



While the recently enacted welfare reform bill devolves power to the states and tightens benefits, it

leaves unanswered many questions concerning the social conditions that made welfare reform necessary. One question is whether government or private charity is better equipped to end dependency. Could providing new funds to private charities spur competition and innovation in the delivery of welfare services, encourage accountability and achieve cost savings?

One method for achieving these goals is the "compassion tax credit," under which taxpayers receive a tax credit for contributions to qualified charities. The compassion tax credit represents a way of empowering private charities to apply innovative methods to the solution of the poverty problem in their own communities.

This forum will draw on the experience of private charities and on the expertise of nationally recognized authorities in addressing the issues raised by the compassion tax credit.

This forum is co-hosted by

Sen. John Ashcroft, Sen. Dan Coats,
Rep. John Kasich, Rep. Joe Knollenberg,
Rep. Jim Kolbe, Sen. Rick Santorum,
Rep. James M. Talent and
Rep. J. C. Watts Jr.

Can we match our skepticism about government with a bold, new definition of public compassion? Can we dismantle a destructive welfare culture, and still fulfill our responsibilities to the disadvantaged?

The Project for American Renewal

THE BEACON HILL INSTITUTE
AT SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY
AND
THE DAVID R. MACDONALD
FOUNDATION

COMPASSIONATE WELFARE REFORM

EMPOWERING
CHARITIES
AND
PRIVATE
CITIZENS

Thursday,
December 12, 1996

Caucus Room, Room 345
Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC

SESSION SCHEDULE

10:00 am.

Introduction.

Representative Joe Knollenberg
Representative Knollenberg sponsored the
Common Sense Welfare Reform Act.

10:15 am.

***Panel 1 What Works? Experiences
of Private Charitable Organizations.***

MODERATOR

Arianna Huffington, *Chair*
Center for Effective Compassion
Ms. Huffington, well-known author, lecturer and
broadcaster, is a senior fellow at The Progress and
Freedom Foundation.

PANELISTS

Andrew S. Bush, *Research Fellow*
Hudson Institute
Mr. Bush specializes in welfare policy and directs
Hudson's "Reinventing Welfare in Wisconsin"
program.
Lou Nanni, *Executive Director*
Center for the Homeless
The Center, in South Bend, IN, has pioneered a
continuum of care model that leads from
homelessness to homeownership.
Robert L. Woodson, Sr., *President*
National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise
The National Center helps grassroots organizations
expand their roles in revitalizing low-income
communities.
The panel will include a welfare recipient
with a personal success story.

11:25 am.

***Panel 2 Implementation of Compassionate
Welfare Reform: Issues and Answers.***

MODERATOR

John Fund, *Editorial Writer*
Wall Street Journal
Mr. Fund is an early proponent of the compassion tax
credit. He is a frequent lecturer and guest on national
news programs.

PANELISTS

Peter J. Ferrara, *General Counsel and Chief Economist*
Americans for Tax Reform
Mr. Ferrara has spoken and written widely on welfare
reform and related domestic policy issues.
John C. Goodman, *President*
National Center for Policy Analysis
Dr. Goodman is a leading promoter of "taxpayer choice"
in the allocation of welfare dollars to private charities.
Robert Rector, *Senior Policy Analyst*
Heritage Foundation
Mr. Rector is one of the nation's foremost authorities
on welfare and family issues.
David G. Tuerck, *Executive Director*
Beacon Hill Institute
Dr. Tuerck, Suffolk University Chairman and Professor of
Economics, directs the BHI compassion tax credit project.

12:30 pm.

Luncheon Served.

12:45 pm.

Luncheon Speakers.

Senator Dan Coats and Representative John Kasich
Senator Coats and Representative Kasich are
sponsors of The Project for American Renewal and
of the Charity Tax Credit Act.

SESSION SCHEDULE

REGISTRATION FORM

To reserve a place, please complete and return this
form by December 5, 1996 by mail to the Beacon Hill
Institute, Suffolk University, 8 Ashburton Place,
Boston, MA 02108 or by fax at 617-720-4272.
Or reply by e-mail at bhi@acad.suffolk.edu.

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