

Senate-Side Bills, Chart #3
UPDATED: August 14, 2002

Murray/Wellstone Bill (S.2876)	Hutchinson/Sessions Bill (S.2648)			
Basic Grant Funding				
Does not address.	Maintains current level of funding (\$16.5 billion per year) through FY 2007.			
Child Care Funding / CCDBG				
Does not address.	Increases mandatory child care funding by \$1 billion over 5 years.			
Other Funding				
Does not address.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- maintains current level of \$319 million/year in supplemental grants and extends them through FY 2007 -- maintains contingency fund at current level of \$2 billion through FY 2007 -- maintains current \$1.7 billion funding level for SSBG 			

Murray/Wellstone Bill (S.2876)	Hutchinson/Sessions Bill (S.2648)			
Bonuses and Additional Grants				
<p>-- \$100 million/year for 5 years in grants to promote and support secure and healthy low-income families through technical assistance and programs to enhance income, reduce teen pregnancy, increase parents' ability to financially and emotionally support their children; grantees must work with domestic/sexual violence experts and child advocates in developing project policies, procedures and training; family participation in programs must be kept voluntary; programs must not treat participants differently or condition receipt of benefits based upon marital status or family structure; programs must not counsel or encourage individuals to remain with abusive partners or adopt policies/procedures making it harder to leave abusive relationships</p> <p>-- authorizes \$100 million in FY 2003 for technical assistance grants to victim services organization(s) to produce model practices,</p>	<p>-- Replaces High Performance Bonus with Employment Achievement Bonus to reward job entry, retention, and increased earnings; reduces funding level to \$100 million/year for FY 2004 to FY 2008</p> <p>-- Eliminates bonus to reward a decrease in illegitimacy and replaces with Healthy Marriage Promotion Grants: \$100 million/year (FY 2003-FY 2007) for competitive matching grants to develop and implement programs to promote and support healthy, married, 2-parent families; allows matching funds to be used for non-eligible families</p> <p>-- \$100 million/year for FY 2003-FY 2007 for Secretary of HHS to conduct research, demonstration projects, and technical assistance to promote healthy marriages</p> <p>-- \$20 million/year through FY 2007 authorized for competitive grants for responsible fatherhood promotion programs</p>			

<p>procedures, training to address domestic (DV) or sexual violence (SV) and safely move survivors into work</p> <p>-- authorizes up to \$10 million over 5 years for grants to states and localities to contract with DV or SV coalitions to provide training and technical assistance to TANF caseworkers for DV/SV cases, and to develop demonstration projects to promote best practices for serving DV/SV clients</p>	<p>-- extends abstinence education funding through FY 2007</p>			
TANF Purposes				
<p>Does not address.</p>	<p>-- adds "improve child well-being" as overall purpose and " reduce poverty" to purpose #2</p> <p>-- adds to purpose #4 (encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families): "healthy, 2-parent married families, and encourage responsible fatherhood"</p>			
Waivers				
<p>Does not address.</p>	<p>-- establishes new state waiver authority ("superwaiver") as in House-passed bill</p> <p>-- establishes new Food Stamp program waivers as in House-passed bill</p>			

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Time Limits				
<p>-- Months in which teen parents receiving TANF benefits are satisfactorily participating in education or training programs including secondary school or equivalent, or vocational or post-secondary education programs, are not counted against 5-year lifetime limit</p> <p>-- States may exceed 20% hardship exception to 5-year time limit in order to grant good cause waivers to families affected by domestic or sexual violence</p> <p>-- Months of assistance to parents or caretaker relatives of children with serious health conditions or disabilities do not count against the 5-year lifetime limit</p>	<p>Maintains current federal 5-year lifetime limit on receipt of benefits.</p>			
Medicaid				
<p>Does not address.</p>	<p>One-year extension of Transitional Medical Assistance (TMA) through FY 2003.</p>			

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Work Requirements – Participation rates				
<p>-- state must exempt non-parent relative caretakers of TANF-eligible children from work requirements but still make them eligible for the same benefits and services provided to other adult TANF recipients; state may count them towards monthly participation rate if they are voluntarily working and the state has provided them with appropriate supportive services</p>	<p>-- Universal engagement required: all parents and caretakers receiving assistance must engage in work or other self-sufficiency activities defined by the state</p> <p>-- increases work participation rate for all families to 70% by FY 2007 (5% increase per year starting at 50% in FY 2003)</p> <p>-- state option to not include family with child under 12 months of age in work participation rate</p>			
Work Requirements – Caseload Reduction Credit				
Does not address.	Phases out caseload reduction credit by FY 2004 and replaces with employment credit capped at 15% by FY 2007 (for effective minimum work participation rate of 55%).			
Work Requirements – Hours/Week To Count Toward Participation Rates				
<p>-- no change from 30 hours of work per week required under current law (20 in direct work activities, 10 in other)</p> <p>-- lower requirement of 20</p>	<p>-- 40 hours/week of work required with 24 minimum in direct work activities, and 16 maximum in other “organized” activities determined by the state</p>			

