

location. SSA will instruct its field offices that the Leaflets always should be available.

2. Exhibit C will be printed on the reverse of each leaflet, in the appropriate language.

3. SSA will provide copies of the Leaflets to any State food stamp Agency which requests copies from SSA for the State's use in administration of the food stamp program.

C. Pamphlets: "Food Stamps and Other Nutrition Programs"

SSA will make the following changes to the Pamphlet:

1. Exhibit D will be printed on the last page of the Pamphlet.
2. The statement on page 4 of the Pamphlet -"the Social Security Administration can take your application"- will be replaced by the statement from the Poster -"The Social Security office will help you fill out the Food Stamp application and will send it to the **Food** Stamp Office" in bold letters.

II. TITLE II APPLICANTS AND RECIPIENTS

SSA agrees to take the following actions:

1. SSA field offices in Texas will continue to carry out the specialized procedures set out in GN R00203.002 of the Program Operations Manual System (POMS) .
2. SSA will make the current State food stamp application form (or any other application which may be approved by the Food and Consumer Services (FCS) of the Department of Agriculture and the State for such use in the future) available at all its field offices, in well marked locations. SSA will assure that adequate supplies of the appropriate application are available at the field offices. SSA will instruct its field offices that the food stamp application forms always should be available.

3. SSA will include the information from the Title II portion of **the** Poster in the Title II brochure "Benefits Rights and Responsibilities."

4. SSA will include the information from the Title II portion of the Poster in the Title II Modernized Claims System (MCS) application receipt.

III. SSI APPLICANTS RESIDING IN PURE SSI HOUSEHOLDS

The food stamp application, verification and certification process for eligible SSI applicants should implement the Congressional mandate of one-stop shopping and reflect the presumption that a food stamp application is to be taken from every SSI applicant who is eligible to apply for food stamps and does not refuse to file at the SSA office.

1. SSA field offices in Texas will continue to carry out the specialized procedures set out in GN R00203.002 of the POMS.

A. Modernized Supplemental Security Income Claims System (MSSICS)

1. SSA agrees to change the order and language of the food stamp questions on the MSSICS **screens** as follows:

a) The SSA representative will ask whether all household members [are] applying [for] or receiving SSI--the "pure household" question--prior to asking whether the individual wants to file a food stamp application with SSA.

b) Instead of asking whether the claimant "wish[es] to apply at this office," the question regarding whether the claimant wants to file a food stamp application with SSA will be phrased as "May I take your food stamp application today?"

c) The first MSSICS screen (Facsimile 1) will remain as follows:

Food Stamp Status:

4

(Choose One)

1= CURRENTLY RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS

2= FILED WITHIN THE PAST 60 DAYS

3= NEVER FILED OR FILE DATE MORE THAN 60 DAYS IN THE PAST

Depending on the entry on Facsimile 1, MSSICS generates different succeeding food stamp screens. This agreement will result in the following changes to those screens on **MSSICS**:

(i) **Facsimile 2** is generated when an individual is currently receiving food stamps. The first question, "RECERTIFICATION NOTICE RECEIVED WITHIN PAST 30 DAYS (Y/N)" will remain; if yes, the second question will be the "pure household" question; if yes, the third question will be "May I take ..:", the current fourth question will be eliminated, and the last line will be "If no, explain...."

(ii) Facsimile 3 is generated when an individual has filed for food stamps within the past 60 days and is not currently receiving food stamps. SSA will amend Facsimile 3 in one of two ways.

(a) Option One: The first question, "FOOD STAMPS DECISION RECEIVED (Y/N)" will remain; the second question will be amended to "IF YES, DECISION UNFAVORABLE (Y/N)", if yes, the third question will be the "pure household" question; if yes or prerelease, the fourth question will be "**May** I take . ..I'. the current fourth question will be eliminated, and the last line will be "If no, explain...."

(b) Option Two: The first question, FOOD STAMPS DECISION RECEIVED (Y/N)" will remain, if yes, the second question will be the "pure household" question, if yes or prerelease, the third question will be "May I take ..."ⁱ; the current fourth question will be eliminated, and the last line will be "If no, explain...."

