~.
and working is transforming lives and families.

② Since our goal is to empower individuals and strengthen families, we have done more than put time limits on welfare: Those of conscience ... health care

① The welfare system is no longer holding people back;

~~it is helping them move ahead.~~ ~~Welfare reform alone~~ we have increased our support for job training, transportation, child care for those who move from welfare to work ~~could not achieve that. That is why have continued to~~ keep

given more support to

~~support~~ health care and child care for all low-income working

families, ~~And we have~~ and doubled the Earned Income Tax

Credit for families with children, a targeted tax cut that is

especially generous to low-income working families. For

a family of four with an annual income of less than

$30,000, that tax cut is worth, on average, about $1,000.

And we must acknowledge that the success of welfare reform has

~~I have said that if we are going to require able bodied~~

been greatly enhanced by the success of the economy, with almost 17 million

~~people to take jobs, we have to make sure as a nation that~~

new jobs. Still there are of our Apr. challenge in

~~there are jobs for them to take. In our strong and growing~~

moving from welfare to work — always it is not fair to

~~economy, the true engine of job growth is the private~~

require people to work unless they have a chance to work.

~~sector~~.

The private sector is the main source of that chance.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

1-27-99

Two years ago, I asked five companies to lead a national effort to hire people off welfare. Today, our Welfare to Work Partnership includes 10,000 companies who have hired, retained, and promoted hundreds of thousands of people. It's not ~~a~~ charity; it's good for families and good for the bottom line. We've heard some of those success stories this morning; and I know, between Eli Segal and companies like Fleet, we will be hearing many more in the years to come.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
1-27-99

Smaller caseloads and bigger paychecks are important signs of progress. But they are not the only ones. The sense of pride, the sense of security of newly working Americans -- these are the best measures of our success.

As more Americans gain the confidence that a full-time job can bring, we gain confidence that our new strategy is working and strengthen our determination to do more.

We know what works. We know how to turn long-term welfare recipients into full-time workers. Now, as we move into the 21st Century, we must ensure that even more Americans move from welfare to work. In my State of the Union Address last week, I said we can help another 200,000 Americans move from welfare to work. To achieve that goal, I propose that we renew the successful Welfare-to-Work program, which is set to expire in the year 2000. My balanced budget includes $1 billion to help states and communities build upon their record of success.

My budget dedicates \$150 million of those funds to low-income fathers who fulfill their duty to work, to pay child support, and to become part of their children's lives again. Every father has that responsibility to his children and the mother of his children. But, as Carlos <u>Rosas</u> just told us, some fathers have difficulty getting or keeping a job, and that is why many states are using some of their welfare-to-work funds to help committed fathers of children on welfare -- fathers who sign personal responsibility contracts -- to get jobs. My balanced budget will help ensure <u>every</u> state can support fathers who support their families.

But there is more we must do. America has achieved the longest peacetime expansion in our history. And as our economy continues to grow, businesses reach farther and wider to hire new talent, bringing more welfare recipients into the workplace. We can -- and must -- use this moment to make <u>permanent</u> our gains on welfare. Our prosperity gives us this opportunity, and makes it an obligation.

We must, therefore, do more to help welfare recipients who remain on the rolls. In many cases, they are the ones who face the greatest challenges to entering the workforce. We know that if you can't get to work, you can't go to work.

Two-thirds of new jobs are in the suburbs, but three-quarters of welfare recipients live in cities or rural areas. That is why my balanced budget will double the funding to get workers to the workplace. I am also announcing a 50 percent increase in housing vouchers -- to help families find affordable homes, avoid those difficult commutes, and to get them closer to a new job and a better, brighter future.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
1-27-99

Thanks to the efforts of companies like Fleet, officials like Governor Carnahan, and working Americans like Carlos Rosas, more families are enjoying that kind of future. Across our nation, governors and mayors and county officials are joining with the private sector to develop new ways to move people from welfare to work.

I urge the Congress to renew an investment that is expanding opportunity and rewarding responsibility for millions of Americans. In that way, we can continue to make good on what I called, two years ago, "a historic chance to make welfare what it was meant to be: a second chance, not a way of life." We can go farther toward fulfilling our nation's basic bargain -- to reward the hard work of our citizens, and to give them the tools to succeed in changing and exciting times. Thank you.

JANUARY 25, 17:53 EST

Clinton Wants Welfare Reduced More

By SONYA ROSS
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Acknowledging it is getting tougher to clear public assistance rolls, President Clinton appealed Monday for corporations to help ``deal with the remaining people on welfare'' by hiring and training with their needs in mind.

Clinton spoke at a welfare-to-work ceremony as his administration released new figures that reflect both a 30-year low in welfare caseloads and some slowing of welfare declines in a few states. He proposed expanding or extending programs that have proven successful to address those mired in the most persistent poverty.

Among his proposals were spending $150 million in fiscal 2000 to provide job training and other support for fathers, $430 million for housing vouchers and another $150 million for transporting potential workers from inner cities to suburbs, where jobs tend to be more abundant.

``We don't have any excuse not to do it,'' Clinton said. ``With a continually growing economy, businesses have to reach wider to get new talent. ... We have to see this as an opportunity to make permanent gains in dealing with the welfare challenge.''

House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Archer, R-Texas, said Clinton's proposal runs counter to the trend indicated by the dropping caseloads and the existing $7 billion in block grants at states' disposal to help those remaining on welfare.

``The lives of the poor and needy have been improved greatly,'' Archer said. ``Now is not the time to abandon what has worked to go back to the failed system of throwing money at a problem.''

Nationally, just under 8 million people remained on welfare at the end of September, down 44 percent from 14.3 million in 1994. At the same time, some states saw welfare reductions slow during July, August and September, according to figures released Monday by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Kansas, which had cut its welfare rolls by 62 percent since 1993, showed only a 1.7 percent decline in the quarter ending Sept. 30. In Arkansas, the rolls fell just 2.7 percent in the last quarter of fiscal 1998, after declines of about 9 percent in previous quarters.

Other states seeing drop-offs included Arizona, Connecticut, Florida, Massachusetts and North Carolina. New Mexico, after nearly cutting its roles in half, saw a 40 percent increase during 1998.

Clinton said the figures mean reform efforts have reached a point where the problem has become most stubborn, and special, targeted action must be taken to get these people into the workplace.

``This is not charity,'' Clinton said. ``It is good for America to do this, and it will work because most people are good people and they want to do the right thing.''

Carlos Rosas, of St. Paul, Minn., said through a program targeting fathers he was able to find a better job and begin computer technology training, as well as resume support payments that keep his 12-year-old son Ricardo off welfare. He told Clinton fewer children would be on welfare if more of this type of help were available to their fathers.

``I've met many fathers in the program, and I know there are many more out there who have situations similar to, or worse than, my own," Rosas said.

Clinton said this could be accomplished easily if businesses respond to the human needs that have become obstacles to work for many on welfare.

``Human nature will rise to the level of possibility if given the opportunity and the guidance and the support," Clinton said. ``We must ensure that we go to the next step, that we deal with the remaining people on welfare, and that we do it recognizing that it is a challenge."

While Clinton issued his appeal, Vice President Al Gore went to California to announce a plan to seek $1.3 billion over five years to restore health and disability benefits and food stamps for legal immigrants who lost coverage under the 1996 welfare overhaul. The plan will be part of the budget Clinton sends to Congress on Feb. 1.

Hundreds of thousands of people lost benefits under the 1996 law, triggering strong protest from states with large blocs of immigrants and ethnic voters, such as California and New York. The administration and Congress restored some of the lost benefits in 1997 and last year.

The National Council of La Raza, the nation's largest Hispanic civil rights group, said the proposals were ``a good move politically on the part of the Clinton administration."

The 1996 cutoff ``graphically illustrated what people perceived to be the intransigence and mean-spiritedness of Congress," said spokeswoman Lisa Navarrete. ``This puts the ball back in the court of Congress to say, 'We are not going to do this.'"

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release January 25, 1999

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
ON WELFARE-TO-WORK INITIATIVES

Presidential Hall

11:02 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. This is a good way to start the day, isn't it? (Laughter.) We're all going to feel better when we leave here.

Let me thank the previous speakers -- first I want to thank Robert Higgins and his entire organization for setting an example for corporations throughout America. And I thank his employees for coming here today and for being a vivid human illustration of how welfare reform can work at its best.

I thank my good friend of many years, Governor Mel Carnahan, and Mrs. Carnahan who is here with him. We made two of our major welfare reform announcements over the last several years in Missouri because no state has worked harder to do this right, in a both humane and effective way.

I want to thank Carlos -- I was looking at him -- I don't know how many -- how many public speeches do you think Carlos has made in his life? (Laughter.) Man, he stood up here, he had his head up, his shoulders back -- (applause.) I was thinking as I was watching him that after he does all that computer stuff and makes money for a few years, that we're always looking for a few good candidates in this business, and he looked awfully good. (Laughter.)