<p>hours/week for single custodial parents with children ages 1 to 6, and also for single custodial parents of children ages 6 to 13 with no real access to before/after school care</p> <p>-- state option to make "reasonable allowances" for missed hours of work by parent if necessary to care for sick child or relative or for own health needs; or for other reasons consistent with leave policies for the state's employees</p>				
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Murray/Wellstone Bill (S.2876)	Hutchinson/Sessions Bill (S.2648)			
Work Activities That Count Toward Federal Work Participation Rate				
<p>-- expands what counts as qualifying direct work activity: (1) teen parents' participation in post-secondary and vocational education (participation may continue beyond age 20 in order to complete program); (2) caretaking for a child under 12 months (or at state option, up to age 3) or for a child or other relative with serious health condition or disability; and (3) attending health appointments, service planning meetings or training regarding care for a child or other relative with a serious health condition or disability</p> <p>-- state option to treat individual receiving services to address domestic or sexual violence or a waiver from requirements for DV/SV reasons as engaged in work</p>	<p>-- limits what counts towards first 24 hours of direct work activity: paid or unpaid work, on-the-job training, supervised work experience, supervised community service</p> <p>-- direct work activity may also include: (1) 12 mos. of vocational education for up to 30% of caseload in order to complete a certificate program or education or training needed to fill a known local job need; (2) teen's H.S. attendance or education directly related to work for an average of at least 20 hours/week</p> <p>-- remaining 16 hours may be spent in state-defined, "organized" self-sufficiency activities such as: substance abuse counseling or treatment, rehabilitation, work-related education or training, job search or job readiness assistance, parenting education, marriage and relationship skills training, DV counseling, other activities addressing a TANF purpose</p>			

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Screening for Barriers to Employment				
<p>-- requires that initial assessment of work-eligible parent includes potential barriers, including domestic or sexual violence, mental or physical health, learning disability, substance abuse, ESL, child care needs, insufficient housing or transportation</p> <p>-- IRP (Individual Responsibility Plan) must include screening, referral for appropriate services including child care needs, and adjustment of work requirements for individual caring for child or other relative with serious health condition or disability or who has unmet child care needs</p> <p>-- IRP must include documentation of receipt of adequate notice of program requirements, confidentiality provisions, assessment and program services, and waivers available to victims of domestic or sexual violence, as well as the process to access services or waivers</p>	<p>-- state must create a Family Self-Sufficiency Plan for every new family that includes a work-eligible individual within the first 60 days of receiving assistance</p> <p>-- state must do initial assessment of skills, prior work experience, and employability for each work-eligible adult as part of creating plan</p>			

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Providing Services and Treatment				
<p>-- state may not require individuals to participate in services to address domestic or sexual violence</p> <p>-- state plan must include certification that state has established and is enforcing standards and procedures to ensure that domestic (DV) or sexual (SV) violence is being comprehensively addressed</p> <p>-- state plan must include an outline of how the state will address the needs of TANF applicant and recipient families who are victims of DV or SV or at risk of such, including how state will: (1) train caseworkers to identify and assess (at family's option) families for DV/SV-related barriers, to understand the nature and dynamics of DV/SV and relevant procedures for such cases, to make effective referrals, to determine good cause for non-compliance and make exemptions and modifications to eligibility and program rules; (2) inform families of eligibility for DV/SV services, as</p>	<p>-- state option to count as qualifying direct work activity for up to 3 consecutive months in every 24 months full-time activities including: substance abuse treatment, rehabilitative services, work-related education or training, job search or job readiness, parenting education, marriage and relationship skills training, domestic violence counseling</p>			