(iii) Facsimile 4 is generated if the individual has never filed for food stamps, or has file-d for food stamps more than **60** days ago (and is not currently receiving food stamps). The first question will be the "pure household" question; the second question will be "If yes, **May** I take . ..I(. the third question will be eliminated, and the last

line will be "If no, explain....".

2. a) If a claimant who resides in a pure SSI household states that he will not be applying for food stamps at the SSA office, or that he does not wish to apply for food stamps, the SSA representative will ask for the reason. If the explanation given by the claimant is based on an error of fact, the SSA representative will, to the extent possible, provide correct information responsive to the factual error, for example, that the claimant will not be required to go to the food stamp office to apply or reapply for food stamps, the **average amount** of food stamp allotments, or (in certain states) the availability of Food Stamp assistance by **means** of delivery other than coupons.

b) The POMS will set forth standard answers to **some** of the typical reasons and questions, as to be agreed by the parties.

3. a) If the claimant still refuses to apply for food stamps at the SSA field office, the SSA representative will record the reason for the refusal on the appropriate MSSICS screen.

b) The POMS instructions regarding that part of the **MSSICS** will set forth standard language to be used when the refusal of the claimant is based on typical reasons. In all other cases, the reasons as given by the claimant will be input in the computer.

4. The MSSICS program will be set up such that the SSA representative must either record a Uyes¹ answer to the question "May I take your food stamp application today" or a "no" answer and a reason for the refusal of the claimant to file for food stamps **at** the SSA field office.

B. Non-MSSICS Initial Applications And Redetermination⁶

1. The POMS related to the processing of non-MSSICS initial applications and redeterminations will be revised to reflect the presumption and intent with regard to food stamp applications as reflected in the **MSSICS** procedure.

2. If, during the term of this agreement, SSA determines to revise either Form SSA-8000 or **Form** SSA-8203 in a manner that will require destruction of current stocks after revision, SSA will recommend changes to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) designed to revise the form to reflect the procedures regarding MSSICS agreed to herein. No changes to those forms are anticipated prior to their next scheduled review by OMB in accordance, with the Paperwork Reduction Act. Form SSA-8000 is scheduled for OMB review in 1996. Form SSA-8203 is scheduled for OMB review in 1997.

a) If, in the course of these scheduled reviews, SSA determines to revise Form SSA-8000 or SSA-8203 in a manner which will not permit use of current stocks after revision, SSA will so advise the plaintiffs, solicit their comments as to appropriate changes, and include changes pertinent to this agreement among the revisions to be evaluated by OMB pursuant to the scheduled review.

b) If the preceding subparagraph is inapplicable, but SSA during the term of this agreement determines to revise either Form in a manner which will make current stocks unusable, SSA will so advise the plaintiffs, solicit their comments as to appropriate changes, and include changes pertinent to this agreement among the revisions to be evaluated by OMB at that time.

C. Application Forms for Food Stamps

1. SSA may use whatever food stamp application form it chooses for taking applications from SSI applicants and recipients, subject to approval by FCS and the State food stamp agency. The SSA representative will complete all questions on the food stamp application by first transferring information contained in the SSI application, the MSSICS and SSA files to the food stamp application; only if the information is not available in those sources will the

applicant be requested to supply the necessary information.

D. Requesting and Transmitting Evidence for Food Stamp PUqOSes
(Applicable in Texas Only)

1. a) SSA will request all individuals whose food stamp applications are taken by SSA to provide evidence to establish their food stamp eligibility ("food stamp evidence") and will advise the claimant of the nature of the evidence required. This "food stamp evidence" would consist of written evidence of rent or mortgage payments, current utility bills--including telephone, evidence of gross income, evidence of resources, evidence of medical expenses, evidence of dependent care payments, evidence of student status, and evidence of alien status.

b) SSA is simply to transmit to the food stamp office whatever documentary evidence it receives from the claimant. SSA is not required to assess the value or confirm the validity of the food stamp evidence, except as provided in the current POMS SI 01801.300(C), related to proofs necessary for SSI purposes. SSA is not required to follow up on the request for evidence from the claimant, nor is SSA required to make sure the claimant actually sends in the evidence requested.