I would like to thank Secretary Shalala, Secretary Herman, and Secretary

Slater for their work on welfare reform. And there are two members of the House of Representatives here today who represent very different districts, but who have a passionate interest in this whole subject -- Representative Ben Cardin from Maryland and Representative Rubin Hinojosa from South Texas. And I thank them for being here and for what they've done for this cause. (Applause.)

And my good friend, Jane Campbell, County Commissioner from Cayahoga County, Cleveland, Ohio. And I'd like to say a special word, if I might, before I get into my remarks about Eli Segal who started our welfare-to-work partnership.

You know, it takes a special, almost a genius, to start something that didn't exist before. And a couple of years ago when I announced in the State of the Union we were going to have this welfare-to-work partnership, we had five companies. A couple of years later we have 10,000 companies.

Yesterday, you may have seen in the press, I went home to Arkansas to look at some terrible tornado damage. At each place where I went, both these places, there was a team of our young AmeriCorps volunteers from all over America -- and most of them had never been to Arkansas before. One of the teams was

from St. Louis, working on the tornado damage. These young Americans give a year, sometimes two years of their lives; they earn credit for college. In four years there have been over 100,000 AmeriCorps volunteers. It took the Peace Corps 20 years to get to 100,000 volunteers. Eli Segal also started AmeriCorps. So for two great contributions to the United States, we thank him for his remarkable, remarkable -- (applause.)

One of the reasons that I ran for President in 1992 was to change the welfare system as we then knew it -- to move from a system that promoted independence and had no incentives for parents who are not custodial parents to be responsible, and basically gave people a check that was almost always inadequate, in the name of being humane, which assumed, more often than not, that they had no capacity to work and support their children.

All these things were done with the best of intentions -- we either assumed people couldn't do the right thing or we assumed that they wouldn't do the right thing, and so, well, we made the best of an imperfect world by at least cutting a check once a month and then making sure that -- and I approve of this and kept it -- there were nutritional and health benefits for the children.

And it seemed to me that we ought to -- before we just continue to give up on this -- we now had created a couple or three generations in some places of people who depended on welfare checks and repeated the pattern of the past -- that we ought to try to develop a system that at least would try to create incentives and, where appropriate, requirements that would promote independence, work and family responsibilities.

Now, everybody liked the idea and wanted to do it, but a lot of people, including a lot of very good people who had labored for years in this system, doubted that it could be done. And so we started working at it. And in the past six years, I think it's obvious that the American people have done a lot to change all that.

When I became President, I worked with 43 states -- Governor Carnahan mentioned this -- before we passed legislation, to just free them of federal rules which undermined their ability to create a system that would promote work and family. There were many innovative programs that already were beginning to move large numbers of people from welfare to work, even before 1996. It was in that year that I was able to sign the landmark bipartisan welfare reform law. I said then that our nation's answers to the problems of poverty will no longer be a never-ending cycle of welfare, but instead the dignity, the power, the ethic of work.

Today we can actually foresee a time when we can break the cycle of welfare for good -- when welfare will literally be a support system given to people in hard economic times, or when personal misfortune occurs, but that it will not be the rule of life for large numbers of our fellow citizens.

Already we now see welfare rolls in America are the lowest they've been in 30 years -- for the first time in 30 years, below 8 million people; down by 44 percent since I took office. And the same people -- the number of people on welfare who are also working some, taking that first step toward responsibility, has tripled. Every state -- every state -- is now meeting the work participation standards required under the welfare reform law, something I confess that even I did not believe would happen. None of believed that they would -- every single one of them so far is meeting the work participation standards of the welfare reform law.

America is working again, and this work is transforming lives and families. The welfare system is no longer holding people back, it is helping them to move ahead.

Since the goal here -- and let's not forget what the goal is -- it is to empower individuals and strengthen families. We've had to do more than simply put time limits on welfare. As I said a moment ago, those who lose their welfare checks continue to get health and nutritional support for their children -- and they should. It was one of the big battles we fought here when we debated this, and it led to two vetoes before we finally got a bill that I felt that I could sign.

We also have increased our support for training, for transportation, for child care for those who move from welfare to work, recognizing that there are barriers and we shouldn't expect people to actually move from welfare to work and lower their standard of living and lower their ability to support their children. And there is more support for child care, substantially more, in this budget and for other things.

We have given more support for health care and child care for all low income working families. I think that our citizens should never forget that the largest number of poor people in America are the working poor. And we should be sensitive of that. And with the help of Congress we have doubled the earned income tax credit for families with children. That is a targeted tax cut that's especially generous to low income working families. And today it's worth about $1,000 to every family of four with an income of under $30,000; and for families of two and three, lower incomes, it's worth quite a lot of money. So this was a major contribution of the economic plan of 1993 and it alone, along with the increase in the minimum wage, has lifted over 2 million children out of poverty.

Finally, let me say, as all of you know, I am trying to raise the minimum wage again because I don't think people should work so poor children can still be in poverty. (Applause.)

I think it is very important, however, that we recognize that much of the success of welfare reform has come because of the growth of the economy at large -- nearly 18 million new jobs in the last six years. I also think we have to recognize that much of the success of welfare reform has come because of the commitment of people in the private sector to do the right thing. I think that if there were no companies willing to have the example that Fleet has offered us today, this would be much, much harder.

And as we look ahead to the future, we have to assume that reaching the next 8 million people -- or just under 8 million people -- on welfare will be even more challenging than reaching the 44 percent reduction that we have seen achieved already. Therefore, since it's not fair to require people to work unless they have a chance to work, we have to honor and build up and work with the private sector to make sure they have that chance.

As I said, we started two years ago with five companies in the welfare-to-work partnership. Today there are 10,000. They have hired, retrained, and often promoted literally hundreds of thousands of people. And as you have heard, this is not charity -- it's good for families, but it's also good for the bottom line, and good for the communities.

Now, smaller caseloads, bigger paychecks, are important signs of progress. But I think it's also important that we recognize this is about more than economics. And I think you can see that. There's something intangible, even beyond the money, involved here -- the sense of security of these newly-working members of our country; the sense of pride at being able to support a child, and being able to be a fully participating member of society.

So we have to do more, and we now know what works. And we've seen examples of it today. We know that long-term welfare recipients can be turned into full-time workers. Now we must ensure that we go to the next step, that we deal with the remaining people on welfare, and that we do it, recognizing that it is a challenge, but also a phenomenal opportunity for the United States and a responsibility for those of us who can do something about it.

In my State of the Union address last week I said that we can help another 200,000 Americans move from welfare to work with extra support in the federal budget. To achieve that, I propose first that we renew the welfare-to-work program, which is set to expire in the year 2000. My balanced budget includes $1 billion to help states and communities build upon their record of success. It also dedicates $150 million of those funds to low income fathers who fulfill their duty to work, to pay child support, to become part of their children's lives.

And I think all of us were thrilled by Carlos's statement. But I would like to make one point here that he made that I think ought to be made more explicit. There is a reason that welfare reform has worked. There is a reason that programs like this magnificent program in Minnesota, giving fathers the tools they need to support their children, has worked. And that is, most people are basically good people who want to do the right thing.

You know, we have all these programs, we talk about all these policies and we hardly ever say that. But I think that's worth stating. You saw a good person up here, talking about a child he loved. And it's so easy to forget that. The reason all this stuff can be done is that human nature will rise to the level of possibility if given the opportunity and the guidance and the support. That's the reason these rolls have reduced so much.

You know, I hardly ever -- when I was governor for 12 years I ran a welfare system in a poor state -- I don't believe I ever met -- and I went to welfare offices, and I sat and talked with caseworkers and welfare recipients, and went through the details of it -- and I have never met a person who has said, you know, I really love getting this welfare check, and I hope I never have to hit a lick. (Laughter.) I never met a person who said, gosh, I'm proud that I never pay any child support to my child. You know, there may be a few, but to pretend that is anything like more than a small minority is a foolish assumption. (Applause.)

So I say, this is very important. And this $150 million to support people, so there can be more stories like Carlos Rosas', is very, very important. Many states are using some of their welfare-to-work funds, as you heard from Governor Carnahan already, to get fathers to sign personal responsibility contracts, to do the right thing by their children. And now this extra $150 million will help to ensure that every state can have this kind of effort, and that every community that has any substantial number of people who would fall under this category can do the kinds of things we've heard about in this Minnesota program.

But we have more to do. With the longest peacetime expansion in history, with a continually growing economy, businesses have to reach wider to get new talent. They have to bring more welfare recipients into the workplace if we're going to continue to grow.

So we have to see this as an opportunity to make permanent gains in dealing with the welfare challenge. And therefore, I think we have to do more to help those recipients who are still on the rolls. And as I said, they're often the greatest challenges to getting people into the work force.

