



# LBJ's Great Society

## Lesson Plan & Documents

Brad Cake  
Summer 2012

The following lesson plan was developed under the supervision of the LBJ Presidential Library Education staff. Permission was granted to publish this lesson plan. If you have any questions, please contact the [LBJ Library Education Staff](http://www.lbjlibrary.org).

**Title:** LBJ's Great Society

**Created by:** Bradford Cake

**Grade:** High School

**Subject:** Advanced Placement United States History

**Objective(s):** Students will be able to analyze the programs of Lyndon Johnson's Great Society.

**Length:** One block period, or two 45 minute periods

**Standards:**

*TEKS 9F:* describe presidential actions and congressional votes to address minority rights in the United States, including desegregation of the armed forces, the Civil Rights acts of 1957 and 1964, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

*TEKS 17D:* identify actions of government and the private sector such as the Great Society, affirmative action, and Title IX to create economic opportunities for citizens and analyze the unintended consequences of each.

**Primary Documents:**

- Memo to the President from Joe Califano, White House Central Files, May 29, 1968
- Political Cartoon: "The Spoiler" by Warren King, July 15, 1967
- Poster: Student 'Filibuster' for Civil Rights, Legislative Background Files, Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Press Release: Clean Air Act, April 8, 1966, Legislative Background Files, Clean Air
- Remarks by the President on the Department of Transportation, Legislative Background Files, Department of Transportation
- Presidential Message to Congress on the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, Legislative Background Files, EOA (War on Poverty)
- Political Cartoon: "I didn't know I had it in me" by Warren King, Aug. 1, 1968 in The News (NY, NY)
- Political Cartoon: "Hard to close, once the gate is open" by Reg Manning, May 5, 1966 in Arizona Republic Syndicated
- Political Cartoon: "Woman's work is never done" by Newton Pratt, Dec. 20, 1965 in Sacramento Bee
- Remarks and Picture: Signing of ESEA, April 11, 1965
- Remarks by the President on Meat Inspection Act of 1967, Legislative Background Files, Meat Inspection Act, 1967
- Memorandum for the President from Otto Eckstein on the Minimum Wage Bill, Aug 4, 1965, Legislative Background Files- Minimum Wage Increase, 1966
- Memorandum for the President from Gardner Ackley- A Higher Minimum Wage? Aug 4, 1965, Legislative Background Files- Minimum Wage Increase, 1966
- Letter from Emily Anderson, on Nursing Education, Jan. 13, 1965
- Remarks of the President on the Poll Tax, Legislative Background Files- Voting Rights Act of 1965
- Table: Incidence of Poverty by Education, Color, and Residence; by Dept. of Commerce
- Letter from Milton Black, on federal aid to education, Jan. 11, 1966
- Excerpts from the State of the Union Address, Jan 8., 1964
- Public Papers of the President: Remarks of the President with President Truman at the Signing in Independence of the Medicare Bill, 7/30/65, Box 155

**Other Materials:**

- “Great Society DBQ” handout
- Reading and Math Test Scores, Department of Education Report
- Federal Spending on K-12 Education, Department of Education Report

**Background Information:**

President Lyndon Baines Johnson announced plans for his Great Society program on May 22, 1964, and he championed this message throughout the 1964 presidential campaign. This program took on many forms but its main components were the elimination of poverty, racial equality, and an update to the Medicare program. Other initiatives tackled problems with the environment, education, minimum wage, housing, transportation, public broadcasting, and much more. While many programs were amended or enacted during Johnson’s administration, arguments on the effectiveness of these programs are still debated today. In this lesson, students will analyze how essential some of the programs of the Great Society actually were.

**Prior to class:**

- Students would have already read the textbook chapter containing the Great Society.
- Gather all materials and documents. Place a copy of all primary/secondary source documents in a folder for each group.

**Methods:**

<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Student Activity</u></b>	<b><u>Teacher Directive</u></b>
5 min	Listen	Explain the activity to the class: Groups will be given a DBQ question, and each group will be required to sort through twenty documents and choose 5-8 documents that will help them answer the DBQ question. They will need to fill out the “Great Society DBQ” handout explaining why they chose to use each document.
2 min	Form into groups	Pass out 1 document folder to each group and 1 “Great Society DBQ” handout to each student.
20-30 min	Read through the documents in the group. Students should begin to discuss if they think a certain document should be used in the DBQ. Each student should write on his/her own “Great Society DBQ” handout during this time.	Walk around to the different groups and ask for questions or give pointers to assist them, if needed. Ensure each student is writing on their “Great Society DBQ” handout.
3 min	Listen	Explain the next part of the activity: Groups will now switch with each other. On a piece of paper, each group

		will write the document numbers of the documents they chose. Groups will then switch, and share the document numbers with another group. The groups will then have to use the documents chosen by the other group to create an outline (with a thesis) for the DBQ question.
20-30 min	Use only the document numbers given by the other group to analyze and begin working on an outline and thesis statement. The groups should work together, but each student needs to write an outline on his/her own paper.	Walk around to the different groups and ask for questions or give pointers to assist them, if needed. Ensure each student is writing an outline on his/her own paper.
2 min	Turn in individual "Great Society DBQ" handouts <u>and</u> outlines	Collect papers
10 min	Listen and participate	Lead a closing discussion on the activity.

**Assessments:**

1. Informal Assessments: "Great Society DBQ" handout, Group outlines and thesis statements, and/or have each student write the actual DBQ essay for homework.

2. Formal Assessment Ideas:

- Quiz on Johnson's Great Society.
- Give students a similar question to the DBQ question and have them write a free response essay in class.