2. a) Telephone applicants will be asked during the telephone conversation *in* which their applications are taken whether they wish to return their food stamp applications to SSA or the State food stamp office. The SSA representative will not advise the telephone applicant that the food stamp application will be processed faster if it is returned to the food stamp office unless: 1) the applicant appears to be eligible for expedited service; or, 2) the applicant, unsolicited and on his own initiative, raises a question which reasonably requires that response. Those claimants who choose to return their food stamp applications to SSA will be instructed to mail the food stamp evidence

to SSA together with the signed applications (for SSI and food stamps) and any other forms or documentary evidence they are asked to send to SSA to complete the application process.

b) Applicants with appointments who apply for SSI and food stamps in person at the SSA office will be sent an appointment confirmation notice advising them to bring the food stamp evidence to the appointment. SSA's appointment confirmation notice will be modified for this purpose. If the applicant does not bring the food stamp evidence to the appointment, the food stamp application will be processed as described in section D.2.c, below.

c1 Applicants without appointments whose applications are taken in person at the SSA office will be asked to send the food stamp evidence to SSA only if they are currently required to provide the SSA office with any documentary evidence with respect to SSI. If documentary evidence is not currently required for SSI purposes, and such applicants have to provide only food stamp evidence, the claims representative will instruct the applicant to mail the evidence to the State food stamp office. Texas residents will be provided a distinctive envelope to mail the food stamp evidence to the State food stamp office.

E. Processing

1. An applicant who resides in a pure SSI household will be advised that he does not have to go to the State food stamp office to apply or reapply for food stamps.
2. The food stamp application will be mailed to the State food stamp office within one federal working day, with the Transmittal Form. The Transmittal Form will include the applicant's Social Security number, as verified by SSA.
3. Applications for food stamps may be taken by telephone or mail.

F. Expedited Service

1. SSA will train its employees regarding expedited service for food stamps, and will ensure that its employees are familiar with the meaning of, and the requirements for, expedited service.
2. If an individual otherwise eligible to file for food stamps at the SSA office qualifies for expedited service, the SSA representative will advise the claimant that he might receive food stamps sooner if he applies at the State food stamp office, but that he can apply at the SSA office if he wishes.
3. SSA representatives will not advise **a claimant** who does not appear to qualify for expedited service that he can get food stamps sooner if he applies at the State food stamp office.
4. If an applicant for SSI who resides in a pure SSI household qualifies for expedited service with respect to food stamps and chooses to file at SSA, the SSA representative will take the application and process it in the usual **manner**, except that the Transmittal Form will be marked "expedited service" in red ink.
5. If the claimant chooses to apply at the State food stamp office, the SSA representative will complete the expedited service portion of the food stamp application (Part I) and give it, together with a Transmittal Form, to the claimant to take to the food stamp office.

IV. SSI RECIPIENTS

A. Redetermination of Continuing Eligibility for SSI

1. Whenever a field office of SSA conducts a determination of continuing eligibility for SSI ("redetermination") of a person who resides in a pure SSI household, and the person states that he is not receiving food stamps, and does not have a pending food stamp application, the SSA representative will complete a food stamp application and process it in the usual **manner** if the recipient does

not refuse to file for food stamps at the SSA office.

2. Whenever SSA conducts a redetermination through a centralized nationwide mail system, the Redetermination Rider will be mailed out. The language in the Redetermination Rider will be revised to contain the language shown in Exhibit D or similar language to be agreed to by the parties.