Example number one -- that's why Secretary Slater is here today -- two-thirds of the new jobs in America are in the suburbs; three-quarters of the welfare recipients are in the cities, or in isolated rural areas. So you've got the jobs in the middle, and the welfare recipients in the cities or in the rural areas.

Our balanced budget will double funding to get workers to the workplace -- for transportation support. It also has a 50-percent increase in housing vouchers, to help families find affordable homes closer to the jobs and avoid difficult and, sometimes, actually impossible commutes.

Now, these are the kinds of things that I think we ought to be doing. We don't have any excuse not to do it. We have the example of Fleet. We have the example of Missouri and Governor Carnahan. We have the example of Carlos Rosas. We have the example of these fine women who stood up when they were introduced as employees of Fleet. And we now know that it is not only the right thing to do for our country, it is the right thing to do for our companies.

So I hope that we will have enormous bipartisan support for this new advance in the welfare budget. And I hope all of you will do everything you can to spread the word across the country that it is good for America to do this, and it will work because most people are good people and they want to do the right thing.

Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END 11:20 A.M. EST

Message Sent To:

Revised Final 01/25/99 8:30am

Jeff Shesol

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON

REMARKS ON WELFARE-TO-WORK INITIATIVES

THE WHITE HOUSE

January 25, 1999

Acknowledgments: Secs. Herman, Shalala, Slater, Cuomo TBD; Reps. Ben Cardin & Ruben Hinojosa; Janice LaChance, Dir. of OPM; Aida Alvarez, Administrator of SBA; Gov. Mel Carnahan; Robert Higgins, Fleet Bank President and Chief Operating Officer; Carlos Rosas

In 1992, when I ran for President, I told Americans that there were few things more important than reforming our welfare system. A lot of people agreed that we should change welfare, but not everybody believed that we could do it. After all, this was a system that had trapped generations in a culture of dependency; there were neighborhoods where, quite simply, no one worked.

The government's compact with the people seemed, somehow, to have broken down.

In the past six years we have done much to change all that. When I became President, I worked with 43 states, freeing them from federal strictures, enabling them to create new, innovative programs that move Americans from welfare to work; and, in 1996, I signed the landmark bipartisan welfare reform law, ending the old system as we knew it. I said then that "our nation's answer to the problems of poverty will no longer be a never-ending cycle of welfare; it will be the dignity, the power, and the ethic of work."

Today, if we stay on the new path we have forged, I believe we will break that cycle of dependence for good, and it will be one of our greatest accomplishments as a nation.

Already, even our greatest hopes are being surpassed. Welfare rolls are the smallest in 30 years, down by 44 percent since I took office. In the same period, the number of welfare recipients who are working -- taking that first step toward responsibility -- has tripled. And every state is meeting the work participation standards required under welfare reform. Simply put, America is working again -- proving that something as basic as a full-time job can transform a life or a whole family.

The welfare system is no longer holding people back; it is helping them move ahead. Welfare reform alone could not achieve that. That is why have continued to support health care and child care for low-income families. And we have doubled the Earned Income Tax Credit for families with children, a targeted tax cut that is especially generous to low-income working families. For a family of four with an annual income of less than $30,000, that tax cut is worth, on average, about $1,000.

I have said that if we are going to require able-bodied people to take jobs, we have to make sure as a nation that there are jobs for them to take. In our strong and growing economy, the true engine of job growth is the private sector.

Two years ago, I asked five companies to lead a national effort to hire people off welfare. Today, our Welfare to Work Partnership includes 10,000 companies who have hired, retained, and promoted hundreds of thousands of people. It's not a charity; it's good for families and good for the bottom line. We've heard some of those success stories this morning; and I know, between Eli Segal and companies like Fleet, we will be hearing many more in the years to come.

Smaller caseloads and bigger paychecks are important signs of progress. But they are not the only ones. The sense of pride, the sense of security of newly working Americans -- these are the best measures of our success.

As more Americans gain the confidence that a full-time job can bring, we gain confidence that our new strategy is working and strengthen our determination to do more.

We know what works. We know how to turn long-term welfare recipients into full-time workers. Now, as we move into the 21st Century, we must ensure that even more Americans move from welfare to work. In my State of the Union Address last week, I said we can help another 200,000 Americans move from welfare to work. To achieve that goal, I propose that we renew the successful Welfare-to-Work program, which is set to expire in the year 2000. My balanced budget includes $1 billion to help states and communities build upon their record of success.

My budget dedicates $150 million of those funds to low-income fathers who fulfill their duty to work, to pay child support, and to become part of their children's lives again. Every father has that responsibility to his children and the mother of his children. But, as Carlos Rosas just told us, some fathers have difficulty getting or keeping a job, and that is why many states are using some of their welfare-to-work funds to help committed fathers of children on welfare -- fathers who sign personal responsibility contracts -- to get jobs. My balanced budget will help ensure every state can support fathers who support their families.

But there is more we must do. America has achieved the longest peacetime expansion in our history. And as our economy continues to grow, businesses reach farther and wider to hire new talent, bringing more welfare recipients into the workplace. We can -- and must -- use this moment to make <u>permanent</u> our gains on welfare. Our prosperity gives us this opportunity, and makes it an obligation.

We must, therefore, do more to help welfare recipients who remain on the rolls. In many cases, they are the ones who face the greatest challenges to entering the workforce. We know that if you can't get to work, you can't go to work.

Two-thirds of new jobs are in the suburbs, but three-quarters of welfare recipients live in cities or rural areas. That is why my balanced budget will double the funding to get workers to the workplace. I am also announcing a 50 percent increase in housing vouchers -- to help families find affordable homes, avoid those difficult commutes, and to get them closer to a new job and a better, brighter future.

Thanks to the efforts of companies like Fleet, officials like Governor Carnahan, and working Americans like Carlos Rosas, more families are enjoying that kind of future. Across our nation, governors and mayors and county officials are joining with the private sector to develop new ways to move people from welfare to work.

I urge the Congress to renew an investment that is expanding opportunity and rewarding responsibility for millions of Americans. In that way, we can continue to make good on what I called, two years ago, "a historic chance to make welfare what it was meant to be: a second chance, not a way of life." We can go farther toward fulfilling our nation's basic bargain -- to reward the hard work of our citizens, and to give them the tools to succeed in changing and exciting times. Thank you.

Revised Final 01/25/99 8:30am
Jeff Shesol

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS ON WELFARE-TO-WORK INITIATIVES
THE WHITE HOUSE
January 25, 1999

Acknowledgments: Secs. Herman, Shalala, Slater, Cuomo TBD; Reps. Ben Cardin & Ruben Hinojosa; Janice LaChance, Dir. of OPM; Aida Alvarez, Administrator of SBA; Gov. Mel Carnahan; Robert Higgins, Fleet Bank President and Chief Operating Officer; Carlos Rosas

In 1992, when I ran for President, I told Americans that there were few things more important than reforming our welfare system. A lot of people agreed that we should change welfare, but not everybody believed that we could do it. After all, this was a system that had trapped generations in a culture of dependency; there were neighborhoods where, quite simply, no one worked. The government's compact with the people seemed, somehow, to have broken down.

In the past six years we have done much to change all that. When I became President, I worked with 43 states, freeing them from federal strictures, enabling them to create new, innovative programs that move Americans from welfare to work; and, in 1996, I signed the landmark bipartisan welfare reform law, ending the old system as we knew it. I said then that "our nation's answer to the problems of poverty will no longer be a never-ending cycle of welfare; it will be the dignity, the power, and the ethic of work."

Today, if we stay on the new path we have forged, I believe we will break that cycle of dependence for good, and it will be one of our greatest accomplishments as a nation.

Already, even our greatest hopes are being surpassed. Welfare rolls are the smallest in 30 years, down by 44 percent since I took office. In the same period, the number of welfare recipients who are working -- taking that first step toward responsibility -- has tripled. And every state is meeting the work participation standards required under welfare reform. Simply put, America is working again -- proving that something as basic as a full-time job can transform a life or a whole family.

The welfare system is no longer holding people back; it is helping them move ahead. Welfare reform alone could not achieve that. That is why have continued to support health care and child care for low-income families. And we have doubled the Earned Income Tax Credit for families with children, a targeted tax cut that is especially generous to low-income working families. For a family of four with an annual income of less than $30,000, that tax cut is worth, on average, about $1,000.

I have said that if we are going to require able-bodied people to take jobs, we have to make sure as a nation that there are jobs for them to take. In our strong and growing economy, the true engine of job growth is the private sector. Two years ago, I asked five companies to lead a national effort to hire people off welfare. Today, our Welfare to Work Partnership includes 10,000 companies who have hired, retained, and promoted hundreds of thousands of people. It's not a charity; it's good for families and good for the bottom line. We've heard some of those success stories this morning; and I know, between Eli Segal and companies like Fleet, we will be hearing many more in the years to come.