May 29, 1968

C. F.:

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ISI  
WEB

FOR THE PRESIDENT

COPY FOR George Christian

FROM Joe Califano *JN*

Here are some accomplishments over the last several years from which you can select the ones you want to use:

Five years ago, Federal manpower programs trained 75,000 men and women annually. Today they train over one million men and women *ANNUALLY*.

Over the last four years, 7-1/2 million workers have been added to the employment rolls -- to the point where 75 million Americans are now employed.

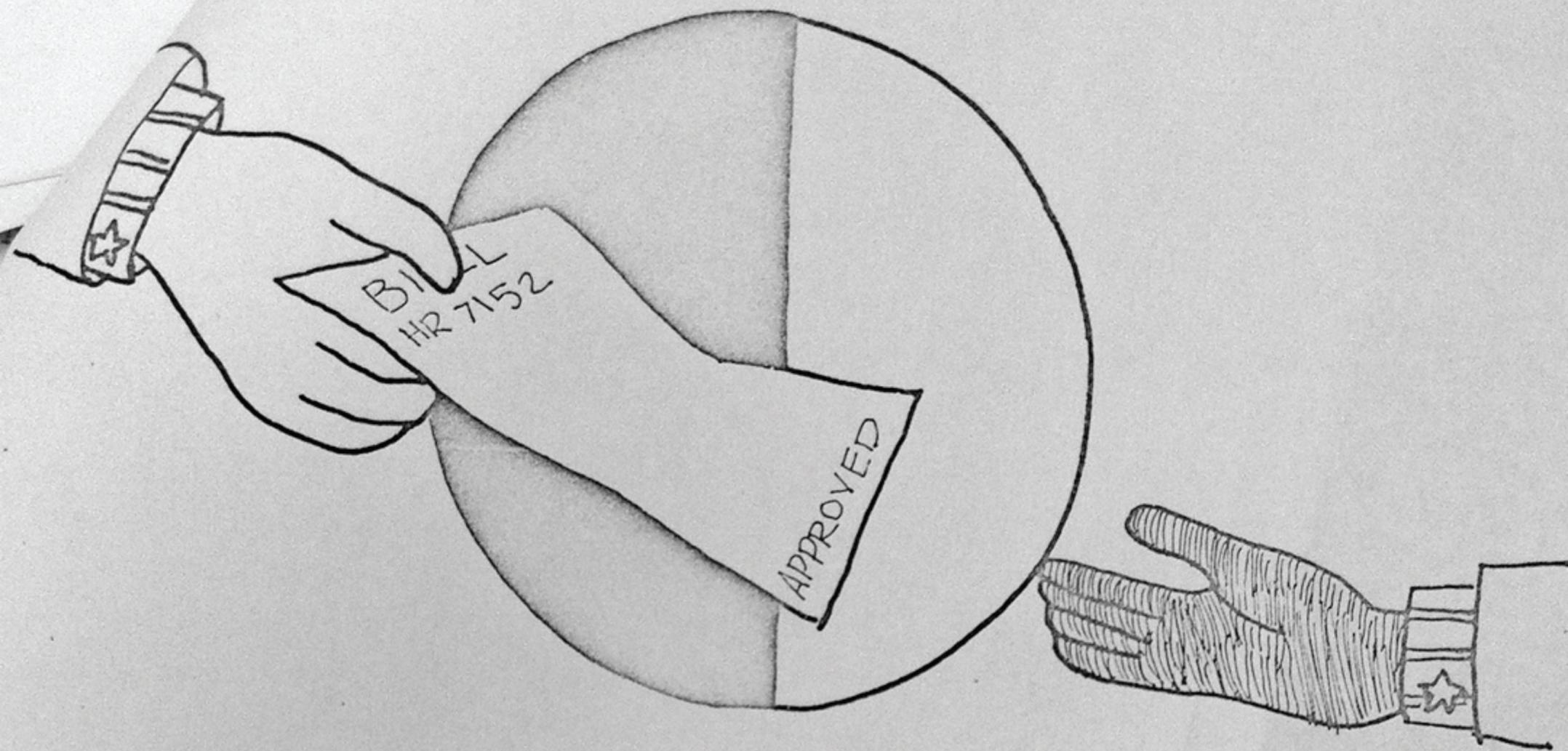
In the last four years, 5-1/2 million new homes have been built.

Over the last four years, Federal expenditures for education have *NEARLY* tripled to the current rate of \$12 billion annually.

Over the last four years, Federal expenditures for health have more than tripled -- from \$4 billion to \$14 billion.

Nearly 20 million Americans are now protected by Medicare. More than 7 million have already received its benefits.

PASS THE



BILL

“Student ‘Filibuster’  
FOR  
CIVIL RIGHTS”

**WHEN: APRIL 27 - MAY 2 10 A.M. - 8 P.M. DAILY**

**WHERE: SYLVAN THEATRE (ON GROUNDS OF WASHINGTON MONUMENT)**

**WHAT: CONTINUOUS STUDENT DEBATE IN SUPPORT OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS BILL**

**SPONSORED BY: D.C. STUDENTS FOR CIVIL RIGHTS**

4/8/66

PRESS RELEASE

President Johnson today signed an Executive Order requiring all Federal agencies to take steps to prevent and control air pollution from Federal installations. <sup>TP</sup> The Order directs the heads of all <sup>Federal</sup> agencies to <sup>lead</sup> provide ~~leadership~~ <sup>the Administration's</sup> in the effort to improve the quality of the Nation's air, ~~by ensuring that the Federal house is in order.~~ Today's Order is similar to one the President issued last November directing the Federal Government to provide <sup>effective</sup> leadership in the battle against water pollution.