3. The completion of a food stamp application as part of the redetermination may be by telephone and mail.

B. Recertification for Food Stamps

1. If a State food stamp office requires an SSI recipient who resides in a pure SSI household to be recertified as to eligibility for food stamps, the individual may file that application either at the state food stamp office or with SSA. If the SSI recipient contacts SSA regarding food stamp recertification, SSA will take the individual's food stamp application. The SSA representative will fill out a food stamp application for that person and process it in the usual manner.

2. Food stamp applications arising out of the food stamp recertification process at the SSA office may be taken by telephone and mail.

V. Studies and Access to Information

A. SSA will conduct two studies of Texas field offices' experience with the new procedures set forth herein to determine their effectiveness in promoting the goals of joint processing and the extent of the Agency's compliance with them. The first study will begin after the new procedures, exclusive of the changes in **MSSICS**, have been in effect for approximately one year. The second study will begin after the **MSSICS** changes have been in effect for approximately one year. It is anticipated that each study will take from nine months to one year to complete.

1. The studies will be conducted in accordance with scientifically acceptable methods. All source materials used in the studies will be made available to the plaintiffs (with personal identifiers deleted). SSA will provide plaintiffs with adequate explanation of the source materials, the methodologies, the analyses and the conclusions of the studies.

2. Plaintiffs will be provided access to the information available from MSSICS for the period of time covered by the MSSICS study, including statistical data and the reasons given by claimants for refusing to file for food stamps with the SSA, by field office in Texas and by category. On request, SSA will provide plaintiffs with adequate explanations of that information. To the extent any such information is not available from MSSICS, SSA will provide plaintiffs with an adequate explanation for that unavailability.

VI. ANTICIPATED TIMEFRAMES

The parties anticipate that all changes in MSSICS will be implemented in 1997. SSA will make its best efforts to complete implementation of the other changes contemplated by this agreement within twelve months of the Court's order effectuating the agreement. SSA will implement all such changes by the end of 1996. The parties anticipate that the required studies will be completed by the end of 1998.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

1. SSA will maintain a reliable source of food stamp applications.
2. SSA will provide a food stamp training program for its staff on the responsibilities of the SSA with regard to food stamps and under this agreement. This training will assure that all staff know that food stamp applications must be taken from SSI applicants and recipients who live in a pure SSI household and do not refuse **to** file

for food stamps at the SSA office, that they understand that this is a routine procedure, and that they understand that this responsibility is taken seriously **by** the national office. In addition, SSA will train all appropriate staff as to the meaning of "categorical eligibility" and "expedited service."

3. POMS SI 01801.200.B.d. currently requires that claimants who file their food stamp applications by telephone be advised that they may receive their food stamps more quickly if they return their signed application to the State food stamp office. SSA will revise this instruction so that it will apply only to claimants who appear to qualify for expedited service.

4. SSA will accurately record the number of food stamp applications taken by each SSA field office, to determine whether the field offices are complying with their responsibilities.

5. The **MSSICS**, POMS, and the Joint Processing Agreement will be modified, clarified or waived to the extent necessary to implement this agreement. As part of that process, the POMS will be amended to state affirmatively SSA's expectation that food stamp applications will be taken from pure SSI households. Defendants will submit a plan to implement such proposed changes, clarifications or waivers to plaintiffs within 120 days of the date of this agreement, and both parties will attempt in good faith to reach final agreement as to these changes within 180 days after the date of this agreement. Should the parties be unable to reach final agreement on the changes within **180** days from the date of the agreement, either party may request the Court to rule upon the issues in dispute.

6. The issues of attorney fees and costs are severed from this agreement, and will **be** dealt with separately.

7. This document represents the parties' entire agreement entered into for the purpose of settlement of this litigation. Any subsequent modification to this agreement shall be effective only if it is in writing and signed by this parties. However, subject to Paragraph 8 below, nothing in this agreement shall be deemed to waive any right either party may have under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure with regard to the availability of discovery or the implementation, enforcement or amendment (for example, due to a subsequent change in law) of the Court's order effectuating this agreement. In any application to the Court, the applicant shall certify that counsel for the parties have conferred in a good faith attempt to resolve the matter by agreement.