Smaller caseloads and bigger paychecks are important signs of progress. But they are not the only ones. The sense of pride, the sense of security of newly working Americans -- these are the best measures of our success. As more Americans gain the confidence that a full-time job can bring, we gain confidence that our new strategy is working and strengthen our determination to do more.

We know what works. We know how to turn long-term welfare recipients into full-time workers. Now, as we move into the 21st Century, we must ensure that even more Americans move from welfare to work. In my State of the Union Address last week, I said we can help another 200,000 Americans move from welfare to work. To achieve that goal, I propose that we renew the successful Welfare-to-Work program, which is set to expire in the year 2000. My balanced budget includes $1 billion to help states and communities build upon their record of success.

My budget dedicates $150 million of those funds to low-income fathers who fulfill their duty to work, to pay child support, and to become part of their children's lives again. Every father has that responsibility to his children and the mother of his children. But, as Carlos Rosas just told us, some fathers have difficulty getting or keeping a job, and that is why many states are using some of their welfare-to-work funds to help committed fathers of children on welfare -- fathers who sign personal responsibility contracts -- to get jobs. My balanced budget will help ensure every state can support fathers who support their families.

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. draft	Remarks on Welfare-to-Work Initiatives. MW Edits. (2 pages)	01/22/1999	P5

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Speechwriting
Jeff Shesol
OA/Box Number: 19944

FOLDER TITLE:

Welfare-To-Work 1/25/99 [1]

2006-0467-F
vz213

RESTRICTION CODES

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

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

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Draft 01/22/99 4:00pm
Jeff Shesol

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS ON WELFARE-TO-WORK INITIATIVES
THE WHITE HOUSE
January 25, 1999

Acknowledgments: Secs. Cuomo TBD, Herman, Shalala, Slater; Janice LaChance, Dir. of OPM; Aida Alvarez, Administrator of SBA; Gov. Mel Carnahan; father TBD; Fleet National Bank COO TBD

This new year, 1999, is just about my twentieth year of work on the welfare issue. As governor, I used to invite welfare recipients to talk to me and other governors about their experiences, and about the difference that work -- something as basic as a full-time job -- could make in their lives. We had to take their word for it, back then, because there were not many success stories of the transition from welfare to work. Welfare, as it existed then, seemed to promote dependence rather than independence. It seemed, to many Americans, to reward the wrong attitude while punishing the right one. Welfare wasn't working; and, it almost went without saying, welfare recipients weren't working.

In the past six years we have done much to change all that. When I became President, I worked with 43 states to craft their own programs to move Americans from welfare to work; and, in 1996, I signed the landmark bipartisan welfare reform law, ending the old system as we knew it. I said then that "our nation's answer to the problems of poverty will no longer be a never-ending cycle of welfare; it will be the dignity, the power, and the ethic of work."

Today, already, even our greatest hopes are being surpassed. Welfare rolls are the smallest in 30 years, down by 44 percent since I took office. More single parents are joining the workforce. Meanwhile, more welfare recipients are working than ever before; the number has tripled since 1992, and 1.5 million who were on welfare in 1997 were working in 1998.

Gal
Gstc

The welfare system is no longer holding people back, it is moving them ahead, to a better future. Welfare reform alone did not achieve that; more was required of us, and that is why have continued to support health care and child care for low-income families. That is why, back in 1993, we doubled the Earned Income Tax Credit, a targeted tax cut that is especially generous to low-income working families. For a family of four with an annual income of less than $30,000, that tax cut is worth about $1,000.

▶ m snbc
▶ wage
▶ lever point

I have said that if we are going to require able-bodied people to take jobs, we have to make sure as a nation that there are jobs for them to take. In our strong and growing economy, the true engine of job growth is the private sector. Two years ago, I asked five companies to lead a national effort to hire people off welfare. Tonight, our Welfare to Work Partnership includes 10,000 companies who have hired hundreds of thousands of people. We've heard some of those success stories this morning; and I know, between Eli Segal and companies like Fleet, we will be hearing many more in the years to come.

Smaller caseloads and bigger paychecks are important signs of progress. But they are not the only ones. The sense of pride, the sense of security of newly working Americans -- these are the best measures of our success. As more Americans gain the confidence that a full-time job can bring, we gain confidence that our new strategy is working and strengthen our determination to do more.

We know what works. Now we must ensure that it continues to do so. In my State of the Union Address last week, I said we can help another 200,000 Americans move from welfare to work. To achieve that goal, I propose that we renew the successful Welfare-to-Work program, which is set to expire in the year 2000. My balanced budget includes $1 billion to help states and communities build upon their record of success, to turn more long-term welfare recipients into full-time workers.

Of that $1 billion in new funds, we will dedicate $150 million to low-income fathers who fulfill their duty to work, to pay child support, and to become part of their children's lives again. Every father has that responsibility to his children and the mother of his children. And if every father paid the support they should, [TK] million women would go off the welfare rolls immediately. But some fathers have difficulty getting a job, and that is why many states are using some of their Welfare-to-work funds to help committed fathers of children on welfare -- fathers who sign personal responsibility contracts -- to get jobs. My balanced budget will help ensure <u>every</u> state can support fathers who support their families.

There is more we must do. Welfare recipients who remain on the rolls, in many cases, face the greatest challenges to entering the workforce. We know that if you can't get to work, you can't go to work. Two-thirds of new jobs are in the suburbs, but three-quarters of welfare recipients live in cities or rural areas. Most don't own cars -- and public transportation isn't much help when you're working nights or weekends. That is why my balanced budget will <u>double</u> funding to get workers to the workplace. I am also announcing a 50 percent increase in housing vouchers -- to help families find affordable homes, avoid those difficult commutes, and to get them closer to a new job and a better, brighter future.

Thanks to the efforts of companies like Fleet, officials like Governor <u>Carnahan</u>, and working Americans like [TK], more families are enjoying that kind of future. I urge Congress to renew an investment that is expanding opportunity and rewarding responsibility for millions of Americans. If we do so, we will continue to make good on what I called, two years ago, "a historic chance to make welfare what it was meant to be: a second chance, not a way of life." We will go farther toward fulfilling our nation's basic bargain -- to reward the hard work of its citizens, and to give them the tools to succeed in changing and exciting times. Thank you.

Jonathan Orszag 01/23/99 02:40:19 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Jeffrey A. Shesol/WHO/EOP

cc:
Subject: Two changes.

"And we have doubled the Earned Income Tax Credit **for families with children**, a targeted tax cut that is especially generous to low-income working families. For a family of four with an annual income of less than $30,000, that tax cut is worth, **on average,** about $1,000."

LW edits

Not yet?

Draft 01/22/99 11:00am
Jeff Shesol

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS ON WELFARE-TO-WORK INITIATIVES
THE WHITE HOUSE
January 25, 1999

Acknowledgments: Secs. Cuomo TBD, Herman, Shalala, Slater; Janice LaChance, Dir. of OPM; Aida Alvarez, Administrator of SBA; Gov. Mel Carnahan; father TBD; Fleet National Bank COO TBD

former? nec.?

This new year, 1999, is just about my twentieth year of work on the welfare issue. As governor, I used to invite welfare recipients to talk to me and other governors about their experiences, and about the difference that work -- something as basic as a full-time job -- could make in their lives. We had to take their word for it, back then, because there were not many success stories of the transition from welfare-to-work. Welfare, as it existed then, seemed to promote dependence rather than independence. It seemed, to many Americans, to reward the wrong attitude while punishing the right one. Welfare wasn't working; and, it almost went without saying, welfare recipients weren't working. ? (clashes w/ concept of POTUS working then.)

had made? ? whole graf is very confusing. Let's discuss.

Confusing. Some don't have any clue about what work could mean — they might have never had a job before

In the past six years we have done much to change all that. When I became President, I worked with 43 states ~~to craft their own~~ programs to move Americans from welfare to work; and, in 1996, I signed the landmark bipartisan welfare reform law, ending the old system as we knew it. I said then that "our nation's answer to the problems of poverty will no longer be a never-ending cycle of welfare; it will be the dignity, the power, and the ethic of work."

Today, already, even our greatest hopes are being surpassed. Welfare rolls are the smallest in 30 years, down by 44 percent since I took office. More single parents are joining the workforce. ~~Meanwhile, more welfare recipients are working than ever before~~; the number has tripled since ~~1992, and~~ 1.5 million who were on welfare in 1997 were working in 1998.

are we announcing these #s?

The welfare system is no longer holding people back; it is moving them ahead, to a better future. Welfare reform alone did not achieve that; ~~more was required of us, and~~ that is why have continued to support health care and child care for low-income families. That is why, back in 1993, we doubled the Earned Income Tax Credit, a targeted tax cut that is especially generous to low-income working families. For a family of four with an annual income of less than $30,000, that tax cut is worth about $1,000.

