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National Network on Behalf of Battered Immigrant Women
Meeting
Austin, Texas

April 11-12, 1997

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PROPOSED AGENDA

NATIONAL NETWORK ON BEHALF OF BATTERED IMMIGRANT WOMEN

APRIL 11-12, 1997
AUSTIN, TEXAS

FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH

8:30 - 9:00	Coffee and Sign-In	
9:00 - 9:30	Welcome and Individual Participants' Introductions	Everyone
9:30 - 10:00	NNBBIW Meeting Objectives Review of the Agenda Logistics	
10:00 - 11:00	Reports from the Field: Progress and Problems I-360 denials; adjustment problems I-130 based adjustment interviews	
11:00 - 12:30	Report on VAWA Implementation and Briefing on Regulations Lisalyn R. Jacobs, Counsel, Office of Policy Development, Department of Justice Lisa Batey, Special Assistant Immigration and Naturalization Services	
12:30 - 1:30	Lunch	
1:30 - 2:45	Question and Answer Session with DOJ and INS Staff How to ensure/require uniform training at the district level Possibilities of intervention on specific cases Granting of Work Authorization What has worked in other districts? What do we want to happen on a national level? Coordinating the agencies' and NNBBIW's efforts	
2:45 - 3:30	Report and Briefing on Welfare Reform Amendments Irene R. Bueno, Deputy Assistant Secretary/Congressional Liaison, Department of Health & Human Services	
3:30 - 3:45	Break	

- 3:45 - 4:45 Question and Answer Session with HHS Staff
- Benefits Eligibility for LPRs and undocumented clients
 New Legislation on welfare/benefits
 Other technical amendments
 Process for programs for battered immigrant women and children
- 4:45 - 5:00 Day's Wrap Up
- 5:00 - 6:30 Tour of the National Hotline on Domestic Violence Offices

SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH (This day is only open to NNBBIW members.)

- 9:30 - 11:00 Strategy Session
 Organizing local practitioner communities to address district problems
 Work plan on coordinating policy efforts with DOJ/INS/HHS
 Legislative initiatives from NNBBIW
- 11:00 - 12:00 Appeals: Does anyone have cases ready for appeal? has anyone filed an
 appeal? How do we support and coordinate amici? How do we monitor
 and respond to problems and pressure DOJ and INS on particularly
 egregious cases?
- 12:00 - 1:30 Lunch
- 1:30 - 2:45 Developing Systems:
 Coordinate collection of cases
 Mentoring system to develop pro bono immigration lawyers
 Develop models that we can pilot in some states
 Which organizations have the capacity to help out in areas where there
 are no immigrant rights advocacy groups?
 Centralizing database for National Hotline/Designating pointpersons at
 the Hotline
- 2:45 - 3:00 Break
- 3:00 - 4:00 Welfare Reform
 How will NNBBIW work with domestic violence state coalitions?
 Policy and advocacy on statewide level. Where can we make a
 difference?
- 4:00 - 5:30 Next Steps and Evaluation of Meeting

Summary of Immigrant Provisions

(*Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act*, Title IV, ["Welfare Reform" P.L. 104-193], as amended by the *Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act* ["Immigration Law" P.L. 104-208])

General: The new welfare reform statute seeks to restrict access to certain programs by legal immigrants and deny access by undocumented immigrants to many government funded programs.

I. "Qualified Aliens" - immigrants defined as "qualified aliens" are eligible for certain federal public benefits (see below).

A. Qualified aliens include (sec 431):

- Legal Permanent Residents
- Asylees
- Refugees
- Aliens paroled into the U.S. for at least one year
- Aliens whose deportations are being withheld¹
- Aliens granted conditional entry²
- Battered alien spouses, battered alien children, and the alien parents of battered children who fit certain criteria. (Added by Immigration Law)

B. "Federal Public Benefit" (sec 401) - The statute defines a "federal public benefit" as:

1. Any federally provided or funded grant, contract, loan, professional or commercial license and
2. Any retirement, welfare, health, disability, public or assisted housing, postsecondary education, food assistance, unemployment benefit, or any other similar benefit for which payments or assistance are provided to an individual, household, or family eligibility unit by a federal agency or by federally appropriated funds.

II. "Qualified Aliens" - are *ineligible* for specified federal programs.

A. SSI and Food Stamps - Regardless of when they entered the country, most "qualified aliens" are banned from receiving SSI & Food Stamps (Sec 402 (a)) - (see exceptions below)

SSI: Current recipients will have their eligibility redetermined and if so determined, & ended within year of enactment. New applicants are ineligible.

Food Stamps: Current recipients, eligibility redetermination to happen at recertification, not before April 1, 1997 but within year of enactment. New applicants are ineligible.

B. *Qualified aliens who entered the country prior to enactment - 8/22/96*

States can decide the eligibility for TANF, the Social Services Block Grant (Title XX), and Medicaid of most "qualified aliens" who arrived in this country prior to August 22, 1996 (Sec 402 (b)) (*see exceptions in II.C. below*).

C. *Qualified aliens who entered the country on or after 8/22/96*

1. Five-year ban - Most "Qualified aliens" entering the country on or after enactment are banned from receiving assistance from federal means-tested programs for five years (Sec 403) (*see exceptions below*). States have the option to decide the eligibility of these aliens for TANF, Title XX and Medicaid unless these programs are subject to the ban.

2. "Federal means-tested public benefits" - guidance on the definition of "federal means-tested public benefits" is pending. The statute includes a list of the programs that are *not* covered by the 5-year ban. All qualified aliens are eligible for the listed programs regardless of their date of entry (*see below*):

- Emergency Medical assistance under Medicaid, if would otherwise qualify
- Short term, non-cash, in-kind emergency disaster relief
- Public health assistance for immunizations, testing and treatment of symptoms of communicable diseases, but not to include Title XIX
- Programs, services, assistance as specified by the Attorney General, which
 - deliver in kind services at the community level
 - do not condition the provision of assistance, the amount of assistance, or the cost of assistance provided on the recipient's income or resources
 - are necessary for the protection of life or safety
- Housing, other HUD assistance if alien is already receiving on date of enactment
- School lunch
- Child nutrition programs
- Payments for foster care and adoption assistance
- Student assistance
- Means-tested Elementary and Secondary Education Assistance (ESEA) programs

- Head Start
- Job Training
- Refugee and entrant assistance activities for Cuban and Haitian entrants³/parolees (parolees are qualified aliens but otherwise subject to the five-year ban).

D. Exceptions to SSI/Food Stamp bans, the 5-year ban on new entrants, and to the state options to set eligibility for aliens: the following groups are allowed access to federal and state benefit programs;

1. Refugees for 5 years from date of entry only, and asylees and aliens whose deportation has been withheld under sec 243(n) of the INA, for 5 years from date status received.
2. Veterans, members of the military on active duty, and their spouses and unmarried dependent children.
3. Those who have worked 40 qualifying quarters without receiving federal means-tested public benefit during any such quarter beginning after 12/31/96. Quarters worked by parents when the alien was a child, or by a spouse while married, may be counted towards the 40 (*NOTE: This exception does not apply to the 5-year ban*).

III. Aliens who are "not qualified" aliens are ineligible for "federal public benefits"

A. Examples of aliens who are not qualified are:

1. **Non-immigrants (temporary residents)** – Individuals here on time-limited visas to work, study, or travel.
2. **Undocumented immigrants**—Individuals who entered as temporary residents and overstayed their visas, or are engaged in activities forbidden by their visa, or who entered without a visa.
3. **Others**—Individuals who are given temporary administrative statuses (e.g. stay of deportation, voluntary departure) until they can formalize permanent status, or individuals paroled for less than one year.

B. Exceptions - All aliens, including those who are "Non-qualified" are eligible for certain excepted programs (Sec 401(b), Sec 411(b)) such as:

- Emergency Medical assistance under Medicaid, if would otherwise qualify
- Short term, non-cash, in-kind emergency disaster relief.
- Public health assistance for immunizations, testing and treatment of symptoms of communicable diseases, but not to include Title XIX.
- Programs, services, assistance as specified by the Attorney General, which
 - deliver in kind services at the community level
 - do not condition the provision of assistance, the amount of assistance, or the cost of assistance provided on the recipient's income or resources
 - are necessary for the protection of life or safety.
- Housing, other HUD assistance if alien is already receiving on date of enactment. *(This provision is in 401(b) only; non-qualified aliens are not made eligible for state housing assistance in 411(b)).*

IV. Access to state and local programs for aliens (Sec 411, 412) - States have authority to determine immigrants' eligibility for state and local programs, with some conditions.

A. Undocumented immigrants are not eligible for state/local benefits unless the state passes a new law after 8/22/96 affirmatively making them eligible. No legislation is required to retain access for non-immigrants to state and local benefits (Sec 411(a)).

B. States may restrict the eligibility of qualified aliens, non-immigrants and certain parolees. They may not restrict eligibility for refugees during their first five years from entry, veterans, and those who have earned 40 qualifying quarters (Sec 412) (see II.D., above for complete listing). States may not deny access by any alien to state or local benefits that meet the definition of excepted services described in Sec 411(b) (see exceptions listed above, III.B).

V. Verification - Within 18 months from the date of enactment, the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, must promulgate regulations requiring verification that a person applying for a Federal public benefit is a qualified alien and is eligible to receive such benefit. States must have a verification system in place 24 months after the regulations are promulgated for the federal public benefits they administer (Sec. 432(b)). In addition, the Attorney General, in consultation with DHHS, must issue procedures for applicants to provide proof of citizenship in a fair and nondiscriminatory manner (Sec 432(a)(2)).