The air pollution Executive Order is the result of extensive consultation with Federal agencies and with industries affected by the Order. The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare is issuing standards <sup>to</sup> which supplement the Order, by setting precise limitations on emissions which will be allowed from Federal buildings and facilities.

Today's Order requires that plans for new Federal facilities and buildings in the United States include provisions for air pollution control measures necessary to comply with the standards issued by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. In addition, the Order directs the head of each agency to examine existing installations and to present to the Bureau of the Budget, by July 1, 1967, ~~a phased~~ <sup>an</sup> and orderly ~~plan and~~ schedule for bringing all such installations up to the required standards.

In signing the Order, the President stated that the most difficult problem encountered in writing the Order was the lack of <sup>an</sup> ~~any~~ economically feasible technology for controlling emissions of sulfur. The Federal Government

has proposed spending more than three million dollars in 1967 on research to control sulfur emissions. This ~~amount~~ includes one million dollars for designing four sulfur-removal pilot plants, ~~the construction of these~~ <sup>which</sup> plants ~~will~~ <sup>would</sup> cost a total of eight million dollars. The President has directed the Secretaries of the Interior and Health, Education, and Welfare to explore with the Bureau of the Budget the feasibility of increasing the Federal effort to find a solution to the sulfur emission problem.

The President said that a major part of the responsibility for sulfur research rests with the utilities, the coal and oil industries, and other groups which will feel the economic effects of more stringent air pollution regulations. He ~~complimented the utilities and the coal and oil industries~~ <sup>pointed out that these industries</sup> ~~had increased~~ <sup>had increased</sup> ~~on increasing~~ their expenditures ~~of funds~~ for air pollution research in the past few years, but stated that much greater efforts are needed. He ~~said~~ he was confident that these industries as good citizens would continue to help in the ~~increased national effort~~ to protect and restore the quality of the air.

The President emphasized that, although there were great technological and economic problems in the abatement of air pollution, he ~~considered the~~ <sup>remained a major objective of his Administration, and</sup> ~~the~~ battle for cleaner air ~~one of the major aspects of his Great Society program~~ and he ~~declared that the Administration would continue to increase its~~ efforts to improve the quality of the environment.

an essential element in a better environment for America.

OCTOBER 15, 1966

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

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THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
UPON SIGNING A BILL CREATING A  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
THE EAST ROOM

AT 1:17 P.M. EDT

Secretary Connor, Secretary Fowler, Senator Mansfield, Senator McClellan, Senator Jackson, distinguished Speaker McCormack, Chairman Dawson, Congressman Holifield, Mrs. Congresswoman Dwyer, other Members of Congress, ladies and gentlemen, distinguished Mayors:

We are deeply grateful for your presence in the East Room of the White House today.

In large measure, America's history is a history of her transportation.

Our early cities were located by deep water harbors and inland waterways; they were nurtured by ocean vessels and by flatboats.

The railroad allowed us to move East and West. A thousand towns and more grew up along the railroad's gleaming rails.

The automobile stretched out over cities and created suburbia in America.

Trucks and modern highways brought bounty to remote regions.

Airplanes helped knit our nation together, and knitted it together with other nations throughout the world.

Today, all Americans are really neighbors.

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Transportation is the biggest industry we have in this country. It involves one out of every five dollars in our economy.

Our system of transportation is the greatest of any country in the world.

But we must face facts. We must be realistic. We must know -- and we must have the courage to let our people know -- that our system is no longer adequate.

During the next two decades, the demand for transportation in this country is going to more than double. But we are already falling far behind with the demand as it is. Our lifeline is tangled.

Today we are confronted by traffic jams. Today we are confronted by commuter crises, by crowded airports, by crowded airlines, by screeching airplanes, by archaic equipment, by safety abuses, and roads that scar our nation's beauty.

We have come to this historic East Room of the White House today to establish and to bring into being a Department of Transportation, the second Cabinet office to be added to the President's Cabinet in recent months.

This Department of Transportation that we are establishing will have a mammoth task -- to untangle, to coordinate, and to build the national transportation system for America that America is deserving of.

Because the job is great, I intend to appoint a strong man to fill it. The new Secretary will be my principal adviser and my strong right arm on all transportation matters. I hope he will be the best equipped man in this country to give leadership to the country, to the President, to the Cabinet, to the Congress.

Among the many duties the new Department will have, several deserve very special notice.

- To improve the safety in every means of transportation, safety of our automobiles, our trains, our planes and our ships.
- To bring new technology to every mode of transportation by supporting and promoting research and development.
- To solve our most pressing transportation problems.

A day will come in America when people and freight will move through this land of ours speedily, efficiently, safely, dependably and cheaply. That will be a good day and a great day in America.

Our transportation system was built by the genius of free enterprise. As long as I am President, it will be sustained by free enterprise.

In a few respects, this bill falls short of our original hopes. It does not include the Maritime Administration. As experience is gained in the Department, I would hope that the Congress could re-examine its decision to leave this key transportation activity alone, outside its jurisdiction.

But what is most important, I think, is that you, for the first time in modern history, have created and have brought for me to sign, a measure giving us a new Cabinet department. It was proposed, it will be established and it will be in operation in the same year. All of these things took place in the same year.

It is the second major step in bringing our Government up to date with the times. Last year this Congress established the Department of Housing and Urban Affairs.

Today you bring 31 agencies and their bureaus, going in all directions, into a single Department of Transportation under the guidance and leadership of a Secretary of Transportation.

T. J. P.

THE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 1964

With this message, I am submitting a draft bill, "The Economic Opportunity Act of 1964," designed

First, to focus more sharply and directly the forces which already exist for the fight against poverty.

Second, to mobilize new forces to strike more deeply and effectively at the roots of poverty.