Checking welfare reform passed afterward — you need to finesse this better.

I have said that if we are going to require able-bodied people to take jobs, we have to make sure as a nation that there are jobs for them to take. In our strong and growing economy, the true engine of job growth is the private sector. Two years ago, I asked five companies to lead a national effort to hire people off welfare. Tonight, our Welfare to Work Partnership includes 10,000 companies who have hired hundreds of thousands of people. We've heard some of those success stories this morning; and I know, between Eli Segal and companies like Fleet, we will be hearing many more in the years to come.

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based on previous sent. This question: buying them cars.

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The Welfare to Work
PARTNERSHIP

CC: Karin
Cynthia

I think fleet
looks better.

Andrea

Fax

To: Andrea Kane | From: Lyn Hogan
Fax: | Pages:
Phone: | Date:
Re: | CC:

☐ Urgent ☑ For Review ☐ Please Comment ☐ Please Reply ☐ Please Recycle

Fleet Information

Jeff
Shesol

Room 192

TOLL FREE FOR INTERESTED BUSINESSES
1-888-USA-JOB1

1250 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 610, Washington, DC 20036
Telephone (202) 955-3005 Fax (202) 955-1087 email info@welfaretowork.org web site www.welfaretowork.org
The Welfare to Work Partnership is a not-for-profit corporation, organized under the laws of the District of Columbia

Fleet's Corporate Program

Potential speaker:
Robert Higgins, President and COO, Fleet Bank

Success Stories:
See list below. (includes diverse group of 8 success stories)

Fleet Financial Services Center

Fleet Bank, based in Boston with branches throughout New England, runs the Fleet Financial Services Center located in Lincoln, Rhode Island, where Fleet has its strongest welfare to work program.

Fleet has been committed to the Welfare-to-Work concept since its inception. Fleet has a corporate-wide task team whose goal is to develop relationships with organizations that train and help place welfare recipients in jobs

In 1998, Fleet Bank hired 814 employees who were potentially eligible under the Welfare to Work Tax credit program. This represents 7.5% of the new hires across the company. Fleet is proud to report a 90% job retention rate.

As part of Fleet's welfare to work program, Fleet has established several training partnerships to tap the Welfare to Work population. In Rhode Island, Fleet's most successful program has been its partnership with the Northern RI Private Industry Council to train and place welfare recipients at Fleet's Lincoln Call Center.

The Lincoln Program

In 1997, Fleet established Lincoln, RI as the site for its new state-of-the-art Call Center facility. Fleet's partnership with the Northern Rhode Island Private Industry Council (NRIPIC), Fleet began looking for ways to tap non-traditional sources for employees to fill open positions.

Fleet provided NRIPIC with job descriptions, skill inventories and first hand tours of the facilities, equipment, work environment, etc. NRIPIC developed the training programs, worked with local community agencies to identify candidates, and conducted the training. Most important was the ongoing dialog between Fleet Human Resources, management, the staff at NRIPIC and the trainers themselves. The pre-employment training done by NRIPIC included not only basic skill development (core skills that new hires must have to be successful in Fleet's five week call center training program), but also coaching, mentoring, and life skills training.

Traditionally, Fleet's call center training has consisted of a five week classroom training program, followed by immediate placement in the call center. As a part of the

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. list	Fleet's Corporate Program. Success Stories. [partial] (4 pages)	01/21/1999	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
Speechwriting
Jeff Shesol
OA/Box Number: 19944

FOLDER TITLE:
Welfare-To-Work 1/25/99 [1]

2006-0467-F
vz213

RESTRICTION CODES

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

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
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PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

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partnership with NRIPIC, Fleet modified the OJT portion of the program to include more one-on-one coaching and small group interactions. It proved so successful in easing the transition between classroom training and full time phone work that Fleet is now using this technique with all new hires. All of the new hires have benefited from new techniques originally designed to assist this specialized group.

The jobs Fleet targeted for welfare to work hires provide these hires with the first step in a wide range of career options within Fleet's Call Center environment. These jobs require a good phone manner, sensitivity to customer needs, PC skills, and an extensive knowledge of Fleet's products. Successful entry-level teleservices reps can receive additional training in specialty areas such as small business, sales and PC banking. Welfare to work hires with good job performance can be promoted to supervisory roles in the Call Center, or to other jobs within the Fleet structure.

Two pre-employment training classes have taken place at the Rhode Island site from which Fleet has hired a total of 39 graduates. Another class began in January of 1999. All of these individuals are success stories; specific examples from 6 employees are attached.

For more information on Fleet's welfare to work efforts, contact Linda Crane at (401) 642-5012 or Donnie Tuggle, 401-278-5079.

Success Stories

P6/(b)(6)

[002]

P6/(b)(6)

[002]

3

-

[redacted]

Name: **Roslyn C. Gunthorpe**
Date of Hire: 04/06/98
Position: Customer Service Specialist

[redacted]

In 1992, Roslyn moved fled a domestic abuse situation in St. Thomas and moved to Maryland and then Rhode Island with her then 2-year-old daughter. She now also has a 2-year old son. From 1992 to 1998, Roslyn received welfare—cash assistance, medicaid, food stamps and child care subsidies. She located the PIC program on her own and walked in. Roslyn believes the Fleet program boosted her self-esteem and confidence, She enjoys helping customers and says she enjoys the job because she "Sees lots of opportunity for promotion at Fleet." She also says the Fleet job has opened her eyes to opportunities in the banking industry.

*Name: **Silvia B. Bolivar (very articulate, enjoys public speaking)**
Date of Hire: 04/06/98
Position: Customer Service Specialist

[redacted] [002]

Sylvia had her first child at age 17 and her mother kicked her out of her house, leaving her on her own. She received no support from the baby's father. In order to complete high school and support her baby, she had to go on welfare. She had been on and off welfare for nine years. She now has two children, age 1 and 12. One day, she received a notice in the mail from the PIC and immediately called. She enrolled in the classes and learned customer service skills and human relations. She believes the Fleet PIC program has given her the opportunity for a better life.

She says, "Meeting the President of the United States would be a dream come true!"

Name: **Dina M. Cordeiro**
Date of Hire: 04/06/98
Position: Customer Service Specialist

[redacted]

Dina is a single mother with a 21 month old son. She was raised on welfare—her mother and grandmother both received welfare benefits their entire lives. Once Dina had her son, she too found herself on welfare. She received benefits for approximately a year-and-a-half until her friend saw an ad in the newspaper for the PIC welfare to work program. She procrastinated a little, but then found the will to call, and she is glad she did! Despite her mother's constant advice to Dina to quit her job and go back on welfare, Dina has stuck it out. Dina has gained self-respect, self-esteem, motivation and feels she can now provide a better life for her son.

P6/(b)(6)

[002]

Andrea Kane 01/22/99 04:01:07 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Jeffrey A. Shesol/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: Re: query

Here's a piece from our Accomplishments doc

Tax Credits for Employers: The Welfare to Work Tax Credit, enacted in the 1997 Balanced Budget Act, provides a credit equal to 35 percent of the first $10,000 in wages in the first year of employment, and 50 percent of the first $10,000 in wages in the second year, to encourage the hiring and retention of long term welfare recipients. This credit complements the Work Opportunity Tax Credit, which provides a credit of up to $2,400 for the first year of wages for eight groups of job seekers.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release August 4, 1998

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
ON WELFARE REFORM

The East Room
3:15 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Thank you very much, Vesta Kimble, for that fine statement and for the good work you do. And I welcome your colleagues and co-workers from Maryland here. I thank Congressman Levin and Congressman Roemer for coming. There was a vote in the House of Representatives which was concluded literally two minutes before we started this ceremony and they got here as quick as they could. We welcome you and thank you for your role in welfare reform.

I'd like to thank Secretary Herman and Secretary Shalala for the terrific job they have done, and welcome all of you in the audience, including my good friend, Eli Segal, who founded our partnership with the business community, about which I'll say more later. The First Lady was just a few moments ago meeting with members and I think maybe some former members of the D.C. Control Board. I know that some of them are here and I welcome them as well.

Two years ago I stood with many of you in the Rose Garden and made the following statement: "From now on our nation's answer to the problems of poverty will no longer be a never ending cycle of welfare; it will be the dignity, the power, and the ethic of work. . . . We are taking an historic chance to make welfare what it was meant to be: a second chance, not a way of life."

As those of us who have been working for years and years to change the system knew all too well, welfare had in too many ways failed our society, and more important, failed the millions of families it was designed to help. So in the Rose Garden we came together two years ago to restore our basic bargain of providing opportunity to all those willing to exercise responsibility in turn. We ended welfare as we knew it and made way for a system based on the dignity of independence and the value of work.