Exemption - Nonprofit charitable organizations are specifically exempt from any requirement to determine, verify or otherwise require proof of alien eligibility or status (Sec 432(d)).

VI. Affidavits of Support and Attribution of Income (Deeming) - Prior to the new welfare statute, affidavits of support signed for sponsored immigrants were not legally enforceable and time-limited "deeming" of sponsor income occurred in only three programs: SSI, Food Stamps, and AFDC. The new welfare statute requires a legally binding affidavit of support to establish that an alien is not excludable as a public charge, and extends deeming to "federal means-tested benefits" until the immigrant with the new affidavit becomes a citizen or has worked 40 qualifying quarters.

- A. Affidavit of support** - The new affidavit is legally enforceable against the sponsor by the alien and by federal and state governments which provide any means-tested benefits, but not later than 10 years after an alien last receives any such benefit. The affidavit is enforceable with respect to means-tested benefits until citizenship or until 40 qualifying quarters are earned.
- 1. The Attorney General must develop in consultation with DHHS the new affidavit within 90 days of enactment of the Immigration law.** The requirements for a sponsor's affidavit of support shall apply to affidavits executed beginning 60-90 days after the form is formulated by the Attorney General (Sec. 423(a)).
 - 2. "Nongovernmental" entities, Federal, state or local governments "shall request" reimbursement from the sponsor for amount of any non-exempted means-tested public assistance a sponsored alien has received.** Action may be brought for non-payment anytime within 10 years from receipt of any such benefit. No reimbursement is required for the excepted services listed in 403(c).
 - 3. Sponsors must notify the Attorney General and the state of residence of the sponsored immigrant of any address changes of the sponsor (Sec 423(a)).**
- B. Sponsorship Requirements** - With some exceptions, sponsors must now have an income of at least 125 percent of federal poverty to sponsor an immigrant (previously 100 percent). All family-based immigrants must be "sponsored," meaning that a family member must have signed an affidavit stating that they will provide the assistance necessary to maintain the immigrant at an annual income at least 125 percent of the federal poverty line.
- C. Deeming** - Under welfare reform, when determining eligibility for federal means-tested public benefits (e.g., Medicaid and TANF), the income and resources of the sponsor and sponsor's spouse who executed a new affidavit of support shall be "deemed"

available to the sponsored immigrant (Sec 421). Programs specifically not included in the five year ban (Sec 403(c)) are also not subject to deeming and reimbursement by the sponsor.

1. These new deeming rules only apply to immigrants who have executed the new, legally binding affidavits. The new deeming period extends until citizenship, or until an immigrant has earned the 40 qualifying quarters. However, most aliens will be barred from eligibility during their first 5 years due to the 5-year ban on receipt of federal means-tested public benefits. Over the next 5 years, deeming may apply only to aliens who have executed the new affidavits of support and who are exempt from the 5-year bar, such as veterans, active military and their families.

2. New indigency and battered spouse and children exceptions to deeming requirement. Under the Immigration law amendments, deeming does not apply to certain battered immigrants; furthermore, if an alien would be unable to obtain food and shelter without assistance, then only the amount of income and resources of the sponsor or the sponsor's spouse actually provided will be attributed to the sponsored alien (Sec. 421 (e),(f)).

3. States are authorized to deem for their public benefits. Some programs are exempted from the new state deeming authority: certain emergency medical, emergency disaster, programs comparable to assistance provided under the school lunch act and the child nutrition act, public health assistance for immunizations, testing and treatment of symptoms of communicable diseases, foster care and adoption, other programs as specified by the Attorney General of a state (Sec. 422).

VII. Other Provisions

- A. **Communication between state and local agencies and the INS:** no prohibitions are allowed on states or local governments regarding their ability to send or receive information with the INS regarding immigration status of an alien (Sec.434).
- B. **Reporting of Illegal Immigrants:** States receiving TANF block grants, the Social Security Administration, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and public housing agencies must report 4 times a years to INS aliens they know are "unlawfully" in the U.S. (Sec 404).

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Notes

- 1. Under section 243(h) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).
- 2. Pursuant to section 203(a)(7) of the INA as in effect prior to April 1, 1980.
- 3. As defined in section 501(e)(2) of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980.

**IMMIGRANT BENEFIT RESTRICTIONS FROM THE WELFARE REFORM BILL
AND THE IMMIGRATION BILL**

	SSI	Food Stamps	Medicaid (Except emergency services)	TANF & Title XX	Federal public benefits ¹	Sec. 401 Excepted Pro- grams ¹	Federal Means- Tested Programs ¹	Programs Not Covered by Sec. 403 ⁴	State and local Programs	State and Local Exceptions ¹	Non-Profit Charitable Orgs. ¹
QUALIFIED ALIENS¹											
PRE-AUGUST 1996 IMMIGRANTS¹											
Legal Permanent Residents (LPR), aliens paroled into the U.S. under section 212(d)(5) of the INA for at least a year and aliens granted conditional entry under section 203(a)(7) of the INA (as in effect prior to 4/1/80).	Banned until citizenship, unless receiving SSI on enactment; redetermine by 8/97	Banned until citizenship, unless receiving Food Stamps on enactment; recertify during 4/97 through 8/97	State decides whether or not to ban, but if receiving Medicaid on enactment, shall continue to receive until 1/97	State decides whether or not to ban, but if receiving TANF or Title XX on enactment, shall continue to receive until 1/97	Eligible	Eligible	Not Affected	Not Affected	State decides, but if receiving such assistance on enactment, shall continue to receive until 1/97	Eligible	Not required to determine or verify status
Refugees, Asylees and aliens with deportations withheld under section 243(h) of the INA.	Eligible for 5 years from entry (refugees) or granting of status (asylees/deportation withheld), then banned until citizenship	Eligible for 5 years from entry (refugees) or granting of status (asylees/deportation withheld), then banned until citizenship	Eligible for 5 years from entry (refugees) or granting of status (asylees/deportation withheld); longer at state option	Eligible for 5 years from entry (refugees) or granting of status (asylees/deportation withheld); longer at state option	Eligible	Eligible	Not Affected	Not Affected	Eligible for 5 years from entry (refugees) or granting of status (asylees/deportation withheld); longer at State option	Eligible	Not required to determine or verify status

	SSI	Food Stamps	Medicaid (Except emergency services)	TANF & Title XX	Federal public benefits ¹	Sec. 401 Excepted Pro- grams ¹	FIM Tested Programs ¹	Programs Not Covered by Sec. 403 ⁴	State and local Programs	State and Local Exceptions ¹	Non-Profit Charitable Orgs ¹
Aliens with 40 qualifying quarters of work; ⁹ veterans, active duty military, their spouses and unmarried dependent children.	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Not Affected	Not Affected	Eligible	Eligible	Not required to determine or verify status
Certain aliens who are battered spouses or battered children. ¹⁰	Banned until citizenship, unless receiving SSI on enactment; redetermine by 8/97	Banned until citizenship, unless receiving Food Stamps on enactment; recertify during 4/97 through 8/97	State decides whether or not to ban, but if receiving Medicaid on enactment, shall continue to receive until 1/97	State decides whether or not to ban, but if receiving TANF or Title XX on enactment, shall continue to receive until 1/97	Eligible	Eligible	Not Affected	Not Affected	State decides, but if receiving such assistance on enactment, shall continue to receive until 1/97	Eligible	Not required to determine or verify status
POST-AUGUST 1996 IMMIGRANTS" Legal Permanent Residents (LPR), and aliens paroled into the U.S. under section 212(d)(5) of the INA for at least a year.	Banned until citizenship	Banned until citizenship	5-year ban followed by deeming, ¹² or continued ban at state option	If determined to be federal means-tested, then 5-year ban followed by deeming, or continued ban at state option; if not means- tested, then state decides whether or not to ban	Eligible	Eligible	5-year ban followed by deeming, or continued ban at state option	Eligible	State decides	Eligible	Not required to determine or verify status

	SSI	Food S	Medicaid (Except emergency services)	TANF & Title XX	Federal public benefits ¹	Sec. 401 Excepted Pro- grams ²	Federal Means- Tested Programs ¹	Programs Not Covered by Sec. 403 ⁴	State local Programs	and Local Exceptions ¹	Non-Profit Charitable Orgs. ⁶
Refugees, Asylees, and aliens with deportations withheld under section 243(h) of the INA.	Eligible for 5 years from entry (refugees) or granting of status (asylees/depo- rtation withheld), then banned until citizenship	Eligible for 5 years from entry (refugees) or granting of status (asylees/depo- rtation withheld), then banned until citizenship	Eligible for 5 years from entry (refugees) or granting of status (asylees/depo- rtation withheld); longer at state option	Eligible for 5 years from entry (refugees) or granting of status (asylees/deport- ation withheld); longer at state option	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible for 5 years from entry (refugees) or granting of status (asylees/depo- rtation withheld); longer at State option	Eligible	Not required to determine or verify status
Veterans, active duty military, their spouses and unmarried dependent children	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Not required to determine or verify status
Qualified aliens who are indigent and cannot obtain adequate support from their sponsors. ¹³	Banned until citizenship	Banned until citizenship	5-year ban, then eligible with deeming only to the extent support actually provided, or continued ban at state option	If determined to be federal means-tested, 5-year ban, then eligible with deeming only to the extent support actually provided, or continued ban at state option; if not means- tested, then state decides whether or not to ban	Eligible	Eligible	5-year ban, then eligible with deeming only to the extent support actually provided	Eligible	State decides	Eligible	Not required to determine or verify status