8. The agreed Order implementing this agreement will provide that the case is administratively closed. The Court will retain jurisdiction of this action to enforce the provisions of this Order for five years from the date of its Order, after which time all its provisions shall be terminated, unless the Court, on motion of a party, determines that it is necessary to extend any or all of the requirements imposed by the Order. Once all the provisions of the Order are terminated, the case will be deemed dismissed without prejudice.

9. Except where otherwise specified, the terms of this agreement will be applied by SSA nationally. However, if a court in a State other than Texas should order SSA to adopt procedures or processes or public information items that differ from those agreed to here, after the terms of this agreement have been brought to that court's attention, such order shall take precedence over the terms of this agreement in the jurisdiction(s) in which it is effective. Nothing in this agreement shall be interpreted to restrict SSA's authority to test alternative procedures to perform its joint processing responsibilities

in states other than Texas by means of demonstration projects, use of
FCS' waiver authority, or other similar initiatives.

SHIMON KAPLAN
Texas Bar No. 11095020
East Texas Legal Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 2552
Beaumont, Texas 77704-2552
(409) 835-4971

BURTON FRETZ
National Senior Citizens Law
Center
1815 H St., NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 887-5280

DATE _____

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

J. MICHAEL BRADFORD
United States Attorney

DANE SMITH
Assistant U.S. Attorney
TEXAS BAR NO. 18556000
110 North College,
Tyler, Texas 75702
(903) 597-8146

DATE _____

Attorneys for Defendant
OF COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT

ARTHUR J. FRIED
General Counsel
RANDOLPH W. GAINES
Acting Principal Deputy
General Counsel
A. GEORGE LOWE
Acting Associate General
Counsel for Litigation
JOHN M. SACCHETTI
Acting Chief, Retirement,
Survivors and Supplemental
Assistance Litigation
Branch
IRA E. ZIPORKIN
Attorney
Office of the General
Counsel
Social Security
Administration

Approved: _____
Judge John Hannah, Jr.

Date: _____

FOOD STAMP HELP, INFORMATION AND APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE HERE

**GETTING OR
APPLYING ONLY
FOR SOCIAL
SECURITY?**

YOU CAN GET A
FOOD STAMP
APPLICATION AND
INFORMATION
HERE

We cannot take
Food Stamp
applications from
people getting or *
'applying only for
Social Security.

**GETTING OR
APPLYING FOR SSI?**

YOU CAN APPLY
FOR FOOD STAMPS
HERE IF YOU AND
EVERYONE IN YOUR
HOUSEHOLD GET OR
APPLY FOR SSI.

We will help you fill
out the Food Stamp
application. You do
not have to go to the
Food Stamp office
to apply.

FOOD STAMPS - FACTS

The Food Stamp Program helps low-income people buy the food they need to meet their nutritional needs.

Although it is a Federal Government program, it is run by local or State agencies. This fact sheet explains who gets food stamps and how to apply.

Who Can Get Food Stamps?

To get food stamps, you and the other people in your household must meet certain conditions.

Everyone in your household must have or apply for a Social Security number and be a U.S. citizen or a legally permanent alien, or other qualified legal alien. Most able-bodied people between 18 and 60 must register for work. Many people may be required to take part in an employment and training program. Some college students may be eligible.

Generally, your household can't have more than \$2,000 in resources. But, if your household includes a person 60 or older, the limit is \$3,000.

Resources include cash, bank accounts, and other property. Not all resources count. For example, your home and the lot it's on don't count. A car or truck counts differently, depending on how it's used. The resources of a person who is receiving SSI are not counted for food stamp purposes.

Most households must also meet an income limit after certain deductions have been subtracted. Your household may qualify for extra deductions if there is a person 60 or older or disabled. The income limits vary by household size and may change each year.

How Can You Apply For Food Stamps

Food stamp applications are available at any Social Security office. If you and everyone in your household are applying for or are getting SSI payments, any Social Security office will help you fill out the food stamp application.