To carry out the purposes of this bill I requested a total authorization of \$970 million in new funds in my January budget. This includes the \$500 million carried in my Budget Message as a special allowance to attack poverty, and \$470 million which appears under other headings in the Budget, but which is part and parcel of the economic opportunity program of this bill.

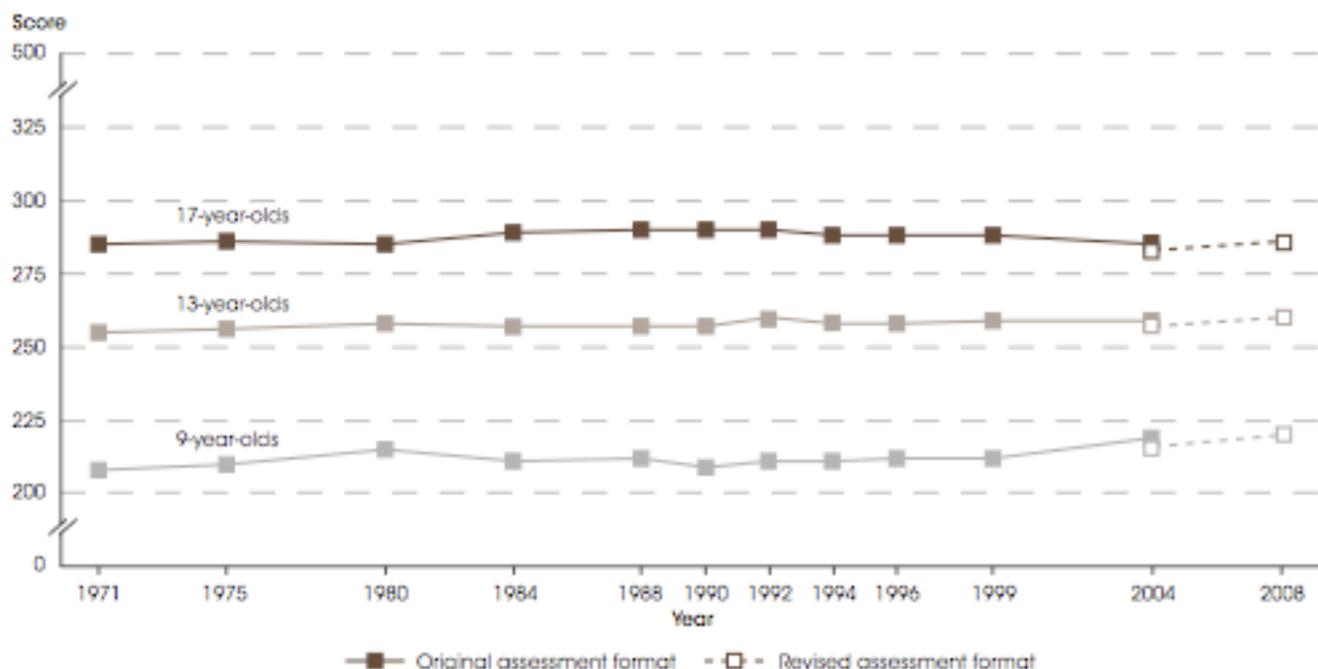
This message briefly ~~attests~~<sup>more</sup> attests the aims and proposals of the war on poverty. I am asking that full detail be supplied in testimony before your committees, and in ~~additional material to be made available later~~

In addition, some \$300 million of funds requested under related programs not in this bill are to be specifically directed to the purposes of the war on poverty.

The measures proposed in the bill, and their costs, break into three main groups:

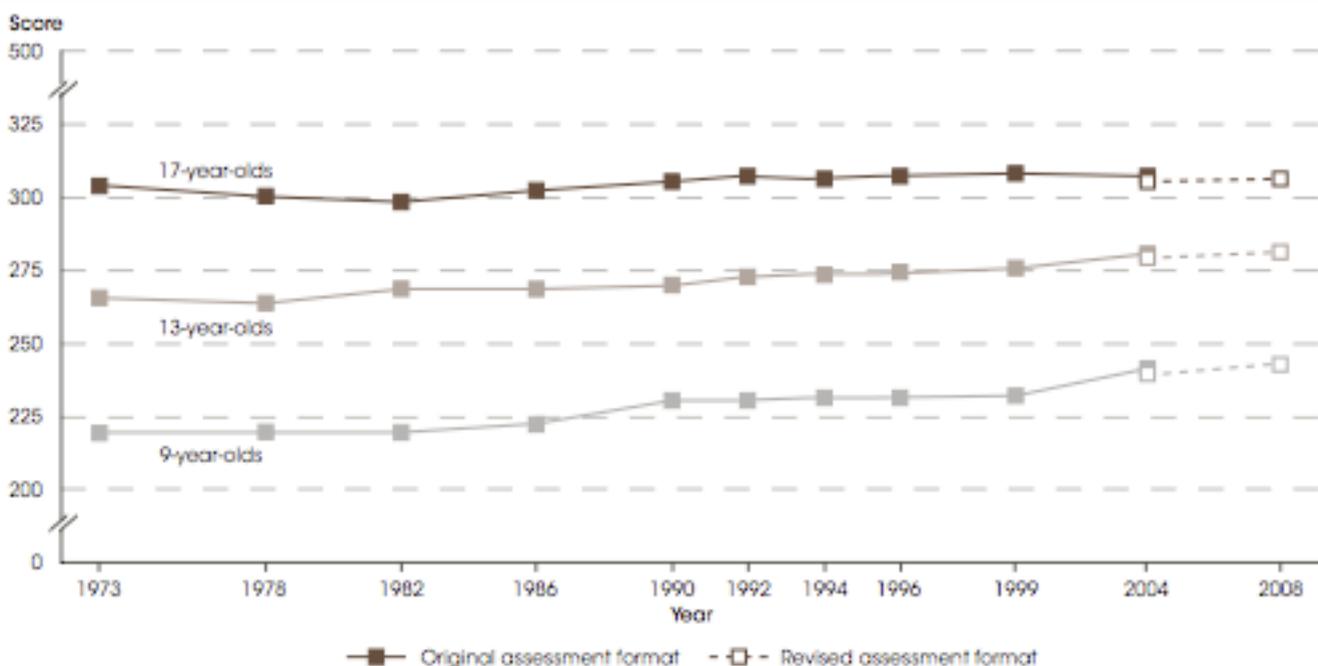
1. Through a Job Corps and Work-Training and Work-Study programs, this bill proposes an immediate attack on one of the problems of poverty that is nearing crisis proportions -- our rising tide of out-of-school and out-of-work youth. For these programs of youth training and employment, I propose to allocate \$410 million of the requested authorization in this bill, as well as to earmark for it another \$60 million in agency budgets already submitted.
2. Through a Community Action Program, drawing heavily on local initiative, this bill would strike at the roots of some of America's worst pockets of poverty. For this purpose, I propose to allocate \$325 million and earmark \$200 million in other agency budgets.
3. Through additional measures, the bill would create new opportunities for certain hard-hit groups to break the poverty pattern. It would provide incentives for private capital to generate jobs for the needy -- help unemployed fathers become self-supporting -- and provide special tools to cope with poverty in rural areas. I propose to use \$235 million of the funds to be authorized and earmark up to \$50 million of agency funds already budgeted.