	SSI	Food Stamps	Medicaid (Except emergency services)	TANF & Title XX	Federal public benefits ¹	Sec. 401 Excepted Programs ²	Federal Means-Tested Programs ³	Programs Not Covered by Sec. 403 ⁴	State and local Programs	State Local Exceptions ⁵	Profit Charitable Orgs. ⁶
Certain aliens who are battered spouses or battered children	Banned until citizenship	Banned until citizenship	5-year ban, then eligible with no deeming under certain circumstances, or continued ban at state option	If determined to be federal means-tested, 5-year ban, then eligible with no deeming under certain circumstances, or continued ban at state option; if not means-tested, state decides whether or not to ban	Eligible	Eligible	5-year ban, then eligible with no deeming under certain circumstances	Eligible	State decides	Eligible	Not required to determine or verify status
NOT QUALIFIED ALIENS¹⁴											
Nonimmigrants ¹⁵	Not eligible	Not eligible	Not eligible	Not eligible (unless receiving Title XX benefits on enactment, then ineligible 1/97)	Not eligible	Eligible	Not eligible	Not eligible (for programs that are not included in sec. 401 excepted programs)	State decides (but if receiving benefits on enactment, then shall continue to receive until 1/97)	Eligible	Not required to determine or verify status
Illegal Immigrants ¹⁶	Not eligible	Not eligible	Not eligible	Not eligible	Not eligible	Eligible	Not eligible	Not eligible (for programs that are not included in sec. 401 excepted programs)	Not eligible unless state passes a law	Eligible	Not required to determine or verify status

ENDNOTES

1. *Federal Public Benefits:* These are defined in the new welfare law as A.) Federally provided or funded grant, contract, loan, professional or commercial license; B.) Any retirement, welfare, health, disability, public or assisted housing, postsecondary education, food assistance, unemployment benefit, or any other similar benefit for which payments or assistance are provided to an individual, household, or family eligibility unit by a federal agency or by federally appropriated funds.
2. *Excepted Programs:* These include Emergency Medical Assistance under Medicaid; short-term, non-cash, in-kind emergency disaster relief; public health assistance for immunizations; testing and treatment of communicable diseases not including Medicaid; programs, services, and assistance -- to be specified by the Attorney General -- which deliver in-kind services at the community level, do not condition provision of assistance, amount of assistance, or cost on income and resources; and housing or other HUD assistance if the alien is already receiving these benefits on the date of enactment.
3. *Federal Means-Tested Programs:* This term is not defined in statute.
4. *Programs Not Covered by Section 403:* All programs listed in endnote 2 except for HUD assistance. Also includes school lunch, child nutrition programs, payments for foster care and adoption assistance (but only if the foster or adoptive parents are qualified aliens), student assistance, means-tested Elementary and Secondary Education Assistance (ESEA) programs, Head Start, job training, refugee and entrant assistance for Cuban and Haitian entrants.
5. *State and Local Exceptions:* The statute excepts the same categories of programs as those listed in endnote 2, except for HUD assistance.
6. *Non-profit Charitable Organizations:* Under the new immigration statute, these organizations are exempted from having to verify the citizenship and immigration status of their clients.
7. Under the new welfare law *Qualified Aliens* include only a limited number of immigrant categories and, as the chart shows, each category is only eligible for a limited set of programs. Certain aliens that were previously considered "permanently residing in the U.S. under color of law" (PRUCOL), and were thus eligible for certain benefits (e.g., SSI, Medicaid, and AFDC) are not included in the new definition of *Qualified Aliens* and become ineligible for benefits (see endnote 14 below).
8. *Pre-August 1996 Immigrants:* Immigrants entering the U.S., or adjusting their immigration status, before enactment on August 22, 1996.
9. *40 Qualifying Quarters of Work:* These are quarters of work that qualify for coverage under Social Security. This includes work done by parents when alien was a child, or by a spouse while married. After December 31, 1996, such work only qualifies if families did not receive any federal means-tested public benefits during the quarter.
10. *Battered Spouses or battered children:* Under certain circumstances a non-qualified alien who has been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty in the U.S. will be considered as a qualified alien. The Attorney General must establish "substantial connection" between the battery or cruelty and the need for benefits. The battered alien must either have been approved or have a petition pending for adjustment of immigration status under various specified provisions. The battered alien must not be residing with the individual responsible for such battery.
11. *Post-August 1996 Immigrants:* Qualified aliens entering the U.S. on or after enactment (August 22, 1996).
12. *Deeming:* In determining eligibility and amount of benefits for any Federal means-tested public benefit program or, at state or local option, most state public benefit programs, the income and resources of the sponsor and the sponsor's spouse are deemed to immigrants who have executed the new, legally enforceable affidavits of support required by the new welfare law. Deeming for Federal means-tested public benefit programs applies until the immigrant becomes a citizen or has worked 40 qualifying quarters of coverage. The new deeming rules do not

apply to qualified aliens who entered the U.S. before, on, or after enactment who have not executed the new, legally enforceable affidavits of support.

13. *Indigent:* For aliens who have executed the new affidavits of support, and who have not received adequate support from their sponsors, and in the absence of support would be unable to obtain food and shelter. Once assistance is provided to the immigrant, agencies must seek reimbursement from the sponsors.
14. Any alien status that is not in the qualified category is in the "*Not Qualified Aliens*" category. In addition to illegal aliens and nonimmigrants, certain formerly PRUCOL aliens (see endnote 7 above) are now not qualified. This includes certain aliens in the country legally such as immigrants granted stays of deportation, deferred action status, Family Unity, parolees for less than 1 year, and nonimmigrants (see endnote 15 below).
15. *NonImmigrants:* Noncitizens who are admitted to the U.S. for a temporary period to fulfill a stated purpose such as to work, study, or travel.
16. *Illegal Immigrants:* Individuals who entered as nonimmigrants and overstayed their visas, or who are engaged in activities forbidden by their visas, or who entered without a visa.

WELFARE REFORM IMMIGRANT PROVISIONS IMPLEMENTATION EFFECTIVE DATES

August 22, 1996	P.L. 104-193 passed; Qualified Aliens entering on or after 8/22/96 are: ineligible for federal means-tested benefits for five years after entry (except for refugees, asylees, and aliens whose deportation has been withheld for 5 years after date such status is received; and veterans/active duty military and dependents); and ineligible for SSI and Food Stamps until citizenship (except for above exceptions, plus an exception for legal permanent residents who have earned 40 qualifying quarters of covered employment).
January 1, 1997	States have the option to deny Medicaid, TANF, and Title XX Social Services Block Grant benefits to pre-August 1996 qualified aliens. Three states currently plan to deny TANF coverage to qualified aliens (Alabama, Wyoming, and South Carolina beginning March 31, 1997). No states have reported that they plan to deny Medicaid or SSBG.
January 13, 1996	HCFA issued a regulation giving states extra time to redetermine Medicaid eligibility for immigrants losing SSI. Medicaid continues until this redetermination takes place.
January 22, 1996	HCFA transmitted to the states a state Medicaid Manual providing policy guidance on issues relating to Medicaid coverage for immigrants, among other issues. HCFA also sent state Medicaid directors letters regarding waivers on February 5, 1997.
February 1 - March 31, 1997	First notices of SSI ineligibility were sent to approximately 900,000 current noncitizen SSI recipients the first week of February 1997; first notices will continue to be sent on staggered basis of 112,500 per week over 8 weeks. SSI recipients must then establish that they are either citizens or otherwise exempt before August. All notices will be sent by March 31, 1997.
Late March 	New legally binding affidavits of support promulgated; all family-based and some employment-based legal immigrants required to submit affidavits as condition of entry. These immigrants will be subject to new deeming until citizenship rules under federal means-tested programs after the 5-year ban on eligibility (unless they have 40 quarters of covered employment).
April 1 - August 22, 1997	Current Food Stamps recipients who are qualified aliens become ineligible for Food Stamps upon redetermination. Most states have already notified current recipients of changes, although they are not required to by statute.

- July-August 1997 Notices of Planned Action (NPAs) informing immigrant recipients of SSI benefit termination in 30 days will be sent. Those receiving first notices in February will receive NPAs in July; those receiving first notices in March will receive NPAs in August.
- August 22, 1997 All Qualified Aliens become ineligible for SSI and Food Stamps until citizenship unless they meet one of the exemptions (refugees, asylees, and aliens whose deportation has been withheld for 5 years after date such status is received; legal permanent residents who have earned 40 qualifying quarters; and veterans/active duty military and dependents).

TREATING LEGAL IMMIGRANTS FAIRLY: SUMMARY

"We must join together to do something else, too, something both Republican and Democratic Governors have asked us to do: to restore basic health and disability benefits when misfortune strikes immigrants who came to this country legally, who work hard, pay taxes and obey the law. To do otherwise is simply unworthy of a great nation of immigrants."

-President Clinton, 1997 State of the Union.

Restoring fair treatment for legal immigrants is a key part of the President's agenda this year.

The President's budget proposal makes good on his promise to correct the welfare law's harsh provisions on legal immigrants -- provisions that punish children and legal immigrants with severe disabilities, and burden State and local governments. The welfare law denies most legal immigrants access to fundamental safety net programs unless they become citizens -- even though they are in the U.S. legally, are responsible members of our communities, and in many cases have worked and paid taxes. These provisions have nothing to do with the real goal of welfare reform, which is to move people from welfare to work.

- The President's budget proposes to restore Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid to legal immigrants who become disabled after they entered the country and to legal immigrant children. This country should protect legal immigrants and their families -- people admitted as permanent members of the American community -- when they suffer accidents or illnesses that prevent them from earning a living. Similarly, the country should provide Medicaid to legal immigrant children if their families are impoverished.
- The President proposes to extend the SSI and Medicaid eligibility period for refugees and asylees from 5 to 7 years, to give that vulnerable group additional time to naturalize.
- Finally, the budget proposes to delay the ban on Food Stamps for legal immigrants from April to September 1997 to provide more time for immigrants who are in the process of naturalizing to complete the process.

