

What's Lost if Welfare Extensions Continue?
*(Compared with Changes Proposed in H.R. 4
as Passed by the House on February 13, 2003)*
April 2004

Funding

- No additional \$4 billion for child care over next 5 years.
- No assurance of full TANF funding in next 5 years.
- No assurance of “supplemental grants” for low-benefit and poor states.
- No assurance of “contingency funds” for States with increased needs.
- No added flexibility to spend \$4 billion in unspent prior TANF funds.
- No added flexibility to spend TANF funds on child care/social services.

Work

- No enhanced State flexibility in meeting revised work requirements.
- No allowance to count drug treatment/mental health services as work.
- No removal of limits on education counting as work.
- No updating of caseload reduction credits, which encourage recipients to leave welfare for work and ensure meaningful work requirements.
- No expectation of full-time work and participation in other activities generally needed to lift families out of poverty.
- No “universal engagement” requirement that all families are served.
- No mandatory sanctions for parents who refuse to work as required.

Marriage and Family Formation

- No additional \$1.5 billion targeted to promoting healthy marriages.
- No elimination of higher two-parent work requirements.
- No added State flexibility to count spending on strengthening families.
- No new funds for promoting fatherhood.
- No assurance of abstinence education funding for 5 years.

Other Provisions

- No enhanced payment of child support to families.
- No enhanced efforts to combat unemployment fraud and abuse.
- No expanded State flexibility to operate child welfare, “superwaiver,” and food stamp block grant demonstration programs.