Figure 13-1. Average reading scale scores on the long-term trend National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), by age: Various years, 1971 through 2008



NOTE: Includes public and private schools. NAEP scores range from 0 to 500. Scores for the revised assessment format reflect the inclusion of and accommodations for students with disabilities and English language learners. For more information on NAEP see supplemental note 4. SOURCE: Rampey, B.D., Dion, G.S., and Danahue, P.L. (2009). *NAEP 2008 Trends in Academic Progress in Reading and Mathematics* (NCES 2009-479). National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC.

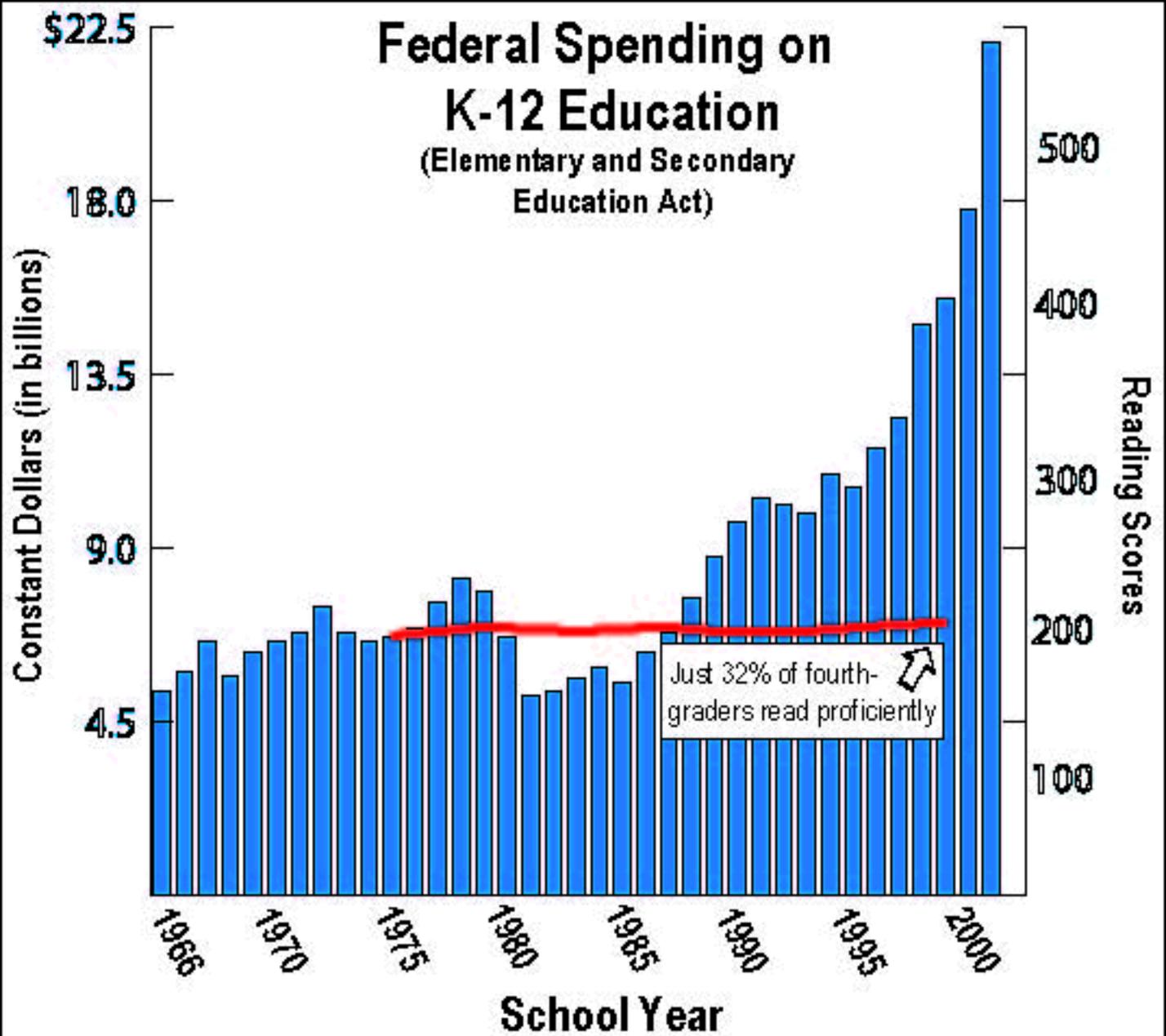
Figure 13-2. Average mathematics scale scores on the long-term trend National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), by age: Various years, 1973 through 2008