The President's proposal would reinstate SSI eligibility for approximately 320,000 severely disabled legal immigrants. Of these 320,000 immigrants, the budget restores Medicaid coverage to 195,000 disabled legal immigrants. In addition, the proposal restores Medicaid coverage to about 30,000 non-disabled legal immigrant children. The cost of these immigrant proposals is \$14.6 billion over 5 years -- \$9.7 billion in SSI costs, and \$4.9 billion in Medicaid costs.

In January, the National Governors' Association agreed that the legal immigrant provisions of the welfare law will cause a considerable cost shift to some states and expressed concerns about the effect of the law on aged and disabled legal immigrants. Providing state-funded benefits to this needy population will divert resources from job training and child care -- which are critical to moving people from welfare to work. The NGA passed a resolution asking Congress and the President to work together to find an equitable solution for states and vulnerable legal immigrants without reopening the welfare reform debate. The President's proposal would do just that.

TREATING LEGAL IMMIGRANTS FAIRLY: RESTORING BENEFITS FOR LEGAL IMMIGRANTS WITH SEVERE DISABILITIES

The President's budget would restore SSI benefits for 312,000 legal immigrant adults who become disabled after their entry into the U.S., in recognition of the fact that they cannot provide for their own support through work. Of those 312,000 legal immigrant adults, approximately 195,000 adults would have Medicaid coverage restored.

Denying SSI eligibility to aged and disabled legal immigrants has nothing to do with welfare reform. Barring legal immigrants who played by the rules and entered the country according to our laws from programs available to all other taxpayers is unfair and shortsighted.

- Approximately 900,000 SSI recipients are now receiving notices that they are at risk of losing their benefits, unless than can show that they are citizens or are in one of a narrow group of exceptions. Under current law, over 400,000 legal immigrants will lose their SSI benefits in August and September of this year.
- Disabled legal immigrants who have sponsors can turn to them for assistance, but many sponsors can't afford the extra costs associated with a disability. In addition, an estimated 44% of legal immigrants, such as refugees, never had sponsors in the first place. Others had sponsors who have died or ceased to support them.
- Many disabled legal immigrants are elderly and reside in nursing homes or assisted living facilities. Without SSI cash assistance, they may face eviction from assisted living arrangements. About 39,000 legal immigrants are in nursing homes and a large number have difficulties with the activities of daily living.
- Nearly 70% of legal immigrants on SSI are over age 65; nearly 30% are over 75 years of age.
- Without SSI payments, state and local governments and private charities will become the prime source of assistance to legal immigrants with severe disabilities.
- In addition, under current state Medicaid plans, it appears that some states may have no provision to continue Medicaid coverage for legal immigrants who lose their SSI. In some states, disabled recipients who lose their SSI may also be without any help for medical expenses.

TREATING LEGAL IMMIGRANTS FAIRLY: PROTECTION FOR LEGAL IMMIGRANT CHILDREN

The President proposes to restore SSI and Medicaid for legal immigrant children.

- The welfare reform law denies SSI and Medicaid to many legal immigrant children who become seriously ill, or have an accident and become disabled, and whose families fall on hard times. It also denies preventive services under Medicaid to legal immigrant children, likely leading to more costly health problems in the future. This policy threatens the health and well-being of a very vulnerable population — legal immigrant children of low-income parents who need medical services or cash assistance (if disabled), and cannot work their way out of need. We all lose if we deny future citizens the care and support that all children need.
- Under the President's proposal, legal immigrant children would continue to be eligible for SSI and Medicaid. In FY 1998, this proposal would protect SSI and Medicaid eligibility for about 8,000 disabled legal immigrant children, and ensure medical care for about another 30,000 non-disabled children. Existing program income eligibility rules are not affected; only legal immigrant children who are members of low-income families would be eligible for the restored SSI and Medicaid.
- The President's proposal does not undermine or "reopen" welfare reform. The welfare reform provisions denying assistance to legal immigrant children have nothing to do with the central goal of welfare reform: moving people from welfare to work. Instead, the President's proposal protects access to health care for vulnerable low-income children who are permanent members of this nation's communities, cannot work, and do not have any other means of health care. It also protects cash assistance for low-income immigrant children with severe disabilities.
- It is important to note that legal immigrant children cannot become naturalized citizens unless both parents are citizens, or the surviving or custodial parent is a citizen. Therefore, unlike adult legal immigrants, children immigrants do not have an independent avenue to naturalization. For example, orphaned immigrant children must be adopted by a U.S. citizen in order to be classified as a citizen.
- The SSI and Medicaid costs associated with these immigrant children are about \$400 million over 5 years. This policy will ensure that low-income immigrant families with severely disabled immigrant children continue to have a safety net of SSI and Medicaid. It also guarantees that non-disabled legal immigrant children are protected by the Medicaid benefit package, which provides on-going assistance for children suffering from chronic asthma, screening for developmental disabilities, and well-child and preventive care to prevent the need for intensive and costly care in the future.

TREATING LEGAL IMMIGRANTS FAIRLY: EXTENDING ELIGIBILITY FOR REFUGEES

- As a nation of immigrants, this country has a long-standing policy of welcoming to this country refugees and asylees who are fleeing persecution in their home country, and helping them resettle in their new home.
- Under the welfare law, refugees and asylees are exempt from SSI and Medicaid eligibility restrictions for the first 5 years that they are in the U.S. However, after 5 years, needy refugees and asylees would be denied SSI benefits, and Medicaid coverage is a state option rather than guaranteed.
- The President's proposal would extend from 5 to 7 years the period of SSI and Medicaid eligibility for refugees and asylees. This extension would alleviate current hardships while providing elderly refugees an extra 2 years to learn English well enough to naturalize. This policy would cost about \$700 million over 5 years, and protect eligibility for about 17,000 refugees and asylees in FY 1998.
- Few refugees arrive with any financial assets that can be used for self-support. In addition, refugees do not have sponsors.
- Refugees and asylees need a longer eligibility period for assistance than other legal immigrants because of the circumstances that bring them to this country in the first place. Refugees and asylees come to the U.S. with a history of persecution in their country of origin. These individuals frequently experience greater difficulties putting their lives together and becoming self-supporting than other legal immigrants. About one-half of refugees speak little or no English when they arrive here; only about one-tenth speak English fluently.
- Elderly refugees are a particularly vulnerable group. SSA data indicate that of the estimated 58,000 elderly refugees who will lose their SSI eligibility in August/September 1997, 24,000 are aged 75 or older. An estimated two-thirds (38,000) of the 58,000 are severely disabled.
- Generally, refugees and asylees may apply for citizenship after residing in the United States for 5 years. However, the naturalization process can take up to a year, or more. Therefore, individuals who entered the U.S. as refugees or asylees will lose their SSI -- and potentially their Medicaid -- before completing the application process for citizenship, even if they apply for citizenship as soon as they meet the 5 year residency requirement. Also, many elderly refugees are not able to acquire sufficient English language skills in this period of time to pass the citizenship test.
- In refugee communities, the pending loss of SSI and Medicaid and the inability to become naturalized citizens is a major concern. Elderly refugees are understandably terrified that they will be left destitute and homeless.

TREATING LEGAL IMMIGRANTS FAIRLY: THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

The welfare reform law made most legal immigrants ineligible to participate in the Food Stamp Program. It was effective immediately for new applicants and at the next recertification for already participating non-citizens.

Concerned about the impact of the law on legal immigrants, who are in the country legally and, in many cases, work and pay taxes, the Administration has worked since the passage of the law to ensure fairer treatment for legal immigrants.

- As an immediate first step, on the day he signed the law the President signed a directive instructing USDA to allow states to extend the certification periods (the time during which people are authorized to receive benefits) of currently participating non-citizens in order to ensure that their recertification be made fairly and accurately. USDA responded by issuing a memorandum to all state agencies on August 26, 1996 that waived Food Stamp regulations and allowed state agencies to extend the certification periods of all households containing participating noncitizen members up to the maximum time permitted by law -- 12 months (24 months in the cases of households with all elderly or disabled adult members), though not beyond August 22, 1997.
- The President then signed the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act on September 30, 1996, which delayed implementation of the welfare law's provisions for participating legal immigrants until April 1, 1997. As a result, state agencies must redetermine the eligibility of all legal immigrant recipients between April 1, 1997 and August 22, 1997. USDA provided written guidance on implementing the new law to State agencies on October 2, 1996.
- On October 18, 1996, USDA provided written guidance to State agencies on how to implement the provision allowing legal immigrants who have worked or can be credited with 40 quarters of qualified work to receive food stamps. USDA authorized certification pending verification for immigrants who, ~~alone or in combination with parents and/or spouse, have~~ spent sufficient time in the U.S. to have acquired 40 quarters of coverage. These individuals need only to attest to 40 quarters of qualifying work at the time of application to meet the 40 quarters test, with subsequent verification by SSA.
- USDA has been working closely with states to develop ways to manage certification periods to ensure that legal immigrants can continue to participate in the Food Stamp Program through August 1997. Thirty-two states continue to use the certification period waiver to extend benefits.
- Finally, the President's budget includes a provision that would extend participation of certified legal immigrants through the end of fiscal year 1997, thus providing them more time to naturalize or to achieve the needed 40 quarters of work to qualify for the program.



