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1971 Federal Welfare Reform Proposals

	Major Provisions of:	PRESENT WELFARE PROGRAMS	FAMILY ASSISTANCE PLAN, HR 1 with revisions	HR 7388 supported by "CAMPAIGN FOR ADEQUATE WELFARE REFORM"	ADEQUATE INCOME ACT OF 1971 (National Welfare Rights Organization Bill, HR 7257)
1.	Annual grant for a family of four.	Varies $636 to $4,164 National Median: $2,650	$2400 (States may supplement but with no Federal matching funds)	$3,600 in 1972	$6,500
2.	Annual grant for an aged individual	Varies $585 to $1,475 National average: $900	$1800	$1,600 in 1972	$2,250
3.	Provision toward "adequacy" beyond 1972	None. Reduction possible in some states.	None. Reduction probable in many states.	4 annual steps to Lower Living Standard consumption level, according to Bureau of Labor Statistics.	Benefits maintained at approximately the Lower Living Standard consumption level according to BLS.
4.	Eligibility	Excludes non-disabled adults 18-65 who do not have dependent children, working poor, & in many states, families having two parents present.	Excludes non-disabled adults 18-65 who do not have dependent children.	Includes all persons in need.	Includes all persons in need.
5.	Rights & Protections	Rights of recipient often vague, often violated by states without redress except occasional court action on behalf of recipients.	Similar to existing program. May be more punitive.	Rights & due process requirements explicit.	Rights & due process requirements explicit.
6.	Employment requirements	Able-bodied adults, including Mothers with youngest child over 12 years.	Able-bodied adults, including Mother with youngest child over 6.	Able-bodied adults except Mothers caring for dependent children.	No work requirement, but positive work incentive.
7.	Wage standards for acceptable jobs.	Not in violation of any law.	Similar to existing program.	Wage must be at least Federal minimum wage rate or prevailing wage in community, whichever is higher.	Covered by other legislation.
8.	Work incentive: % of income that can be kept by recipients	Varies. Minimum: no incentive. Maximum: $30 per month and 1/3 of the remainder. Applies only earned income.	$60 per month plus 1/3 remainder. Applies only to earned income.	40% of all income.	33 1/3% of all income.
9.	Program Administration	Varies: State or state-local	Uncertain: May be Federal or a mixture of Federal and State-local.	Federal.	Federal.
10.	Estimated additional cost for 1972 over present program.	See note.	$5 - 8 Billion	$8 Billion	$50 Billion
11.	Estimated tax relief to states & localities as indirect revenue sharing.	None.	$1 -2 Billion, principally to states with average or below grant levels.	The $4 Billion expended on public assistance from state and local taxes.	The $4 Billion expended on public assistance from state and local taxes.

Note: Cost of present public assistance, medicaid, and food stamps programs, is approximately $15 Billion, of which about $6 Billion is state and local. $15 Billion is less than 1½% of the Gross National Product.

Welfare Priority Team
UNITED CHURCH BOARD FOR HOMELAND MINISTRIES
Revised April, 1971.