NOTE: Includes public and private schools. NAEP scores range from 0 to 500. Scores for the revised assessment format reflect the inclusion of and accommodations for students with disabilities and English language learners. For more information on NAEP see supplemental note 4. SOURCE: Rampey, B.D., Dion, G.S., and Danahue, P.L. (2009). *NAEP 2008 Trends in Academic Progress in Reading and Mathematics* (NCES 2009-479). National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC.

# Federal Spending on K-12 Education

(Elementary and Secondary Education Act)



# Great Society DBQ

APUSH

**Directions:** Please choose between 5-8 documents for the following DBQ question. Briefly comment why your group chose each document below.

DBQ QUESTION: *The programs of the Great Society were essential for the improvement of the United States. Assess the validity of that statement.*

Document 1:

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Document 2:

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Document 3:

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Document 4:

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Document 5:

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Document 6 (if necessary):

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Document 7 (if necessary):

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Document 8 (if necessary):

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1968  
\$25.4 BILLION  
DEFICIT

Warren  
Tung

Hard To Close, Once The Gate Is Open



ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

CONGRESS

YIPPY-KI-YI-YIPPY-YAY!  
GIT ALONG LITTLE DOGIES!

GREAT SOCIETY RANCH

STOP!  
THAT'S ENOUGH!

BUDGET PASTURE

PRESIDENT'S SPENDING PROGRAMS

REG-MANNING

TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON

McNaught Syndicate



To Lady P. for her  
most respectful regards  
Newton Thornberry

Newton Thornberry



President Johnson signs the Elementary and  
Secondary Education Act (ESEA),  
sitting with his first teacher, "Miss Kate" Deadrich  
April 11, 1965

Remarks by President Johnson:

“By passing this bill, we bridge the gap between helplessness and hope for more than 5 million educationally deprived children. We put into the hands of our youth more than 30 million new books, and into many of our schools their first libraries. We reduce the terrible time lag in bringing new teaching techniques into the Nation's classrooms. We strengthen State and local agencies which bear the burden and the challenge of better education. And we rekindle the revolution--the revolution of the spirit against the tyranny of ignorance.”

## Assuring Wholesome Meat

For 60 years, the Federal meat inspection program has removed unwholesome and adulterated products from the Nation's meat counters. The American housewife knows she can count on the quality of inspected meat. Indeed, she may expect that all the meat she buys deserves her confidence.

Yet, millions of tons of meat are not subjected to these high standards of inspection. Nearly 15% of the fresh meat supply and almost 25% of processed meat products do not enter into interstate commerce and are therefore not inspected under the Federal program. Although some of this meat is inspected under State and local programs, most of it receives no inspection at all.

It should be our goal to provide full assurance of the wholesomeness and quality of all meat products offered for sale to the housewife. This assurance can best be developed through a new form of Federal-State partnership for consumer protection.

I therefore recommend the Wholesome Meat Act of 1967. This legislation will modernize the present Federal Meat Inspection Act, a law which has been amended only once since its enactment in 1907. Under the strengthened legislation, the Secretary of Agriculture would be authorized

- to enter into cooperative agreements with States seeking to raise their standards of meat inspection;
- to furnish these cooperating States with up to half of the administrative cost of the inspection program and up to the full cost of training personnel to man the program;
- ~~to authorize with the States to perform Federal meat inspection when their inspection capabilities are equal to those of the Federal program and to defray up to 100% of the cost of this Federal-State program.~~

This legislation would greatly enhance the quality of our meat supply at a cost of less than \$5 million in its initial year of operation.

gab/wab  
Minimum Wage  
3

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE  
COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS  
WASHINGTON

L. Felt

EXECUTIVE  
LE/LA  
LA 8  
7G 11-3  
7G 160

August 4, 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: The Minimum Wage Bill

1. You asked Secretary Wirtz and Gardner Ackley to make an analysis of the minimum wage bill reported out of Jimmy Roosevelt's Labor Subcommittee. Bill Wirtz is sending you his recommendations on political strategy. He broadly agrees with our economic analysis.
2. The bill would have very serious economic effects. It would
  - sharply raise costs,
  - destroy job opportunities,
  - set back the development of low-income areas, and
  - be a sharp break with previous minimum wage policy.
3. The bill would raise the minimum wage from the present \$1.25 to \$1.40 on July 1, 1966, \$1.60 on July 1, 1967, and \$1.75 on July 1, 1968.
4. It also would extend coverage by 1-1/2 million more than you requested, including an extra million employees in small retail stores. The newly covered workers move from \$1 on January 1, 1966 to \$1.75 by July 1, 1970.
5. The higher minimum for those now covered would directly raise the wages of 6 million workers. Millions more would receive increases to preserve differentials.
  - The direct effect alone by 1968 will add an average of 2 to 3% to labor costs, on top of normal wage increases.
  - In textiles, shoes, apparel and lumber the increases are about 7%.