NewsRelease

SOCIAL SECURITY

**Statement by John J. Callahan
Acting Commissioner of Social Security**

Welfare Reform: A Need for Change

When President Clinton signed the 1996 Welfare Reform legislation into law, he noted that "the congressional leadership insisted on cuts in programs for legal immigrants that are far too deep." He has since proposed revisions in that legislation.

At Social Security, we are now seeing daily evidence of hardship imposed by the welfare reform legislation on legal noncitizens who receive benefits under the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program administered by our agency. SSI pays monthly benefits from general revenues to individuals who are disabled, blind or aged, and who have little or no income or resources.

Under the 1996 welfare reform law, SSI eligibility is severely restricted for legal immigrants, permitting only narrow exceptions for qualification. SSA is sending notices to nearly 900,000 noncitizens nationwide informing them of new SSI eligibility provisions--and an estimated 500,000 may lose benefit eligibility. (Attached is an estimated State-by-State breakdown)

I want to share just two examples of many immigrants who may lose SSI benefits under current law. In one instance, a 32-year-old man legally immigrated to the United States in 1984, found employment, and became blind as a result of a work accident in 1992. Because he does not have 40 quarters (10 years) of work credits, he will lose his SSI benefits.

In another instance, a 94-year-old woman who was born in Italy immigrated to the United States as a young child. She never worked, and her husband died in 1947 with fewer than 40 quarters of work credits. Because she does not meet any exceptions under current law, she will lose her SSI benefits this summer.

Both of these individuals--and many thousands like them--would be reinstated for SSI benefits under President Clinton's legislative proposal. This proposal would restore SSI eligibility to legal noncitizens who become blind or disabled after entering the country, and also extend from

five years to seven years the period that refugees, asylees, and noncitizens in similar situations may be eligible for SSI after admission to the country.

This is a moderate proposal which would allow legal noncitizens to maintain invaluable benefits. I urge Congress to take expeditious action on this humane legislative proposal.

**Estimate¹ of the Number of Noncitizen Currently Receiving SSI Benefits
Who Are Likely To Be Ineligible Under Welfare Reform, By State**

NOTE: The numbers shown below do not include the impact on approximately 300,000 SSI recipients who received (Type 2) notices and for whom SSA has no information as to their citizenship status. Prior to 1978, citizenship status information was not required.

TOTAL	<u>415,000</u>		
Alabama	360	Nebraska	370
Alaska	380	Nevada	1,390
Arizona	4,390	New Hampshire	210
Arkansas	250	New Jersey	12,780
California	165,380	New Mexico	1,960
Colorado	2,760	New York	66,080
Connecticut	2,560	North Carolina	1,320
Delaware	190	North Dakota	80
D.C.	500	Ohio	3,060
Florida	39,440	Oklahoma	670
Georgia	2,650	Oregon	2,890
Hawaii	2,310	Pennsylvania	6,470
Idaho	290	Rhode Island	1,940
Illinois	13,260	South Carolina	360
Indiana	700	South Dakota	100
Iowa	630	Tennessee	800
Kansas	800	Texas	32,410
Kentucky	460	Utah	860
Louisiana	1,460	Vermont	100
Maine	290	Virginia	3,890
Maryland	4,330	Washington	7,970
Massachusetts	13,590	West Virginia	80
Michigan	4,290	Wisconsin	2,930
Minnesota	3,850	Wyoming	30
Mississippi	250		
Missouri	1,080		
Montana	100		

¹ Estimates of national total by SSA. State specific totals produced by applying national reduction ratio to totals of current recipients in each State. Due to the nature of this estimate, State numbers have been rounded to the nearest interval of 10.

**Numbers of SSI Recipients Receiving Preliminary Noncitizen Status Notices by State
Numbers of SSI Recipients Coded as Noncitizens by Category by State, and
Number of SSI Recipients Receiving Type II Notices by State**

STATE	Notices		Noncitizens Recipients on SSI	
	All ¹	Type II ²	LAPR	Refugees ³
TOTALS	895,204	299,817	526,695	193,142
Alabama	9,800	9,215	502	123
Alaska	757	117	569	95
Arizona	8,511	2,979	6,318	1,295
Arkansas	4,958	4,569	335	96
California	310,409	76,356	206,038	80,803
Colorado	6,149	1,898	3,353	1,426
Connecticut	5,071	1,111	3,440	1,009
Delaware	665	334	275	55
D.C.	1,473	769	741	127
Florida	77,560	21,999	52,489	15,921
Georgia	13,794	9,474	3,235	1,366
Hawaii	4,616	1,026	3,461	554
Idaho	811	405	364	144
Illinois	27,446	6,783	16,233	6,769
Indiana	2,874	1,749	904	304
Iowa	2,055	1,053	631	454
Kansas	1,928	608	979	412
Kentucky	4,781	4,028	439	357
Louisiana	8,694	6,550	2,002	536
Maine	1,500	1,039	318	191
Maryland	9,645	2,456	5,424	2,087
Massachusetts	27,171	7,782	16,184	7,383
Michigan	12,136	5,232	5,364	2,069
Minnesota	8,025	1,529	3,319	3,362
Mississippi	8,232	7,852	363	72

¹ Number of notices differs from number of noncitizens recipients because some SSI recipients' records do not contain information about their citizenship status (Type II notices) plus some of those designated as noncitizens did not receive notices because SSA records indicated that they met certain exemption from the ban on eligibility. Number reflects status as of 1/31/97.

² Type II notices are those mailed to recipients whose records do not contain information on citizenship status as of 1/31/97. These recipients were on the SSI roles prior to 1978 when this information began to be verified in SSA records.

³ Category includes refugees, asylees, and other noncitizen recipients currently shown in SSA's records as permanently residing in the U.S., status as of 2/20/97.

STATE	Notices		Noncitizens Recipients on SSI	
	All	Type II	LAPR	Refugees
Missouri	4,971	3,141	996	872
Montana	462	302	103	75
Nebraska	1,023	427	402	238
New Hampshire	510	187	264	100
New Jersey	25,918	6,403	18,918	3,244
New Mexico	4,412	2,195	3,049	360
New York	125,919	28,583	81,701	32,917
North Carolina	9,645	7,468	1,659	627
North Dakota	429	314	66	70
Ohio	9,298	4,281	3,074	2,228
Oklahoma	4,785	3,743	923	243
Oregon	5,511	1,323	2,547	1,952
Pennsylvania	17,176	6,579	6,485	4,737
Rhode Island	3,755	1,194	2,640	724
South Carolina	6,119	5,535	505	124
South Dakota	504	337	56	115
Tennessee	8,952	7,622	968	426
Texas	66,750	31,421	50,434	5,772
Utah	1,753	389	995	503
Vermont	543	385	110	73
Virginia	10,336	3,830	5,247	1,500
Washington	15,583	2,622	7,579	6,242
West Virginia	1,316	1,181	118	23
Wisconsin	7,472	2,562	2,591	2,490
Wyoming	144	97	41	17

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States taking up welfare slack

Legal immigrants who are not citizens, faced with the loss of benefits because of the federal welfare-reform law, are getting help at the state and local level

By Richard Wolf
USA TODAY

States are stepping in to help legal immigrants faced with the loss of federal welfare benefits.

The aid includes cash, challenges to the welfare reform law and help in becoming citizens. Immigrants who become citizens are eligible for benefits.

No group of poor Americans is as affected by the welfare reform bill passed last year as those who are not citizens. More than 1 million legal immigrants face the possible loss of benefits that pay for their food and shelter.

That's what Congress intended when it passed the reform bill last year. The law cut the immigrants' benefits by nearly \$24 billion over six years. That's nearly half of the \$54 billion trimmed from all welfare spending.

Legal immigrants enter the USA with relatives to support them or businesses to employ them. But the number of elderly and disabled legal immigrants receiving cash aid has doubled in six years, leading some lawmakers to charge that immigrants were abusing the system.

But in the last few months, legal immigrants have been gaining support at the state and local level.

"A few months removed from the hot-blooded rhetoric of last summer, people are recognizing how drastic those cuts were," says David Super of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a liberal-leaning research and advocacy group in Washington, D.C.

"The whole political landscape with regard to immigrants has shifted," says Josh Bernstein of the National Immigration Law Center, an immigrant advocacy group based in Los Angeles.

Nearly 75% of legal immigrants live in California, New York, Florida and Texas. But states across the USA are trying to help them without creating major new programs or imposing new taxes.

Every state but Alabama, for example, is providing benefits to families with children. The aid could have been cut in January. A few, including New Jersey, Washington, Massachusetts and Texas, are trying to replace some aid for elderly and disabled noncitizens.

Most states are continuing to provide medical coverage, particularly for children. Many are delaying cuts in food stamps for up to 1 million immigrants. Those cuts can begin in April. Some states are spending money on food banks.



'Scared to death' of losing benefits: Saorin Sok, 56, fled Cambodia in 1982 during fighting that killed her husband, four children and parents. She lives in Long Beach, Calif., with her daughter Saory, 15.



\$800 a month: Yugi Zhurskaya, 78, and her husband, Gogglif, came to Brighton, Mass., from Uzbekistan in 1991.



Shaw: Author of the reform law

Pennsylvania is following its attorney general's opinion that the law is unenforceable, setting up a potential legal challenge. New York has a constitutional mandate to provide aid, creating another possible conflict.

Most state efforts are designed to help only those in the USA before the welfare reform law was signed Aug. 22. But some also would help those who have arrived since then. They are not eligible for benefits for five years.

Changes also are possible at the federal level. President Clinton is seeking \$14.6 billion more for legal immigrants over five years. Republican governors have been lobbying

for changes, and Republicans in Congress are considering about \$2 billion in aid this year.