But I would also like to reiterate something Secretary Shalala said. We did not want to put poor people moving from welfare to work in the exact same position too many people who've always been in the work force find themselves, of having to choose between being a good worker and a good parent. So we said, okay, we will require people who have to move from welfare to work, if they're able-bodied, to go to work. But we will leave their children with food assistance and guaranteed medical coverage, and we will invest more in child care and other family supports.

Today we come here not only to observe this anniversary but to lay to rest the last vestige of the old system -- an anti-work, anti-family provision that has deprived some two-parent families of their Medicaid coverage when a parent secures a full-time job.

But first, on this important anniversary, I think it's important to recognize that this new strategy -- this great new experiment that we launched two years ago -- has already shown remarkable signs of success. Two years ago, we said welfare reform would spark a race to independence, not a race to the bottom, and this prediction is coming true.

Reform is working

State $ ↑

According to the National Governors Association, state investments in helping former welfare parents succeed at work have gone up by one-third, and spending on child care has increased by one-half. And let me remind you, I believe this has happened partly because the Congress in the Balanced Budget Amendment appropriated $3 billion for child care, but partly because there was a little-noticed provision in the welfare reform law which lets states keep the amount of money they were receiving for the welfare case load in February of '94, when it had reached an all-time high.

So as the case loads go down, they can keep the money as long as they reinvest it in the potential of the families involved. And I think that was a very good thing to do.

income ↑ from welfare

We also said back then that work should pay more than welfare. Last week the Urban Institute reported that family income goes up more than 50 percent, on average, when parents move from welfare to part-time entry-level jobs, and significantly more when they move up to full-time work. And I must say, I was especially pleased to note how helpful the Earned Income Tax Credit is for families making this transition. In several states it accounts for almost half the income gains.

EITC

For those of you who may not know it, the Earned Income Tax Credit is a tax cut to lower-income working people that is especially generous to working families with children. We doubled it in 1993, and because of that provision, today it's worth a tax cut of approximately a thousand dollars a year to a family of four with an income of under $30,000 a year. Obviously, for people working for more modest wages than that, it means a very great deal.

Today we have more good news. In a few moments I will release our first annual report to Congress on welfare reform -- precisely the kind of report we had hoped for two years ago. It shows that the number of welfare recipients entering the work force rose by nearly 30 percent in a single year. It reports that states are spending more per person on welfare-to-work efforts than they did two years ago, including health care, job training, job placement, child care, and job retention.

Come in, Congressman Shaw, you're welcome. Thank you for the role you've played in welfare reform legislation. We're glad to see you.

It shows that more single parents are moving into the work force, a very significant statistic. And it confirms that the percentage of Americans now on welfare is at its lowest level since 1969 -- 29 years. There are other, more powerful signs of success that of course a report can't show. Too often we take for granted what it really means for a family to reconnect to the world of work. Work is more than a punch card, more than a paycheck. It provides structure to a day, link to a society, dignity for a family. It can build self-confidence and self-esteem. There is nothing like the pride in a child's eyes when he or she goes to school and can answer, often for the first time, what their parents do for a living. Value of work

One of the most important ways we can now build on these everyday triumphs is to make absolutely sure that parents who do enter the work force can go to bed at night without worrying that they will lose health coverage for their families. That is why I'm proud to announce that the Department of Health and Human Services will revise its regulations to allow all states to continue to provide Medicaid coverage to two-parent families after a parent takes a full-time job. Believe it or not, under the old rules adults in two-parent families who worked more than 100 hours per month could actually be cut off Medicaid in many states.

Perhaps no aspect of the old welfare system did more to defy common sense and insult our common values than this so-called 100-hour rule. Just think of the message it sent. It took away health care from people who secured a full-time job just as we were imploring everybody to move from welfare to work. Instead of rewarding stable families, it actually punished couples that work and work hard to stay together. Instead of demanding responsibility, it basically said a father could do more for his children's health by sitting at home or walking away than earning a living.

The 100-hour rule was wrong. Now, it and every other strand of the old welfare system are history. The remaining challenges are ones we all have to accept. All of us -- the public, private, religious, nonprofit sectors -- have an obligation to continue helping all former welfare recipients not only find, but stay in those jobs.

First, we must continue to offer states and communities the tools they need to promote work. Today, we will release $60 million more in Welfare-to-Work grants to states to help mothers and fathers facing the most significant employment hurdles. And I also want to call on Congress to fully fund my plan to provide housing vouchers for welfare recipients who need to move closer to their place of work. Grants, vouchers

Some recent studies, including some coming out of New York, show that the effects of welfare reform in terms of people being able to move into the workplace have been quite uneven, depending upon the level of preparation of the people on welfare for the work force and their level of isolation from available jobs. So these are important next steps.

Eli Segal — WTW partners...

Second, the private sector -- the true engine of job creation in our country -- must continue to do its part. Listen to this: last year our Welfare-to-Work partners, who were mobilized by Eli Segal, as I said earlier, hired more than 135,000 former welfare recipients. I have asked them to hire another 270,000 by the end of this year. Thank you, Eli, but you have to do more.

Third, we must continue to welcome former welfare recipients into the federal family workforce. Today we released new data showing that the federal government has hired more than 5,700 former welfare recipients in just the past year. That means we're well over half the way toward our goal of hiring 10,000 by the year 2000.

Fourth, let me say again, I think it's important that we do more to bring the benefits of this economic revival our country is enjoying into isolated urban and rural areas where free enterprise has not let yet reached. A lot of the people who are still stuck on welfare are physically separate from the job availability. And I have asked the Congress to approve a second round of empowerment zones, to approve a whole range of initiatives, and Secretary Herman and Secretary Cuomo's budget designed to create jobs principally in the private sector in isolated inner-city and rural neighborhoods. So I hope that will be a part of the work we conclude in the days remaining in this congressional session.

Welfare reform itself was a bipartisan effort. It became an American issue. Now, providing jobs and opportunity and new businesses and new free enterprise in these neighborhoods that still have not felt the economy should also be an American issue.

Bipartisanship

We have now the lowest unemployment in 28 years, the lowest inflation in 32 years, the highest homeownership in history, wages are on the rise for our families after 20 years of stagnation. This is our window of maximum opportunity to make sure every poor person in America stuck on welfare has a chance to be a part of America's future and to share in the American Dream. If we can't do it now, when our economy and our prospects and our confidence are so strong, then when?

Now we have jobs waiting to be filled in almost every community. I've been working with people here in Washington, D.C. -- there are hundreds of thousands of jobs in information technology-related fields open today, everywhere from Silicon Valley to the suburban areas of the nation's capital. If we make the best use of this time, we can change the whole culture of poverty and long neglected neighborhoods. We can help millions more people ensure that their children will be raised in homes full of hope and pride based on dignity and work.

To all of you who have made this day come to pass, who have played a role in the progress of the last two years, and to all of you who are committed to keeping on until the job is done, I extend the thanks of our nation. Great job. Let's do better.

Thank you very much and God bless you.

END 3:28 P.M. EDT

PRESIDENT CLINTON WILL ANNOUNCE NEW STEPS TO HELP FATHERS SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES MOVE FROM WELFARE TO WORK

January 25, 1999 -- 11/22 11:15 am DRAFT

With welfare caseloads down by nearly half and over 10,000 companies committed to welfare-to-work, today President Clinton will announce a new package of initiatives designed to ensure that those remaining on the welfare rolls make a successful transition from welfare to work, with a new focus on increasing the employment of low-income fathers so they can support their children. The President's $1 billion Welfare-to-Work initiative will provide a minimum of $150 million to ensure every state helps fathers fulfill their responsibilities to their children by working and paying child support. Remaining funds will focus on those long term welfare recipients with the greatest challenges to employment such as limited English proficiency, substance abuse problems, and disabilities. The President will also announce today that his budget will contain new welfare to work housing vouchers, transportation funds, and tax credits to help those on welfare get to work and stay employed. Taken together, these initiatives will provide parents the tools they need to support their children and succeed in the workforce.

Welfare-to-Work Funds with a Focus on Fathers
The President's $1 billion Welfare-to-Work initiative will provide at least $150 million to ensure every state helps fathers fulfill their responsibilities to their children by working, paying child support, and playing a responsible part in their children's lives. Under this proposal, states and communities will provide job placement and job retention assistance to low income fathers who sign personal responsibility contracts committing them to work and pay child support. States shall commit at least 20 percent of their formula funds (about $150 million a year) to helping low income fathers get and keep jobs and ensuring they support their families. States that wish to devote more of their formula funds to fathers may do so. This effort will help further increase child support collections, which have risen 80 percent since the President took office, from $8 billion in 1992 to $14.4 billion in 1998.

