

The Act would also threaten the key components of WIC—a tightly prescribed combination of a targeted food package, nutrition counseling, and direct links to health care. Rigorous studies have shown that WIC reduces infant deaths, low birthweight, premature births, and other problems. Every dollar spent on WIC results in between \$1.77 and \$3.13 in Medicaid savings for newborns and their mothers.

By reducing federal support for food assistance and converting all remaining food assistance to a block grant, the Personal Responsibility Act would lower retail food sales, reduce farm income, and increase unemployment.

Under the proposed block grant, States could immediately cash-out any and all food assistance programs in spite of evidence that an in-kind benefit is more effective in stimulating food purchases than a similar benefit provided in cash.

In the short-run, the bill could reduce retail food sales by as much as \$10 billion, reduce gross farm income by as much as \$4 billion, increase farm program costs, and cost the economy as many as 138,000 jobs.

In the long run, the bill could reduce employment in farm production by more than 15,000 jobs and output by more than \$1 billion. The food processing and distribution sectors could lose as many as 83,000 jobs and \$9 billion in output.

The economic effects would be felt most heavily in rural America. In both the short- and long-run, rural areas would suffer disproportionate job losses.

Every \$1 billion in added food assistance generates about 25,000 jobs, providing an automatic stabilizer in hard times.

The proposed basis for distributing grant funds would result in substantial losses for most States.

If Congress appropriates the full amount authorized, all but 8 States would lose federal funding in fiscal year 1996. California could gain about \$650 million; Texas could lose more than \$1 billion (Table 3).

Although some States initially gain funding, all States would eventually fare worse than under current law. Over time, the initial gains will erode because the block grant eliminates the automatic funding adjustments built into the existing Food Stamp and Child Nutrition programs.

TABLE 1.—EFFECT OF THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT ON USDA FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COSTS

(In millions of dollars)

	Fiscal year—					Total
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
Current law:						
Food stamps/NAP	\$27,777	\$29,179	30,463	\$31,758	\$33,112	\$152,290
Child nutrition	8,681	9,269	9,903	10,556	11,283	49,692
WIC	3,924	4,231	4,245	4,379	4,513	21,291
All other	382	351	351	351	351	1,784
Total	40,764	43,029	44,962	47,042	49,260	225,057
Proposed law	35,600	37,138	38,756	40,457	42,214	194,166
Difference	-5,164	-5,891	-6,206	-6,585	-7,046	-30,892
Percent difference	-12.7	-13.8	-13.8	-14.0	-14.3	-13.7

Notes.—Based on current service program level for USDA food assistance programs in Department estimates of September 1994 (excluding projected costs of Food Program Administration but including anticipated mandatory spending for WIC, consistent with the Presidential policy). This table does not include the budgetary effects of food programs operated by the Administration on Aging in the Department of Health and Human Services.

The Food Stamp total includes the cost of the Nutrition Assistance Program in Puerto Rico.

The Child Nutrition total includes all administrative and program costs for the National School Lunch, School Breakfast, Special Milk, Summer Food Service, Nutrition Education and Training, and Child and Adult Care Food Programs, the value of commodities provided to schools, and support for the Food Service Management Institute.

The All Other total includes all administrative and program costs for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, the Emergency Food Assistance Program, the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, the Nutrition Program for the Elderly, and Food Distribution to Charitable Institutions and Soup Kitchens and Food Banks.

Proposed levels for the block grant in fiscal years 1997 through 2000 are increased from the 1996 amount using the projected increase in total population and the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan for the preceding year. Totals may not equal the sum of columns due to rounding.

This table assumes that Congress appropriates the full amount authorized in each year.

TABLE 2.—HISTORICAL ILLUSTRATION OF FOOD ASSISTANCE BLOCK GRANT

(In millions of dollars)

Year	Actual food assistance	With initial reduction ¹				Without initial reduction			
		Adjusted block grant	Difference		Adjusted block grant	Difference			
			Total	Percent		Total	Percent		
1989	\$21,697	\$18,941	-\$2,756	-12.7	\$21,697	N/A	N/A		
1990	24,778	20,666	-4,112	-16.6	23,672	-\$1,106	-4.5		
1991	28,849	21,971	-6,878	-23.8	25,167	-3,682	-12.8		