"I don't want to see pictures of elderly noncitizens being wheeled out a nursing home and left on the sidewalk," says Rep. E. Clay Shaw, R-Fla., an author of the

law. The situation has improved slightly for Saorin Sok, 56. She fled Cambodia in 1982 during fighting that killed her husband, parents and four of her children. She is a legal immigrant living in Long Beach, Calif., with her daughter Saory, 15. Sok still has post-traumatic stress and emotional problems stemming from her experience and lives on \$1,058 a month in

disability, welfare and food stamp benefits.

All three benefits were jeopardized when the welfare law went into effect. But since then, California has decided to continue Sok's \$311 in monthly welfare benefits and health insurance. But \$640 in disability benefits and \$107 in food stamps may be lost in August.

An estimated 500,000 legal immigrants like Sok may be

affected by the new law. Supplemental Security Income program, which provides average monthly payments of \$414 to poor elderly and disabled immigrants. Exceptions: refugees and those seeking asylum; active military, veterans and their families; those who have worked 10 years in the USA; and those who become citizens.

Many state and local agencies are teaching immigrants English, civics and other skills needed to pass citizenship tests. But some face a temporary loss of benefits in August, because the naturalization process takes about nine months.

The citizenship campaign is most sophisticated in Los Angeles County, home to about 100,000 elderly and disabled immigrants facing aid cutoffs. About 300 community groups and public agencies are helping them fill out forms and learn English. "We are in a triage mode," says welfare reform strategist Phil Ansell.

The state efforts to preserve some benefits have given hope to legal immigrants facing the specter of losing their major source of income.

► Yugi Zhurskaya, 78, of

Top 10 aid recipients

States with the most legal immigrants receiving supplemental security income (SSI) and food stamps:

SSI	
Rank/state	Total
1. California	\$10,409
2. New York	125,919
3. Florida	77,580
4. Texas	66,750
5. Illinois	27,446
6. Massachusetts	27,171
7. New Jersey	25,918
8. Pennsylvania	17,176
9. Washington	15,583
10. Georgia	13,794
National total	\$365,225

FOOD STAMPS	
Rank/state	Total
1. California	\$25,900
2. New York	251,000
3. Texas	\$45,200
4. Florida	125,600
5. New Jersey	\$41,800
6. Illinois	38,000
7. Michigan	\$4,700
8. Massachusetts	29,900
9. Pennsylvania	\$22,900
10. Washington	19,000
National total	\$341,400

Sources: Social Security Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Brighton, Mass., came to the USA from Uzbekistan in 1991. She and her blind husband, Gogglif, live on about \$900 a month in disability benefits.

"I think the government will have to help us," says Zhurskaya, who has passed her citizenship exam but may lose her benefits until the process is completed this year.

► In Chicago, Czeslaw Matyszczak, 55, believes his second try at becoming a citizen will be successful.

Partially paralyzed by a stroke after working seven years as a car mechanic in Detroit, he's attending English classes with the help of the local Polish-American Association.

"If I lose my benefits, I haven't any chance to survive, in my condition," says Matyszczak, who gets \$499 monthly in disability and food stamp benefits.

"America will not leave me without any help."

That is Saorin Sok's hope. She wants to take a short version of the citizenship test in her native language, or get waived because of her disability. But she must respond by May 12 to the federal government's notice of benefit cuts.

"I am not able to sleep, not able to eat," she says tearfully. "I am scared to death."

An Official Promise of Help For Area's Older Immigrants

U.S. Agency Lobbying to Restore Some Welfare Benefits

By Pamela Constable
Washington Post Staff Writer

Inez Munoz's voice and hands trembled yesterday as she tried to explain her situation in Spanish to the federal official in the gray suit. Like thousands of other elderly immigrants in the Washington area, she recently received a letter saying that her Supplemental Security Income check will stop coming this fall—and she has barely slept a night since.

"I am very nervous and worried. I love this country, and I worked here for 12 years, but I am too old to work now," the 69-year-old Chilean woman told John J. Callahan, the acting federal commissioner of the Social Security Administration, who was visiting the Latin American senior citizens center in Adams-Morgan.

Callahan also met yesterday with elderly immigrants from China and Ethiopia at two other community centers in the District. His tour was part of a lobbying campaign by the Baltimore-based agency to soften parts of the welfare reform act passed by Congress last year.

Lawmakers who enacted the legislation were concerned by the number of immigrants among recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI), a benefit for poor elderly and disabled people. Of 6.5 million current recipients nationwide, about 900,000 are immigrants.

Under the new law, as many as 500,000 of those immigrants could lose their SSI benefits, and in many cases their

Medicaid benefits as well, unless they become U.S. citizens, prove they have worked here for 10 years, or entered the country as refugees in the last five years.

"We know these are troubled times for you, but keep your chins up," Callahan told about 100 elderly Latinos. He said his agency would fight for legislation proposed by President Clinton in his 1997-98 budget that would restore the benefits to immigrants who became disabled after arriving here and to refugees who entered the country up to seven years ago.

During all three stops, Callahan heard tales of elderly immigrants who came to the United States a decade or more ago, worked until they were no longer able, or tried to apply for U.S. citizenship but couldn't master enough English to pass the test.

Many told him that SSI, which averages \$425 a month, is their sole income.

At the Ethiopian Community Center, white-haired women wearing head shawls murmured in Amharic while staff members translated their concerns. Some touched their eyes or legs as they explained their ailments, and fingered their shawls worriedly as they listened to the visitors.

"My mother never spoke English and she doesn't know the alphabet, so it is impossible for her to learn now," said Sehait Beresu, an Ethiopian immigrant who accompanied her mother. "I have three chil-

See BENEFITS, D5, Col 3



BY DAYNA SMITH—THE WASHINGTON POST
Yaltashework Shilbru, left, and Atsedewyn Wondafrash listen at the Ethiopian Community Center as Social Security official John J. Callahan explains benefit cuts.



Ankese Sahle is among older immigrants who may lose their monthly Supplemental Security Income checks because of welfare reform.

Social Security Lobbies to Soften Benefit Cuts for Older Immigrants

BENEFITS, From D1

dren to support, and I cannot help her. I know there are illegal people who abuse the system, but these are legal grandmothers who deserve to be respected."

In Adams-Morgan, a Cuban refugee named Amable Hidalgo told Callahan he was just a few work credits short of qualifying

to keep his benefits. The 75-year-old said that he fled Cuba in 1980 and worked as a waiter but that his eyesight and legs had deteriorated too much to keep going.

"I never wanted the government to support me, but I have no choice," Hidalgo said. "If they take this away, how do I feed and dress myself? How do I pay the rent? This is making me sick and crazy."



PHOTOS BY DAYNA SMITH—THE WASHINGTON POST

Atsedewyn Wondafirash waits to discuss her financial situation.

SIDE-BY-SIDE OF BILLS INTRODUCED RESTORING IMMIGRANT'S ELIGIBILITY FOR WELFARE BENEFITS

April 9, 1997

BILL NUMBER & SPONSOR	BILL NAME/DESCRIPTION
H.R.663: Rep. Meek	Legal Immigrants' Fairness Act of 1997 - Amends the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to permit legally admitted permanent resident aliens to receive Federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid payments.
H.R.666: Rep. Ros-Lehtinen	Provides for an exception to limited eligibility for SSI and Food stamps for permanent resident aliens who are unable to naturalize because of a disability and for aliens who have an application pending for naturalization.
H.R.667: Rep. Diaz-Balart	A bill to amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to provide for an exception to limited eligibility for SSI and Food Stamps for totally and permanently disabled permanent resident aliens.
H.R.761: Rep. Frank	A bill to amend title IV of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to extend the 1 -year transition from disqualification for a current welfare recipient while the recipient's naturalization application is pending.
The Coalition FY'98 Budget: Rep. Minge	Reserves funding to allow vulnerable immigrants who were legally residing in the United States prior to the enactment of the welfare reform bill to continue to receive SSI and food stamps for two years before losing benefits to provide time for state and local governments to prepare for the impact of this provision, reducing savings from the denial of benefits by \$3.5-4 billion.
H.R.931: Rep Campbell, (Same as Sen. Feinstein bill, S. 392)	A bill to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to allow elderly and disabled immigrants who were in the country as of August 22, 1996 to remain eligible for SSI if they can demonstrate they have no other source of support.
H.R.1015: Rep. Gutierrez, (Same as Sen. Wellstone bill, S. 480)	A bill to rescind restrictions on welfare and public benefits for legal immigrants enacted by title 4 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, to reduce corporate welfare, to strengthen tax provisions regarding persons who relinquish United States citizenship.
H.R.1133: Rep. Kennedy, P.	A bill to amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to provide exceptions for mentally disabled aliens from provisions which restrict welfare and public benefits for aliens.

S. 392: Sen. Feinstein, (Same as Rep. Campbell bill, H.R. 931)	A bill to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to allow elderly and disabled immigrants who were in the country as of August 22, 1996 to remain eligible for SSI if they can demonstrate they have no other source of support.
S. 480: Sen. Wellstone, (Same as Rep. Gutierrez bill, H.R. 1015)	A bill to rescind restrictions on welfare and public benefits for legal immigrants enacted by title 4 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, to reduce corporate welfare, to strengthen tax provisions regarding persons who relinquish United States citizenship.

FACT SHEET

4/9/97

INS Implements Direct Mail of Form I-360 for Self-Petitioning Battered Spouses and Children

To ensure appropriate and expeditious handling of all self-petitions filed by battered spouses and children, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has implemented new centralized filing procedures. Under the new procedures — which were published in the Federal Register on April 7, 1997 — applicants now should mail their applications to the Vermont Service Center. Previously, applicants could file their petitions at local INS District Offices.

