

The history of the welfare state in America begins with the Great Depression. Franklin D. Roosevelt ushered in his New Deal programs hoping to reduce poverty and lessen the blow of the struggling economy. Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) was created in 1935 to help provide relief. Transfer payments were distributed to those who needed it most. The poverty line was created to help administrators dispense the money accordingly. Since the 1930s, welfare has been altered on a few occasions.

is this much history worth while out of the 2 page memo?

- The Great Society was established in the 1960s. Qualifying for the AFDC became easier.
- Several states reached welfare crisis in the 1980s and attempted reform.
- The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 was enacted to reduce costs. → AND what else?
- The AFDC was replaced by the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
- Funding for TANF ^{ended} ~~ends~~ in 2001.

Start here + keep it even shorter if possible

The most important problem currently facing welfare is that of the single mother. Successful attempts were made by ^{All? some?} (the states) in the 1980s to discourage unwed mothers from continuing to have more children. Penalties were established that made it difficult for mothers to continue to receive welfare if they persisted in having more children. The reasoning behind these penalties was three-fold: adding another child to a single parent family places a burden on an already tight disposable income, further entrenches the mother into poverty, and reduces the chance of alleviation.

TANF is currently responsible for the distribution of income to all welfare recipients, including single mothers. The next round of welfare reform will encompass

VC Authorisation
the re-installment of TANF. Every year, the states make their welfare transfer payments through funds raised by the federal government. TANF is in charge of issuing the payments to the states.

The five-year funding experiment was passed into law in 1996 by President Bill Clinton and expired in October 2002. The initial phase of TANF was considered a success because of declining welfare ^{enrollment} ~~statistics~~ and continued low unemployment numbers. The issue has resurfaced because of the five year, first term expiration. TANF has been continued under the terms of its original agreement until congress can arrange the proper amount of time to re-open the debate. The fate of TANF needs to be decided.

There are three possible outcomes for TANF legislation:

- TANF can be re-instated under another termed period
- Permanency granted to TANF for welfare redistribution.
- The dismantling of TANF in favor of another alternative.

Republicans and Democrats are active stakeholders in this debate. Both sides have staked claims as being the inventors of welfare reform. President Clinton campaigned on "ending welfare as we know it" in 1992. Republicans promised modification in their 1994 election campaign under the Contract with America.

Republicans want to continue the tradition of welfare-to-work programs. They also would like to see TANF payments reduced, barring structure budget deficits at the federal level. It is always in the interest of Republicans to remove spending at the federal rank and place more of the onus on the states. The fifty states can experiment with their own forms of welfare reform, and eventually the most successful style will be imitated as federal legislation.

What is the goal of the next version?

What justification for Government doing any thing for welfare?

Is this the alternatives list?

Is this the only problem the length of funding the point?

what alternative?

100 used 1 1/2 pages for History + Background + part of Problem Definition

Are these the only stakeholders?

Democrats will seek a broader definition of employment under TANF. Clinton-style welfare reform involved employing unemployed welfare cases with bureaucratic positions. They also would like to see welfare-to-work converts take higher quality jobs—not just the minimum wage type.

Where is your list of
criteria to evaluate
the alternatives?