6. The \$1.75 floor for the workers to be newly covered is even further out of line.
  - By 1970, it will boost labor costs by 10% in the affected industries.
  - And the new coverage is in the very fields which now offer job opportunities to teenagers, part-time workers, and the unskilled.
7. The impact will be most acute in areas we are most trying to help.
  - Cost increases in Southern industry will average 6% and be much greater in some fields. The South has been advancing toward economic equality by attracting industry partly because of its more abundant and cheaper labor. This legislation would set back the modernization of the South.
  - It would also hamper the recovery of depressed areas in Pennsylvania, New England and elsewhere, which have been gaining new jobs in low-wage industries.
8. As you said in your Fair Labor Standards Message, "The question is not whether the minimum wage should be increased but when and by how much." Since 1950 the minimum has moved up at about the same rate as wages generally, with the increases keeping it near 50% of average manufacturing wages. Over the next three years, this bill would raise the minimum to 62% of the average. This is a sharp break with the past.

When millions of inexperienced workers are streaming into the labor force we should not make it harder for them to find their first jobs. They are better off starting a job at \$1.25 than searching for work that is required to pay \$1.75.

The economy can ill afford to pay for Congressman Roosevelt's bill.

*Otto Eckstein*

Otto Eckstein  
Acting Chairman

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE  
COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS  
WASHINGTON

F -

FLSA (6)

EXECUTIVE

LE/LA

LA

LA8

August 2, 1965

SP2-3/LA

FG11-3

FG160

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: A higher minimum wage?

1. Jimmy Roosevelt's Labor Subcommittee is close to reporting out a Fair Labor Standards Bill that would sharply inflate industry costs.

- Your Fair Labor Standards Message did not call for any increase in the minimum wage. (The minimum went to \$1.25 in September 1963; the minimum for 3.6 million newly covered workers will not reach that figure until September 1965.)
- Last week Congressman Roosevelt was talking in terms of \$1.40 in July 1966, \$1.50 in July 1967.
- Now he has upped the figures to \$1.50 next July, \$1.75 in July 1967.
- Union pressure -- especially from David Dubinsky -- is strong. The unions want to stop the movement of industry to the South by raising labor costs there.

2. The move to \$1.75 in two years would play havoc with industrial costs.

- It would directly raise the wages of 7-1/2 million workers; millions more, higher in the wage scale, would be raised to preserve differentials.
- The direct impact alone would push up labor costs in covered industries by an average of 3.6%, on top of normal wage increases.

- The cost increase would be 2-1/2 to 4 times as great for such industries as textiles, shoes, apparel, lumber, and retail trades.
  - The impact would be particularly acute in the South, where average labor costs in covered industries would be boosted by at least 8 to 10%.
3. Even the move to \$1.50 in two years raises costs very substantially.
- The average increase in labor costs for all covered industry would be 1.3%. Again, indirect impacts plus normal increases would be on top of that.
  - High-wage industries would be little affected, but apparel costs rise 4.6%, footwear 4.2%, lumber 4.2%, textiles 3.7%, and wholesale trade 2.0%.
  - The effect is much bigger in the South, where average manufacturing labor costs would rise by 3.7%, and wholesale trade by 5.0%.
4. This is not a good time to boost the minimum wage.
- It makes it harder for the teenagers, unskilled, uneducated to find jobs. It would hurt many of those it is supposed to help.
  - There already are too many cost and price pressures in a time of uncertainty about Viet Nam.
  - Higher payroll taxes next January, broader minimum wage coverage, and (possibly) double-time for overtime will all impose higher costs on business. Business opposition -- already expressed in the hearings -- will become much stiffer if the minimum wage proposals are tacked on.

Chillicothe, Missouri  
January 12, 1965

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Mr. President:

// I want to say 'Thank you' for Federal Aid  
to Nursing Education.

I have a daughter, Ellen H. Anderson, who  
at the end of this Semester will have a Degree  
in Nursing from St. Louis University.

She is one of the fortunate ones to have been  
given a Federal grant to pursue a master's in  
Nursing at St. Louis University.

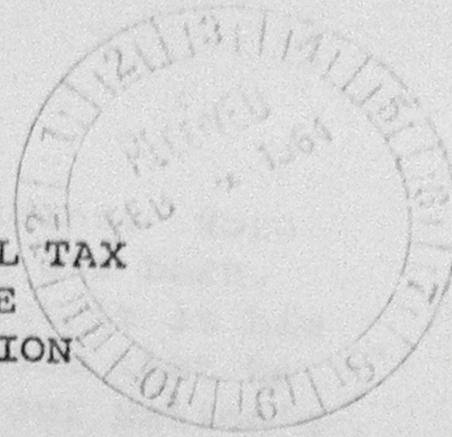
// This could have never been possible in a family  
like mine without Federal aid, and again I thank you.

Respectfully,

*Emily M Anderson*

Mrs. Emily M. Anderson  
1314 Elm St  
Chillicothe, Missouri

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
WITNESSING THE SIGNING OF THE  
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ON POLL TAX  
BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE  
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION



IN THE CABINET ROOM

Today, the United States witnesses the triumph of liberty over restriction. Today, the people of this land have abolished the poll tax as a condition to voting. By this Act, they have reaffirmed the simple but unbreakable theme of this Republic. Nothing is so valuable as liberty, and nothing is so necessary to liberty as the freedom to vote without bans or barriers.

Our Constitution in its 175-year lifetime has been amended but 14 times following the ratification of the Bill of Rights. A change in our Constitution is a serious event. The beneficiaries of this Amendment are the people of this land.

There can be no one too poor to vote. There is no longer a tax on his rights. The only enemy to voting that we face today is indifference. Too many of our citizens treat casually what other people in other lands are ready to die for.

Less than two-thirds of our eligible population cast ballots in the 1960 Presidential election. Perhaps this specific Act of firm resolve will turn negligence into interest. I pray that this is so.