Background

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), enacted as part of the "Crime Bill" (Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994), provides self-petitioning rights to the spouses and children of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents who are victims of domestic violence.

To implement the law, INS published an interim rule in the Federal Register on March 26, 1996, which detailed the eligibility requirements and procedures for self-petitioning. The eligibility and evidence requirements set forth in that interim rule remain unchanged.

Filing Procedures

- As in the past, battered spouses and children should file INS Form I-360, Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er), or Special Immigrant. Form I-360 may be obtained by telephoning the toll-free INS Forms Request Line at 1-800-870-3676.
- Battered spouses and children self-petitioners and their representatives should mail their applications to the following address:

USINS Vermont Service Center
75 Lower Weldon Street
St. Albans, VT 05479

- While INS District Offices and the other Service Centers will continue to accept applications during a transitional period, INS encourages lawyers, advocates and self-petitioners to file all battered alien self-petitions directly with the Vermont Service Center to facilitate prompt and effective handling of these sensitive cases.
- Direct mail to the Vermont Service Center applies only to battered spouses and children. Other applicants using Form I-360 to apply for other types of benefits should follow the filing instructions on the form.

DATES: This notice is effective May 7, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ms. Karen FitzGerald, Staff Officer, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Adjudications and Nationality Division, 425 I Street, NW., Room 3214, Washington, DC 20536, telephone (202) 514-5014.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under 8 CFR 103.2(a), applications submitted to the Service must be executed and filed in accordance with the instructions on the application form. By eliminating specific reference to filing location, this regulation provides service center directors with the authority to accept and process applications designated for Direct Mail. It also provides the Service with the flexibility to shift filings to the service centers as the Direct Mail Program continues to expand.

Recent legislation and the publication of an interim rule on March 26, 1996, at 59 FR 13061 have led the Service to conclude that expansion of the use of the direct mail program to include I-360 petitions filed in accordance with the provisions of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is warranted.

It is the intent of the Service to ensure sensitive and expeditious processing of the petitions filed by this class of at-risk applicants. Institution of a centralized direct mail filing process enables the Service to accomplish this and engenders uniformity in the adjudication of all applications of this type. This modification also enhances the Service's ability to be more responsive to inquiries from applicants, their representatives, and benefit-granting agencies.

Where to File

Effective May 7, 1997, Form I-360 for self-petitioning battered spouses and children residing within the United States must be mailed, with all supporting documentation, directly to the following address: USINS Vermont Service Center, 75 Lower Weldon Street, St. Albans, VT 05479. Applicants may obtain the Form I-360 by telephoning the toll-free INS Forms Request Line, 1-800-870-3676.

Special Note

This notice does not apply to I-360 petitions filed by Amerasians, widow(er)s, or special immigrants.

Transition

During the first 30 days following the effective date of this notice, district

offices and service centers will forward to the Vermont Service Center, in a timely manner, any Form I-360 filed by a self-petitioning battered spouse or child, which has been inadvertently mailed to an office other than the Vermont Service Center. Petitions filed prior to the effective date of this notice will be adjudicated at the place of initial filing.

Appeals or motions to reopen or reconsider denied I-360 petitions submitted to the Service prior to May 7, 1997 will be processed by the office where the I-360 was originally filed and adjudicated. Appeals and motions filed during the transition period, and after this notice goes into effect, should be filed with the Vermont Service Center and will be processed by that office.

During the transition period, the Service intends to work closely with community organizations and advocacy groups to provide information and assistance to the public regarding this change.

After the 30-day transition period, self-petitioning battered spouses and children will be directed to mail the Form I-360 to the Vermont Service Center for processing.

Dated: March 22, 1997.

Doris Meisner,

Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service.

[FR Doc. 97-8835 Filed 4-4-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4110-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Immigration and Naturalization Service

(INS No. 1842-97)

RIN 1116-AE77

Direct Mail Program; Form I-360

AGENCY: Immigration and Naturalization Service, Justice.

ACTION: Notice of Expansion of the Direct Mail Program.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the Immigration and Naturalization Service's (Service) plan to expand the Direct Mail Program to include the filing of self-petitions by a battered spouse or child on Form I-360, Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er), or Special Immigrant. The Service will now require that all Forms I-360, filed by a self-petitioning battered spouse, child, or by the parent of a battered child, be mailed directly to the Vermont Service Center. This change will enable the Service to expedite the processing of these petitions.

DRAFT

PROPOSED AGENDA

DRAFT

NATIONAL NETWORK ON BEHALF OF BATTERED IMMIGRANT WOMEN

APRIL 11-12, 1997

AUSTIN, TEXAS

FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH

8:30 - 9:00	Coffee and Sign-In	
9:00 - 9:30	Welcome and Individual Participants' Introductions	Everyone
9:30 - 10:00	NNBIW Meeting Objectives Review of the Agenda Logistics	
10:00 - 11:00	Report from the Field on INS District Offices: Problems and Progress I-360 denials; adjustment problems I-130 based adjustment interviews	
11:00 - 12:30	INS/Department of Justice Presentation on VAWA Implementation	
12:30 - 1:30	Lunch	
1:30 - 2:45	Question and Answer Session with INS/DOJ person (e.g. How to ensure/require uniform training at the district level; intervention on specific cases?) What has worked in other districts? What do we want to happen on the national level? Coordinating agency and NNBIW efforts	
2:45 - 3:30	Department of Health and Human Services Presentation on Welfare Reform (?)	
3:30 - 3:45	Break	
3:45 - 4:45	Question and Answer Session with HHS Person(?) Benefits Eligibility for LPRs and undocumented clients New Legislation on welfare/benefits Process for programs for battered immigrant women and children	
4:45 - 5:00	Day's Wrap Up	
5:00 - 6:30	Tour of the National Hotline on Domestic Violence Offices	

Texas Council on Family Violence

8701 North Mopac Expressway - Westside

512-974-1133 (Rosie Gungman).

Laura Montoy 1800 369-9270 x334

30 copies

Tips

Car

Downtown

West

- La Quinta 5800
7100

- ~~Camacho~~ Kennison at Arbutum
512-343-2426
9721 Arbut Blvd.

March 21, 1997

NOTE TO RICH:

I have been invited to speak at a conference sponsored by the National Network on Behalf of Battered Immigrant Women conference on Friday, April 11 in Austin, Texas. Please see attached invitation.

I have been asked to speak about the impact of the welfare reform and immigration law on battered immigrant women and to educate them about the Administration's efforts to implement these provisions.

I think it would be important for me to participate in this conference to educate the attendees of the Administration's efforts to implement these new laws and the President's budget proposals to restore some benefits and to hear from other participants their issues of concern.

Therefore, I request leave for that day (Friday April 11) and that ASL subsidize the cost of the flight.

Please let me know if you have any questions about this request.

Thanks for your consideration.

Irene

Yes
Bring me back
some good food

National Network on Behalf of Battered Immigrant Women

Irene Bueno, Esq.
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW Rm 406G HHH
Washington, D.C. 20201

March 13, 1997

via facsimile: (202)690-6351

re. National Network on Behalf of Battered Immigrant Women Annual Meeting

Dear Irene,

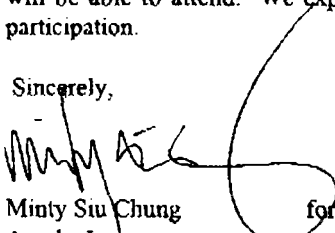
On behalf of the National Network on Behalf of Battered Immigrant Women (NNBBIW), we wish to invite you to attend and speak at the NNBBIW's meeting on April 11 in Austin, Texas. Network advocates would benefit from your expertise in recent immigration and welfare legislation from the HHS perspective and in the role of the federal government in protecting battered immigrant women. We hope that you will be available to discuss the HHS understanding of welfare eligibility by the various categories of battered immigrant women and how advocates can work with the federal government to protect victims of domestic violence. We also hope that you will be able to stay and attend our discussion session on problems in the field with the implementation of welfare. A preliminary agenda is attached hereto.

NNBBIW is a loose association of multilingual, multicultural programs which have years of experience representing and assisting battered immigrant women and children. Since the early nineties, NNBBIW has brought together advocates from diverse backgrounds working to protect immigrant victims of domestic violence, including domestic violence and immigration attorneys, shelter workers, academics, social service providers and health care professionals. Among the many legal, social, shelter, and advocacy programs represented by NNBBIW are: Ayuda, Inc. (Washington, D.C.); Family Violence Prevention Fund (San Francisco, CA); National Immigration Project of the National Lawyer's Guild (Boston, MA); Asian Women's Shelter (San Francisco, CA); SAKHI for South Asian Women (New York, NY); Northern California Coalition for Immigrant Rights (San Francisco, CA), the Northwest Immigrants' Rights Project (Seattle, WA) and NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund (New York, NY). NNBBIW has advocated on behalf of the immigrant provisions of the Violence Against Women Act and continue to pool their efforts on behalf of their abused clients.

At previous NNBBIW meetings, members came together for cross-training. Members discussed, shared ideas and planned strategies for working with VAWA, Prop. 187, welfare reform, health care issues, migrant rural women's needs, and the need for training.