The $1 billion in Welfare-to-Work funds are targeted at individuals and communities with the greatest needs and will help 200,000 people go to work. It is an extension of the two-year $3 billion Welfare-to-Work program the President secured in the Balanced Budget Act to help long-term welfare recipients in high poverty areas move into lasting unsubsidized employment. Today, the Department of Labor will announce the availability of $240 million in competitive grants from the current $3 billion which will support innovative local welfare-to-work strategies for individuals with limited English proficiency, disabilities, substance abuse problems, domestic violence, as well as non-custodial fathers.

Transportation and Housing for Families Moving From Welfare to Work

The President will also announce today that his budget will contain $580 million for welfare to work housing vouchers and transportation assistance to help those on welfare get to work and stay employed. The President's budget will provide $430 million for 75,000 welfare-to-work housing vouchers, including $144 million in new funds for 25,000 additional vouchers. This is a 50 percent increase over the 50,000 new vouchers the President secured last year, for which the grant competition will be made available this week by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The vouchers will be used to help families move closer to a new job, reduce a long commute, or secure more stable housing so they can perform better on the job. The President's budget will also increase Access to Jobs transportation funding from $75 million to $150 million, doubling the number of individuals and communities that can receive transportation assistance. This competitive grant program supports innovative state and local transportation solutions such as shuttles, van pools, new bus routes, and connector services to mass transit to help welfare recipients and other low income workers get to work.

Private Sector Hiring from the Welfare Rolls
The President will also announce that his budget will include $530 million to extend for one year the Welfare to Work and Work Opportunity Tax Credits to encourage more employers to hire welfare recipients and other disadvantaged individuals. Already, 10,000 companies have joined the Welfare to Work Partnership and hired, retained and promoted hundreds of thousands of former welfare recipients. Forty-two percent of these companies are very small businesses (25 or fewer employees) while four percent are very large businesses (3,000 or more employees). Together they represent over 10 million employees in every industry and region of the country. The Partnership ranks have doubled in just eight months since the President challenged them to do so in May and have grown from just five members two years ago when the President in the State of the Union challenged the business community to create jobs so that people can move from welfare to work.

Welfare Rolls Decline as More Recipients go to Work
The President will release state-by-state data showing welfare caseloads are at their lowest level in 30 years and the welfare rolls have fallen by nearly half since he took office. Since January 1993, 35 states have had caseload declines of more than 40 percent and nationwide the rolls fell by 43 percent from 14.1 to just below 8 million. Recent information released by the Department of Health and Human Services also shows that the percent of welfare recipients working has tripled since 1992, an estimated 1.5 million who were on welfare in 1997 were working in 1998, and all states met the first overall work participation rates required under the welfare reform law.

Possible State of the Union Welfare Announcements

(1) Caseloads Continue Their Record Declines: Unveil new caseload data showing the welfare rolls have fallen below 8 million for the first time since 1969 and have fallen nearly 2 million since last year's State of the Union. The welfare rolls have declined by 43 percent since January 1993, when they stood at 14.1 million, and by 35 percent since their August 1996. The percentage of the U.S. population on welfare is at its lowest since 1968 -- 2.9 percent.

* best stats

	Number of people on welfare (millions)	Decline since taking office (#) (%)	Decline since signing law (#) (%)	Decline since prior SOU (#) (%)	President's Statements
Oath of Office (1/93)	14.1				
Welfare Bill Signing* (8/96)	12.2	1.9 14%			"Today, we are taking an historic chance to make welfare what it was meant to be: a second chance, not a way of life."
1997 State of Union (10/96 data)	11.9	2.2 16%	.3 2%		"Now each and every one of us has to fulfill our responsibility -- indeed, our moral obligation -- to make sure that people who now must work, can work. Now we must act to meet a new goal: 2 million more people off the welfare rolls by the year 2000."
1998 State of Union (9/97 data)	9.8	4.3 31%	2.4 20%	2.1 18%	"Last year, after a record four-year decline in welfare rolls, I challenged our nation to move 2 million more Americans off welfare by the year 2000. I'm pleased to report we have also met that goal, two full years ahead of schedule."
1999 State of Union (9/98 data)	8.0**	6.1 43%	4.3 35%	1.8 18%	

* These are the actual caseload numbers for August 1996, which were not yet available when the President signed the bill into law. The President's August 1996 statements were based on May 1996 data.

** The actual figures are just under 8 million (7,986,000).

welfare recip. working (2) **More Welfare Recipients are Working than Ever Before:** Data released December 30th shows nearly every state is meeting the welfare law's overall work requirement (requiring 25 percent of all welfare families with an adult to work). Data also show the percentage of welfare recipients working has greatly increased. Since 1992, the percentage of adults on welfare in direct work activities -- employment, work experience, and community service -- has tripled, rising from 7 percent in 1992 to nearly 22 percent in 1997. Nationwide, 28 percent of all adults on welfare are participating in direct work activities or other welfare-to-work activities, such as vocational training, and nearly every state met the law's 25 percent participation rate for FY 1997. (Source: Caseload data reported by the states to HHS.)

Estimates based on Census Bureau data show that 1.5 million individuals who received welfare in 1997 were working in March 1998. This reflects an impressive 28 percent increase since 1996 in the percentage of people who were on welfare in one year and working the following year -- from 26.5 percent in 1996 to 33.8 percent in 1998. (Source: HHS calculations of Census Bureau data.)

Census Bureau data also show a dramatic shift towards employment among welfare recipients: the percentage of single women on welfare who were working increased by 50 percent from 1992 to 1997. In 1992, 40% of single women on welfare had earnings from employment and 60% did not; by 1997, these ratios had switched and 60% of single women on welfare had earnings from employment while 40% did not. In addition, the Census Bureau data show that the proportion of single mothers working has increased dramatically since 1992 and the number of women receiving welfare and not working has decreased dramatically. (Source: Harvard University Professor Jeffrey B. Liebman's calculations using Census Bureau Current Population Survey data. The data from 1996 and earlier appeared in Table III of his article "The Impact of the Earned Income Tax Credit on Incentives and Income Distribution" *Tax Policy and the Economy*, 12, 83-119.)

partnership (3) **The Public and Private Sectors Are Hiring from the Welfare Rolls.** Announce that the Welfare to Work Partnership has met the President's challenge to sign up 10,000 businesses, and that federal agencies have nearly met the challenge to hire 10,000 welfare recipients -- over 9,800 hired.

	President's Statements
Welfare Bill Signing (8/96)	"Now that we are saying with this bill we expect work, we have to make sure the people have a chance to go to work. If we really value work, everybody in this society -- businesses, non-profits, religious institutions, individuals, those in government -- all have a responsibility to make sure the jobs are there."

1997 State of Union	"To every employer in our country who ever criticized the old welfare system, you can't blame that old system anymore, we have torn it down. Now do your part. Give someone on welfare the chance to go to work. Tonight, I am pleased to announce that five major corporations -- Sprint, Monsanto, UPS, Burger King and United Airlines -- will be the first to join in a new national effort to marshal America's businesses, large and small, to create jobs so that people can move from welfare to work."
Cabinet Meeting on Federal Hiring of Welfare Recipients (4/10/97)	Announced plan to hire 10,000 welfare recipients in the federal government by the year 2000, an effort to be led by the Vice President (this announcement was the result of a Presidential directive issued 3/8/97 for agencies to develop welfare to work hiring plans).
Welfare to Work Partnership Launch (5/20/97)	Announced the Partnership had grown from 5 to 105 companies and set a goal of achieving 1,000 within a year.
1998 State of Union	"We still have a lot more to do, all of us, to make welfare reform a success -- providing child care, helping families move closer to available jobs, challenging more companies to join our welfare-to-work partnership, increasing child support collections from deadbeat parents who have a duty to support their own children."
Welfare to Work Partnership Anniversary (5/27/98)	Announced the Partnership had grown from 105 to 5,000 companies and that Partnership companies had hired 135,000 welfare recipients in 1997. The President challenged the Partnership to double its number of hires and the number of companies participating. The President also announced that federal government has hired 4,800 people from welfare to work in the last year, of the goal of 10,000 by the year 2000.

must do more

(4) We Must do More to Ensure Those Still on the Rolls Go to Work. Announce our proposal for $1 billion more in Welfare-to-Work funds to help those welfare recipients still on the rolls who face the greatest challenges get jobs and succeed in the work force. This revised program will contain a new emphasis on increasing the employment of low income fathers so they can better meet their responsibilities to their children, with a minimum of $150 million for Responsible Fatherhood Grants. (See separate one pager for more details.)

(4) New Resources for Child Support Crackdown. Unveil a new child support law enforcement initiative to increase the number of prosecutions of egregious child support violators by providing resources to identify, investigate, and prosecute these cases. Highlight new evidence that his Administration's child support efforts are working: child support collections have gone up a record 80 percent since he took office, from $8 billion in 1992 to an estimated $14.4 billion in 1998.