TABLE 2.—HISTORICAL ILLUSTRATION OF FOOD ASSISTANCE BLOCK GRANT—Continued

[In millions of dollars]

Year	Actual food assistance	With initial reduction ¹				Without initial reduction			
		Adjusted block grant	Difference		Adjusted block grant	Difference			
			Total	Percent		Total	Percent		
1992	33,519	23,232	-10,287	-30.7	26,612	-6,907	-20.6		
1993	35,397	23,369	-12,028	-34.0	26,769	-8,628	-24.4		
1994	36,928	24,374	-12,554	-34.0	27,920	-9,008	-24.4		

¹ The initial 12.7 percent reduction in the first year is equivalent to the estimated percentage reduction in food assistance funding in the first year of the Personal Responsibility Act as shown in Table 1.

Notes.—Actual food assistance includes total federal cost of all USDA food assistance programs, excluding Food Program Administration. The cost of food programs operated by the Administration on Aging in the Department of Health and Human Services are not included.

These figures assume that Congress would have appropriated the full amount authorized in each year. The block grant authorization is adjusted by the change in total U.S. population and the Consumer Price Index for Food at Home in the preceding year (ending on July 1 for population and in May for the CPI).

TABLE 3.—EFFECT OF THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT ON USDA FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS BY STATE IN FISCAL YEAR 1996

[In millions of dollars]

State	Level of food assistance		Difference	
	Current	Proposed	Total	Percent
Alabama	\$818	\$713	-\$105	-13
Alaska	97	84	-13	-13
Arizona	663	554	-109	-16
Arkansas	422	403	-19	-4
California	4,170	4,820	650	16
Colorado	412	417	5	1
Connecticut	297	248	-49	-17
Delaware	92	58	-34	-37
District of Columbia	137	85	-52	-38
Florida	2,194	1,804	-389	-18
Georgia	1,209	934	-275	-23
Hawaii	215	198	-17	-8
Idaho	127	176	49	38
Illinois	1,741	1,483	-258	-15
Indiana	713	691	-22	-3
Iowa	297	266	-31	-11
Kansas	307	270	-37	-12
Kentucky	740	582	-157	-21
Louisiana	1,141	765	-375	-33
Maine	188	167	-21	-11
Maryland	576	404	-172	-30
Massachusetts	608	577	-32	-5
Michigan	1,390	1,109	-281	-20

TABLE 3.—EFFECT OF THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT ON USDA FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS BY STATE IN FISCAL YEAR 1996—Continued

[In millions of dollars]

State	Level of food assistance		Difference	
	Current	Proposed	Total	Percent
Minnesota	508	490	-18	-4
Mississippi	730	603	-127	-17
Missouri	810	754	-56	-7
Montana	111	140	29	26
Nebraska	187	175	-12	-6
New Hampshire	89	94	5	5
New Jersey	836	704	-132	-16
New Mexico	361	321	-40	-11
Nevada	145	150	5	3
New York	3,101	2,661	-440	-14
North Carolina	930	849	-81	-9
North Dakota	86	76	-9	-11
Ohio	1,768	1,287	-481	-27
Oklahoma	528	475	-53	-10
Oregon	410	346	-64	-16
Pennsylvania	1,617	1,465	-152	-9
Rhode Island	128	101	-27	-21
South Carolina	602	546	-56	-9
South Dakota	99	95	-4	-4
Tennessee	983	743	-241	-24
Texas	3,819	2,665	-1,154	-30
Utah	234	277	43	18
Vermont	76	66	-10	-13
Virginia	783	597	-185	-24

TABLE 3.—EFFECT OF THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT ON USDA FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS BY STATE IN FISCAL YEAR 1996—Continued

[In millions of dollars]

State	Level of food assistance		Difference	
	Current	Proposed	Total	Percent
Washington	660	444	-216	-33
West Virginia	405	309	-96	-24
Wisconsin	467	442	-25	-5
Wyoming	57	57	(¹)	1
Total	40,764	35,600	-5,164	-13

¹ Equals less than \$1 million.

Notes.—Individual cells may not sum to totals because of rounding. Total includes the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, other territories and outlying areas, and Indian Tribal Organizations.

This table assumes that Congress appropriates the full amount authorized for fiscal year 1996.

HOMICIDES BY GUNSHOT IN NEW YORK CITY

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I rise today to continue my weekly practice of reporting to the Senate on the death