All others must take or send the food stamp application to the local food stamp office. Or, they can take it to any Social Security office if a food stamp worker is there.

When you apply, you also should

Some identification that shows your name and address;

Proof of earnings or other income, such as Social Security or SSI benefits, or a pension, for each member of your household;

Proof of how much you spend for child care;

Rent receipts or proof of your mortgage payments;

Records of your utility costs;

Medical bills for those members of your household 60 or over and for those getting Social Security or SSI benefits because they are disabled.

For More Information

For more information about the Food Stamp Program, contact your Social Security representative or your local food stamp office.

EXHIBIT B

FOOD STAMP HELP, INFORMATION AND APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE AT THE SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE

**GETTING OR
APPLYING ONLY
FOR SOCIAL SECURITY?**

**YOU CAN GET A
FOOD STAMP
APPLICATION AND
INFORMATION
AT THE SOCIAL
SECURITY OFFICE**

We cannot take
*Food Stamp
'applications from
people getting or
applying only for
Social Security.

**GETTING OR
APPLYING FOR SSI?**

**YOU CAN APPLY
FOR FOOD STAMPS
AT THE SOCIAL SECURITY
OFFICE IF YOU AND
EVERYONE IN YOUR
HOUSEHOLD GET OR
APPLY FOR SSI.**

We will help you fill
out the Food Stamp
application. You do
not have to go to the
Food Stamp office
to apply. '

IMPORTANT MESSAGES FROM YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE

IMPORTANT FACTS
ABOUT FOOD STAMPS

!

+ You can apply **for food** utamp8 8ttbc Social Security office if yciu and everyone in your household get or apply for SSI.

* The Social Security office will help you fill out the food stamp application. You do not have to go to the food stamp office to apply*



Children's Defense Fund

Dear Friend of Children:

Millions of votekss, ~okkss children need your help.

The health, income assistance, nutrition, and safety guarantees of millions of poor and low-income children are under attack in Congress. Congress is **cutting** funding and shredding the national safety net for children. If President Clinton signs unjust welfare and Medicaid o'reform" bills, the gnaranteed safety net for children, which has been in place for more than 60 years, wiII be destroyed.

Over the next six weeks, as part of the budget battle, the President and congressional leaders will conduct critical negotiations on these issues that speak fundamentally to our values as a nation. The Congress is expected to send the President budget or welfare bills that he may initially veto. The criticaI test for President Clinton is not that he veto a bad bib **once**, but that he not abandon America's children by signing any welfare or medicaid "reform" block grant or budget bill that makes more children poor, sick, hungry, or at risk of neglect or abuse.

The Children's Defense Fund is conducting a nationwide campaign to show the White House that people all over the country will speak out in support of children. Please help. Use the accompanying flyer and take as many of the following actions as you possibly can -

- > **Call the White House Comment Line (%m-Spm eastern time weekdays) 2Q24sl111, or e-mail a u y t i m e : p m s i w - g m**
- v **Reprint the flyer and distribute it to others and get them to call or e-mail the President.**
- v **Spread the message through any groups you are a part of or have contact with - in&ding computer or fax networks - and call them to action.**
- v **Get the message - and the White House phone number - out pnbiicly: cali a radio talk show; write au article for a local organization or campus publication; write a letter-to-the-editor, etc.**

Tell President Clinton Don% abandon America's children! Do not sign any welfare or 'Wdicaid 'keform" bill that makes more chihkem poor, sick, hungry, or at risk of neglect or ablls4L

Thank you for your help and your activism for children.

Sincerely yours,

Marian Wright Edehnan

IFor more information, please contact the ChiIdren's Defense Fund Field Division at 202-662-3584; Fax 202-662-3540; or, e-mail at hn3208Qhandsnet.org.

25 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
Telephone 202 628 8787
Fax 202 662 35'

Give President Clinton a Wake-Up Call: Tell Him Not To Abandon Our Children!