I will not let this historic event pass on without paying special tribute to my old and dear friend and former colleague Spessard Holland of Florida. He led this fight from the beginning. He was in the forefront in the winning.

I salute the States of South Dakota and Georgia. They raced to the wire to be the 38th and necessary state for ratification. South Dakota won that race but we are all victors. This is the first time an Amendment to the Constitution has been certified in the presence of the President of the United States. I am proud that I am here. I am prouder still to place my name on this certificate.

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

Table (4)\_\_. Incidence of poverty by education, color, and residence: 1962

Selected characteristics	Incidence of poverty (percent)
All families .....	20
Education of head: <sup>1/</sup>	
8 years or less .....	37
12 years .....	12
More than 12 years .....	8
Color:	
White .....	17
Nonwhite .....	44
Residence:	
Farm .....	43
Nonwhite .....	84
Nonfarm .....	18

<sup>1/</sup> Data for 1961.

Note.--Data relate to family units and exclude unrelated individuals. Poverty is defined as including all families with total money incomes of \$3,000 or less; these are also referred to as poor families. The incidence of poverty is measured by the percent that poor families with a given characteristic are of all families having the same characteristic.

Source: Department of Commerce.

Hector, Minnesota  
January 11, 1965

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2-19  
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President Lyndon B. Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

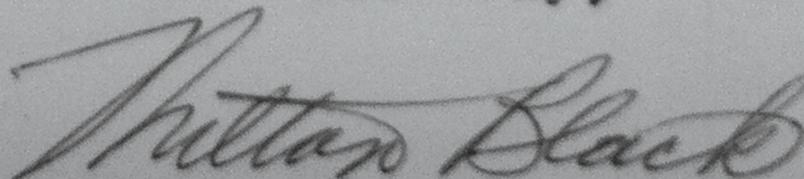
In regard to aid to education for both public and parochial schools, I believe aid to parochial schools would be all right, but only to religious groups who favor birth control and who practice birth control.

One religious group of people wants parochial school aid and also wants extra-large families. They want everybody to help support their schools so that perhaps in the future they can have bigger and bigger families, creating more and more poverty and hunger. This group wants more children and more handouts. Soon there will be only one religion left.

If public aid to parochial schools is to become law, I believe the amounts given should be the same to each religion regardless of the amount of people in each religious group. For example, \$100,000 to Lutherans, \$100,000 to Catholics, \$100,000 to Methodists, etc.

We greatly appreciate everything you, your wife and your family are doing for this country.

Yours sincerely,



Milton Black

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JANUARY 8, 1964

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

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THE WHITE HOUSE

STATE OF THE UNION MESSAGE  
BY THE PRESIDENT  
TO A JOINT SESSION OF THE CONGRESS

(AS ACTUALLY DELIVERED)

Our aim is not only to relieve the symptom of poverty, but to cure it and, above all, to prevent it. No single piece of legislation, however, is going to suffice. We will launch a special effort in the chronically distressed areas of Appalachia. We must expand our small but successful area redevelopment program. We must enact Youth Employment legislation to put jobless, aimless, hopeless youngsters to work on useful projects. We must distribute more food to the needy through a broader food stamp program. We must create a National Service Corps to help the economically handicapped of our own country as the Peace Corps now helps those abroad. We must modernize our unemployment insurance and establish a high-level Commission on Automation. If we have the brain power to invent these machines, we have the brain power to make certain that they are a boon and not a bane to humanity.

We must extend the coverage of our minimum wage laws to more than 2 million workers now lacking this basic protection of purchasing power. We must, by including special school aid funds as part of our education program, improve the quality of teaching, training, and counseling in our hardest hit areas. We must build more libraries in every area and more hospitals and nursing homes under the Hill-Burton Act, and train more nurses to staff them.

MORE

(OVER)

We must provide hospital insurance for our older citizens financed by every worker and his employer under Social Security, contributing no more than \$1 a month during the employee's working career to protect him in his old age in a dignified manner without cost to the Treasury, against the devastating hardship of prolonged or repeated illness.

We must, as a part of a revised Housing and Urban Renewal Program, give more help to those displaced by slum clearance, provide more housing for our poor and our elderly, and seek as our ultimate goal in our free enterprise system a decent home for every American family.

We must help obtain more modern mass transit within our communities as well as low-cost transportation between them.

Above all, we must release \$11 billion of tax reduction into the private spending stream to create new jobs and new markets in every area of this land.

These programs are obviously not for the poor or the underprivileged alone. Every American will benefit by the extension of Social Security to cover the

Let me make one principle of this Administration abundantly clear: All of these increased opportunities in employment, education, housing, and in every field, must be open to Americans of every color. As far as the writ of Federal law will run, we must abolish not some, but all racial discrimination, for this is not merely an economic issue or a social, political, or international issue. It is a moral issue, and it must be met by the passage this session of the bill now pending in the House.

All members of the public should have equal access to facilities open to the public. All members of the public should be equally eligible for Federal benefits that are financed by the public. All members of the public should have an equal chance to vote for public officials and to send their children to good public schools and to contribute their talents to the public good.

Today, Americans of all races stand side by side in Berlin and in Viet Nam. They died side by side in Korea. Surely they can work and eat and travel side by side in their own country.

We must also lift by legislation the bars of discrimination against those who seek entry into our country, particularly those with much needed skills and those joining their families. In establishing preferences, a nation which was built by the immigrants of all lands can ask those who now seek admission, "What can you do for our country?" But we should not be asking, "In what country were you born?" For our ultimate goal is a world without war, a world made safe for diversity, in which all men, goods, and ideas can freely move across every border and every boundary. We must advance toward this goal in 1964 in at least 10 different ways, not as partisans, but as patriots.