<p>well as good cause exemptions and how to obtain them; (3) inform DV/SV affected immigrants of benefits eligibility; (4) make referrals to community-based DV/SV programs and services; (5) ensure access to job training, vocational rehab., child care, and other job-related services as appropriate; (6) implement privacy and confidentiality procedures; (7) determine good cause and waive or modify Federal and State eligibility or program requirements for as long as necessary for safety of individual and children; (8) provide flexible and non-burdensome verification procedures; (9) work with local anti-violence coalitions and programs to develop and implement standards, procedures, training, and programs to address DV/SV</p>				
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Sanctions				
<p>-- eliminates state option to impose full family sanctions; states may only impose pro rata sanctions in all cases of non-compliance with work requirements</p> <p>-- states may not impose sanctions in cases where DV or SV is a significant contributing factor to non-compliance</p> <p>-- mandatory conciliation and review process for DV/SV cases: prior to imposing sanction, state must consider whether DV or SV is affecting individual; if so, state must make a "reasonable effort" to modify or waive program requirements as necessary and give referrals to voluntary services</p> <p>-- extends the protection against sanctions for single custodial parents who fail to engage in required work because they do not have meaningful access to safe, appropriate, affordable, quality child care to those with children up to age 13</p>	<p>-- states must impose full-family sanctions on families that fail to comply with requirements in Family Self-Sufficiency Plans for at least 2 consecutive months</p> <p>-- families may reapply to have benefits reinstated after a minimum of one month and once they fully comply</p> <p>-- states may not use MOE funds to impose partial sanctions instead</p> <p>-- states may establish good cause exceptions to full-family sanctions and give pro-rated sanctions for partial failures to comply that do not persist for more than one month</p>			

<p>-- mandatory conciliation and review process for lack of child care cases: prior to imposing sanction, state must consider whether parent lacks access to safe, appropriate, affordable, quality child care; if lacking, state must provide information on available child care assistance and modify or waive program requirements as necessary</p> <p>-- Secretary of HHS must conduct or commission a multi-state study on sanctions imposed on teen parents to determine their nature, extent and impact, as well as best practices to improve state sanction policies & procedures</p>				
Work Requirements and Child Care / Caregiving				
<p>-- caretaking for a child under 12 months (or at state option, up to age 3) or for a child with a serious health condition or disability counts as direct work activity</p> <p>-- attending health appointments, service planning meetings or training regarding care for a child with a serious health condition or disability counts as direct</p>	<p>-- state option to not require families with children under 12 months of age to meet work requirements and not include them towards participation rate</p>			

<p>work activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- single custodial parents with children between the ages of 1 and 6 only must work 20 hours/week -- single custodial parents with lack of meaningful access to before/after school care for children ages 6 to 13 only must work 20 hours/week -- states must exempt non-parent relative caretakers of TANF-eligible children from work requirements and also make them eligible for the same benefits and services provided to other adult TANF recipients -- extends the protection against sanctions for single custodial parents who fail to engage in required work because they do not have meaningful access to safe, appropriate, affordable, quality child care to those with children up to age 13 -- state option to make "reasonable allowances" for missed hours of work by parent if necessary to care for sick child 				
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Child Support				
Does not address.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- maintains assignment & cooperation requirements in current law -- when state passes child support through to current TANF families up to \$100/month or \$50 more than current policy and disregards this support in calculating TANF benefit amount, state does not owe federal government its share -- state option to provide former recipients the full child support collected on their behalf (current + arrears) -- \$25/year fee for families that never received TANF if support collections are made on their behalf -- decreases amount of arrears owed that triggers passport denial to non-custodial parents (from \$5,000 to \$2,500) -- state option to direct intercepted federal tax refunds to custodial parent families for past-due support even if children are no longer minors 			

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Immigrant Eligibility				
Does not address.	Does not address.			
Family Formation and Parenting Support				
<p>-- states may not discriminate among eligible families based upon marital status or family structure</p> <p>-- states may not condition assistance upon participation in illegitimacy reduction activities</p> <p>-- establishes state option to provide benefits for up to 90 days to teen parents not yet meeting requirements to attend H.S. or equivalent programs and live in adult-supervised settings, while state helps teen parents come into compliance</p> <p>-- Secretary of HHS must set up an advisory group of organizations that work with teen parents to help the Secretary conduct and analyze a study of teen parent TANF recipients in order to determine best practices for assessments of barriers, whether adequate & appropriate services exist to meet</p>	<p>-- state plans must describe how state will promote marriage, encourage responsible fatherhood, and reduce non-marital pregnancies</p> <p>-- state plans must describe any efforts to encourage the equitable treatment of 2-parent married families; no requirement to actually provide equitable treatment</p> <p>-- see Bonuses & Additional Grants section <i>above</i></p>			

<p>their needs (infant care, education & training, mental health, appropriate housing), whether they are encouraged to complete H.S., how their own parents' incomes are taken into account in determining TANF eligibility for teen parents living at home, other demographic information (age, months on TANF, number of children, school attainment, employment status, child care arrangements), and whether low-income teen parents not on TANF experience difficulties in applying for and receiving benefits</p> <p>-- see Bonuses & Additional Grants section <i>above</i></p>				
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