	President's Statements
1996 State of the Union	"In particular, I challenge the fathers of this country to love and care for their children. If your family has separated, you must pay your child support. We're doing more than ever to make sure you do, and we're going to do more, but let's all admit something about that, too: A check will not substitute for a parent's love and guidance. And only you -- only you can make the decision to help raise your children. No matter who you are, how low or high your station in life, it is the most basic human duty of every American to do that job to the best of his or her ability."
Welfare Bill Signing (8/96)	"It's the most sweeping crackdown on deadbeat parents in history....With this bill we say, if you don't pay the child support you owe we'll garnish your wages, take away your driver's license, track you across state lines; if necessary, make you work off what you pay -- what you owe. It is a good thing and it will help dramatically to reduce welfare, increase independence, and reenforce parental responsibility."
1997 State of Union	"In the last four years, we have increased child support collections by 50 percent. Now we should go further and do better by making it a felony for any parent to cross a state line in an attempt to flee from this, his or her most sacred obligation."
1998 State of Union	"We still have a lot more to do, all of us, to make welfare reform a success -- providing child care, helping families move closer to available jobs, challenging more companies to join our welfare-to-work partnership, increasing child support collections from deadbeat parents who have a duty to support their own children."
Signing of Deadbeat Parents Punishment Act (6/24/98)	"The Deadbeat Parents Punishment Act of 1998 deals with child support evaders in the most serious cases. From now on if you flee across state lines and refuse to pay child support you may be charged with a federal offense, a felony offense, and may land in jail for up to two years. One way or the other people who don't support their children will pay what they must." In addition to signing the bill into law, the President announced that a new child support collection system launched nine months ago has already located one million delinquent parents and the child support enforcement program established a record 1.3 million paternities in 1997. Overall, 68 percent more child support was collected in 1997 than in 1992.

(5) Additional Funds for Welfare to Work Housing Vouchers and Welfare to Work Transportation. The President's budget will contain additional funds for the

President's proposals to help ensure welfare recipients who need to move or obtain transportation in order to go to work can do so.

	President's Statements
1998 State of Union	"For 13 years, Elaine Kinslow of Indianapolis, Indiana, was on and off welfare. Today, she's a dispatcher with the a van company. She's saved enough money to move her family into a good neighborhood, and she's helping other welfare recipients go to work. Elaine Kinslow and all those like her are the real heroes of the welfare revolution. There are millions like her all across America. And I'm happy she could join the First Lady tonight. Elaine, we're very proud of you. Please stand up. We still have a lot more to do, all of us, to make welfare reform a success -- providing child care, helping families move closer to available jobs, challenging more companies to join our welfare-to-work partnership, increasing child support collections from deadbeat parents who have a duty to support their own children."
Signing of Transportation Equity Act (TEA-21) into law (6/9/98)	"The Act will expand opportunity. It offers transportation assistance to enable more Americans to move from welfare to work. If you can't get to work, you can't go to work."

Initiatives to support families moving from welfare to work
January 8, 1998
DRAFT for internal use

The number of people on leaving welfare for work and the percentage of people on welfare who are working has increased dramatically since welfare reform (see attached one pager on employment numbers). To ensure the success of families moving from welfare to work, the President will propose in his new budget substantial new funding for welfare to work transportation and welfare to work housing vouchers.

1) **A Doubling of Welfare to Work Transportation Funds**

The President's budget will increase Access to Jobs funding from $75 to $150 million per year, doubling the number of individuals and communities can receive welfare to work transportation assistance. As the President has often remarked, transportation continues to be one of the significant challenges facing people making a transition from welfare to work. While two-thirds of all new jobs are in the suburbs, three-quarters of welfare recipients live in central cities or rural areas. Many entry level jobs require evening or weekend hours that are poorly served by existing transit routes, and few welfare recipients owning reliable cars. Forty percent of rural counties don't even have public transportation.

policy announce.

The challenge

The Access to Jobs program was created last year in Transportation Equity Act at the urging of the President. TEA-21, as the transportation bill is called, authorized the President's welfare to work transportation proposal at $150 million annually, but in FY 1999 only $75 million was appropriated. The President's new budget proposes to fund Access to Jobs at the full authorized level of $150 million in FY 2000. The program provides competitive grants to assist states and localities in developing flexible transportation services to connect welfare recipients and other low income persons (up to 150% of poverty) to jobs and other employment related services. The program is intended to promote new or expanded transportation services such as shuttles, vanpools, new bus routes, connector services to mass transit, employer provided transportation, and guaranteed ride home programs. TEA-21 also included $10 million a year for Reverse Commute grants to address the urban/suburban mismatch for workers of all incomes.

Access to Jobs prog.

2) **A 50 Percent Increase inWelfare-to-Work Housing Vouchers**

The President's new budget will provide $430 million for 75,000 welfare to work housing vouchers, including $144 million in new funds for 25,000 additional vouchers. This is a 50 percent increase over 50,000 new welfare-to-work housing vouchers the President secured last year, the first new housing vouchers authorized by Congress in five years. Families can use these housing vouchers to move closer

policy announce.

to a new job, to reduce a long commute, or to secure more stable housing to eliminate emergencies that keep them from getting to work every day on time and perform their best on the job. These targeted vouchers will give people on welfare a new tool to make the transition to a job and succeed in the work place.

the need

In many places, jobs are being created far from where most welfare recipients live and are not readily accessible by public transportation. About two-thirds of new jobs are being created in the suburbs, but three of four welfare recipients live in central cities or rural areas. In addition, there is a large unmet need for affordable housing for welfare recipients and other working poor families. There are over 5 million families who qualify for but do not receive federal housing assistance. About 2.4 million renter households with 'worst case' housing needs were working, with over half earning the equivalent of full-time year-round pay at the minimum wage. Only about one-quarter of current welfare recipients currently receive federal housing assistance.

more need

The additional vouchers will be available on a competitive basis to local housing agencies, including tribes and tribally designated housing authorities. Applications must be developed in consultation with the state, local, or tribal welfare agency and the local Welfare-to-Work formula funds grantee (typically the Private Industry Council), to ensure that services are coordinated.

How it works

The vouchers will be used where they are essential to a successful transition from welfare to work--that is, where housing assistance is critical for a family to get or keep a job. To receive a welfare to work voucher, a family must be eligible for or currently receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or have received TANF within the past two years, and not already receiving HUD tenant-based housing assistance.

More Welfare Recipients are Working than Before Reform

New data show the percentage of welfare recipients working has greatly increased. Since 1992, the percentage of adults on welfare in direct work activities -- employment, work experience, and community service -- has tripled, rising from 7 percent in 1992 to nearly 22 percent in 1997. Nationwide, 28 percent of all adults on welfare are participating in direct work activities or other welfare-to-work activities, such as vocational training, and nearly every state met the law's 25 percent participation rate for FY 1997. (Source: Caseload data reported by the states to HHS--related data is now available on ACF's public affairs web site.)

Estimates based on Census Bureau data show that 1.5 million individuals who received welfare in 1997 were working in March 1998. This reflects an impressive 28 percent increase since 1996 in the percentage of people who were on welfare in one year and working the following year -- from 26.5 percent in 1996 to 33.8 percent in 1998. (Source: HHS calculations of Census Bureau data.)

Census Bureau data also show a dramatic shift towards employment among welfare recipients: the percentage of single women on welfare who were working increased by 50 percent from 1992 to 1997. In 1992, 40% of single women on welfare had earnings from employment and 60% did not; by 1997, these ratios had switched and 60% of single women on welfare had earnings from employment while 40% did not. In addition, the Census Bureau data show that the proportion of single mothers working has increased dramatically since 1992 and the number of women receiving welfare and not working has decreased dramatically. (Source: Harvard University Professor Jeffrey B. Liebman's calculations using Census Bureau Current Population Survey data. The data from 1996 and earlier appeared in Table III of his article "The Impact of the Earned Income Tax Credit on Incentives and Income Distribution" *Tax Policy and the Economy*, 12, 83-119.)

All data are for single mothers aged 16-45

	1992	1996	1997
Percent of all single mothers who received welfare and had earnings	12.8 percent	13.5 percent	12.5 percent
Percent of all single mothers who received welfare	32.1 percent	24.3 percent	20.8 percent
Percent of single mothers on welfare who had earnings	40 percent	56 percent	60 percent

All data are for single mothers aged 16-45

	1992	1996	1997	Change between 1992-1997
Percent of single mothers who worked and did not receive welfare	60.9 percent	68.6 percent	71.7 percent	18 percent increase

Percent of single mothers who received welfare and did not work	19.3 percent	10.8 percent	8.3 percent	57 percent decrease

New data from the states show that not only are more welfare recipients working but their average earnings have increased by nearly 20 percent. Average monthly earnings, which were about $506 in the nine month period from October 1996 to June 1997, rose to $593 in the last three months of FY 1997 (July through September 1997). (Source: Caseload data reported by the states to HHS--now available on ACF web site.)