In April, among other things, we hope that advocates will be able to share their experiences of practice under VAWA and educate each other on the practical issues that emerge therefrom. Therefore, we are very excited about the possibility of your speaking at the Network meeting. Unfortunately, the Network has no budget for travel -- all participants attending the meetings are responsible for their own travel -- and will not be able to sponsor your airfare. Because your contribution to the Network meeting will be invaluable, we do hope that you will be able to attend. We expect this will be a very productive and educational meeting for all involved and look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,


Minty Siu Chung
Ayuda, Inc.

for Leni Marin, Family Violence Prevention Fund
Leslye Orloff, Ayuda, Inc.
Gail Pendleton, National Immigration Project of the National Lawyer's Guild

Co-Chaired by the Following Organizations

Ayuda, Inc.
1736 Columbia Rd., NW
Washington D.C. 20009
(202)387-0434

Family Violence Prevention Fund
383 Rhode Island Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415)252-8900

National Immigration Project
14 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02108
(617)227-9727

To : Hazel Farmer@ASL@OS.DC
Cc : IreneB
Bcc :
From : Irene Bueno@ASL@OS.DC
Subject : re: Travel--Austin, TX
Date : Monday, March 24, 1997 at 2:33:20 pm EST
Attach :
Certify : N
Encrypt : N

Reply by : Irene Bueno@ASL@OS.DC
Date : Monday, March 24, 1997 14:33:19
Reply to : Hazel Farmer@ASL@OS.DC
Reply CC : IreneB
Reply:

Sorry I did not see this.

[Original Message]

To : IreneB
From : Hazel Farmer@ASL@OS.DC
Subject : Travel--Austin, TX
Date : Monday, March 24, 1997 at 12:22:58 pm EST

Irene,

Please look at this and let me know what changes you want. Thanks.

Round Trip Ticket: \$234.00

DEPARTURE -- Thursday, April 10, 1997

LV: National A/P @ 6:31 p.m. FL No. American 1799

AR: Dallas, TX @ 8:49 p.m.

LV: Dallas, TX @ 9:35 p.m. FL No. American 461

AR: Austin, TX @ 10:25 p.m.

RETURN -- Saturday, April 12, 1997

LV: Austin, TX @ 1:49 p.m. FL No. American 494

AR: Dallas, TX @ 2:55 p.m.

LV: Dallas, TX @ 3:35 p.m. FL No. American 1632

AR: National A/P @ 7:33 p.m.

Check this out
↓

10:56

1514

11:54

12:35

1256

4:26

① ~~the~~ law has a tremendous impact on many condy
some protections for battered immig but not from all
provisions (SSI, PS, 5-yr bar).
possibly other FBS.

INTRODUCTION - Overview Ab immig welfare provision

- Welfare and immigration bill made major changes to current law.

where we are on implementation (verification guiden).
- ~~Sense of impact on the community~~ ~~battered immigrants~~ ~~immig carefully~~

- Future of the legislation ~~fixes etc.~~ ~~provisions~~

① WHAT WERE THE CHANGES - see ~~outline~~ ~~handbook~~ ← summary chart Effective Date

a. Prior Law

- Still some is unclear

- Change in the immig bill { battered immig = Qualified Alien
Still does not protect from SSI, PS + 5 year bar.

IMPACT OF ON THE PEOPLE, COMMUNITY AND STATE, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

- Impact on human scale

- Cost shift to states locals

④ CONGRESSIONAL SITUATION

Why Congress went after immigrants - budget, philosophy

Now Congress is rethinking b/c of the governors and elections

Advocacy groups are planning a 100 day campaign.

~~Other pr~~

HANDOUTS

- Summary *on HHS web page*
- President's budget (1 pagers)

② PENDING ISSUES OF INTEREST *Implementation / increasing the*

- Battered immigrant exceptions (guidance part of the verification memo). DOJ will discuss.

- Bucket

- Means-tested benefits

- Definition of federal public benefit

- Non-profit exemption

- Verification *notes*

②A - What's happening *states like CA - moving forward, most states choosing to cover CA under Medicaid - TANF - ② look of confusion*

③ PRESIDENT'S BUDGET PROPOSALS *- see handout*

- Restores SSI and Medicaid for children and disabled

- 2 year additional for refugees and asylees

- Food Stamps - delay

~~Technical 2 (Lisa)~~

Other Proposals

BG
Delay

Naturalization policy

Reactivation vs. ~~ASAP~~ BAC

③ PROGNOSIS

- crucial Period - mtgs daily.

- NGA - asked for some restoration - Congress said no - maybe a block grant (appropriations).

Now - say maybe a delay

- Maybe some progress understanding b/c of the stories.

- Many bills pending on the Hill

- By August, recep will be cut-off - imminent danger

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Self-Employment

Christina Benitez Wilcox
Attorney
Hawcock, Roberts & Bumsdorf

Marie Wilson
President
Ms. Foundation for Women

Executive Director
Esta Soler

Date: March 17, 1997

To: Attendees to the Austin, Texas meeting of the National Network
on Behalf of Battered Immigrant Women

From: Sylvanna Falcon, Family Violence Prevention Fund

Re: Conference logistics

This letter confirms your attendance to the Austin meeting on April 11&12, 1997 for the National Network on Behalf of Battered Immigrant Women. **The attendees must pay for their airplane fare, lodging, food, and any other travel accommodations. There is no registration fee to attend the meeting. Please note that the Violence Against Women Act: Family Law and Immigration Training is separate from this meeting. If you would like to register for that training, you must contact Nidia Salamanca of the Political Asylum Project of Austin at (512) 478-0546 - phone, (512) 476-9788 - fax.**

The April 11th & 12th meeting will be held at the St. Louis Catholic Church, Parish Education Center, Room 201 beginning at 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. The address is 7601 Burnet Road (the center is behind the Church facing St. Joseph's Street).

Directions from the Airport to meeting location: Go West on Airport Blvd until I-35. At I-35 proceed North until you reach 183-NW. Continue until Anderson Lane where you will then go South. On Burnet Road make a left (East) until 7601 Burnet Road. The cross street is Anderson Lane. If you get lost, please call the Texas Council on Family Violence at (512) 794-1133 for assistance. **If you are renting a car, be sure to ask the agent for a map.**

The following are a list of nearby hotels:

- 1) Best Western Atrium North, 7928 Gessner
Phone (512) 339-7311 or 1-800-528-1234
- 2) Courtyard by Marriott-Airport, 5660 North I-35
Phone (512) 458-2340

1 of two

Q&A

- ① Which states do not provide QA TANF
- ② ⁴ Reporting ~~stat~~ by health provider. clearly don't have to report.
- ③ LPRs married to US citizens - are they exempt.
- ④ Example - of possible civil right violation.
- ⑤ Verifying parents who are undocumented but ~~not~~ US citizen kids
clearly this = chilling effect.
- ⑥ Training to determine DV.
- ⑦ 40 quarters (immunity)
- abusive partner - not helpful
- divorce
- ⑧ AG
solicitation of list
- ⑨ Verification
published w/ comment

1) Introduction (History) am

- Impact on immig entry, as Lisa mentioned some protections but not from all the provisions: implementation - battered immig
- Overview of ~~the~~ ^{key} provision - which agency need to make determination if GA
- Implementation - challenges of
- Legislative Fixes

Handouts - some on the HHS, ATF website

2) Overview - see summary

- Prior Law
- Some areas are still unclear. we are hoping that when V.G. goes out we will clarify the areas.
- Go through summary, chart

3) Implementation - slow - see effective date chart

- Implementation - slow - see effective date chart
- Intensity
- Intensity
- FEP Training of HHS, provides ~~staff~~ on all battered immig provisions.
- Some states like CA are moving forward. We are revising that.

4) Legislative Fixes

- President's proposal - difficult ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~decision~~ ^{decision} - most ready.
- NGA Resolution
- Show BG (supp)
- Lott - delay
- Various bills

5) Prognosis

- Crucial period (Budget negotiation) end - May in Aug.
- ~~are~~ ^{are} splitting off.
- Some understanding what they did. ~~at~~ Congress has no clear + they still think there's a way for those over 75.
- Advocacy group 100 day campaign (rallies, lobbying, etc.).

6) Other Fixes

Unclear - some threats to make it worse

- Speak out - what's going on you entry. Ideas. Indian guidance
- Continue success in it working

~~Some states are moving forward - CA. we are looking at that~~

- 3) Days Inn - North, 183 and I-35
Phone (512) 835-4311 or 1-800-329-7466
- 4) Drury Inn, I-35 and Hwy 290
Phone (512) 454-1144
- 5) Four Points Hotel, 7800 N. I-35; (has complimentary airport shuttle)
Phone (512) 836-8520

Please bring materials that you want to share with the group related to VAWA, welfare reform, etc. We are anticipating 40 - 60 folks for the meeting.

We look forward to seeing you in Austin! Please call me if there are any problems at (415) 252-8900 Ext. 26. Thanks!

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Founder and Chair
Women's Initiative for
Self-Employment

Christina Benitez Wilcox
Attorney
Hancock, Rothert & Bunschoft

Marie Wilson
President
Mt. Foundation for Women

Executive Director
Esta Soler

Facsimile Transmission Cover Page

DATE:

4/2/97

TO:

see below

AGENCY:

AGENCY'S
PHONE #:AGENCY'S
FAX #:

FROM:

Sylvanna Falcom

NUMBER OF PAGES TO FOLLOW:

2

MESSAGE: I am re-sending this to many of you who called to say you didn't receive this information the first time. Sorry about the delay!

- ATTN:
- 1) Lisa Boley (202) 514-9262 → could you please call me because I don't have your phone # or address fax
 - 2) Sonia Parvas (515) 244-7411 - fax
 - 3) Lisa Tuccillo (202) 514-5715 - fax
 - 4) Irene Bueno (202) 690-6351 - fax — could you please call me because I need your telephone + address. Ben called 4/4/97
 - 5) Elizabeth Guerrero (512) 453-8541 - fax

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