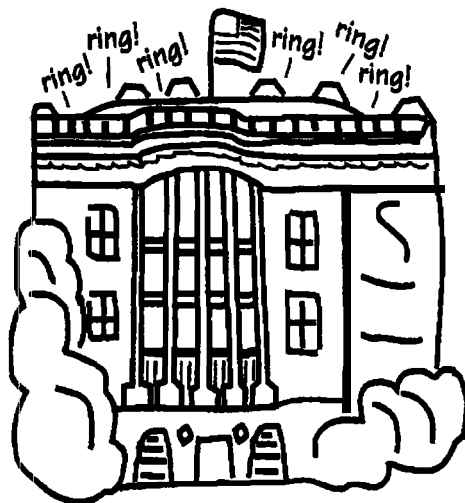
The health, income assistance, nutrition, and safety guarantees of millions of children are under attack in Congress. Congress is cutting funding and shredding the national safety net for children. If President Clinton signs immoral welfare and Medicaid "reform" bills, the 60-year-old guaranteed safety net for children will be destroyed. If Resident Clinton signs these changes into law, he, along with Congress, will be guilty of abandoning millions of America's children to poverty, preventable disease, neglect., abuse, and disabilities. President Clinton can and must stop this attack on children by refusing to sign these unjust anti-child proposals when they get to his desk in November.

**CALL fODAY!
TELL PRE5IDENT CLINTON:
DON7 ABANDON
AMEfUCA5 CHILDREN!**

***Do Not Sign Any Welfare Or Medicaid
"Reform" Bill That Makes More Children Poor,
Sick, Hungry, Or At i&k Of Neglect Or Abuse.***

White House Comment Line . . .
(202) 4561111

(Call from 9am-5pm eastern time and follow the instructions to leave your message with an operator.)



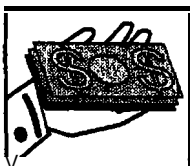
**SHARE I-HI5 FLYER WITH FRIENDS—
A5K THEM TO CALL OTHERS!**

For more information, call CDF,
(202) 662-3584.

President Clinton: Don't Abandon America's Children!

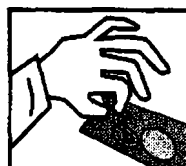
Congress is playing Robin Hood - but giving to the rich and taking from the poor. Congress is giving a \$245 billion tax break to wealthy individuals and corporations, while cutting basic assistance to children and poor families.

The stakes are enormous and speak fundamentally to our values as a nation. Below are some of the immoral and unjust choices Congress is making. Tell President Clinton that he must not preside over the shredding of the safety net for children. Call President Clinton today and tell him not to sign any welfare or Medicaid block grants or budget bills that make more rather than fewer children poor, sick, hungry, or at risk of neglect or abuse.



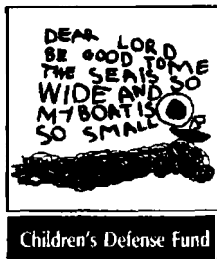
The Rich Get Richer

- w The richest 1 percent of individuals in the country get a tax break of at least \$12,000 a year.
- The biggest 1 percent of corporations get a \$121 billion depreciation tax break over 10 years.
- m A \$92 billion capital gains tax cut over 10 years goes to the wealthiest 3 percent of the people in the country.
- The Defense Department gets a budget of \$243.3 billion - **\$6.9 billion more than the Pentagon** asked for.



Children and the Poor Get Poorer

- w Nearly 7 million children are projected to lose basic health care coverage, and childhood immunization guarantees are repealed.
- Food and nutrition programs for 14 million low-income children are cut.
- m The taxes of low-income working families are increased by \$41.5 billion over seven years.
- Supplemental Security Income is taken from 150,000 children with disabilities.
- More than 3 million poor children are denied benefits due to cuts in Aid to Families with Dependent Children, which is permanently dismantled.
- w A \$4.5 billion cut denies abused and neglected children foster care, adoption, and other critical child protection services.



Children's Defense Fund

CALL PRESIDENT CLINTON TODAY!

White House Comment Line . . .

(202) 456-1111

White House E-mail: president@whitehouse.gov