

volunteer if they are going to be given some Federal program, then we ought to have it apply to a lot more programs than the ones that they are trying to target here. That is poor people in Federal housing.

I think it is just a clear case of scapegoating, as my friend, the gentleman from Vermont [Mr. SANDERS] said earlier.

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota.

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Chairman, I want to rise in support of the Jackson amendment and against the amendment being offered to the Jackson amendment. I think the gentleman raises some important points.

I think we passed welfare reform. The question is, how many more layers of bureaucracy do we need? How many more do we need? Do we need one for food stamps? Do we need a layer of bureaucracy for public housing? Why do we want to turn our public housing agencies into employment? Is that going to be their role with this type of block grant, these new types of mandates?

I think it is really a mistake to go down the path that is being proposed here by the majority in this public housing. But for this fact and some others, I think there have been some changes in this bill for the good. But I think this fact, in terms of this sufficiency contract, is superimposing something from Washington on thousands of local public housing authorities, where we have already programs that deal with JTPA, that deal with welfare reform. We already have those programs in place now.

There was great debate about that in the last Congress. We are obviously trying to clean up some of the problems with that that dealt with the unfair aspects of it, that dealt with legal immigrants. I hope we can do that.

The fact is, why do we not build in what we have in place in terms of the child care, the skills, the education, the counseling and the other services that are necessary? We know that those elements are necessary in terms of health care, in order to move people into the world of work, to let people do what they can for themselves.

But to try and superimpose this on a housing agency, with separate records, proprietary and personal information that has to be dealt with, the record-keeping. Basically it comes down as a very, very significant problem, a lot of debate. I think it really stands as political symbolism as opposed to a substantive effort to deal with and to try to provide for people, in the world of work, an opportunity.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

Mr. Chairman, there has been a lot of talk here that there has been an attack on the poor. Quite frankly, I do not believe that either side of the aisle is

really attacking the poor. Even in this bill, which is supposed to be a radical change in direction on public housing, I find that in the budget we are appropriating \$5 billion more, so that is hardly an attack, in an effort to help the poor.

But I do think the poor are suffering. I think there are a lot of people in this country who are suffering. I think the recipients of public housing are suffering. I think those who are paying for it are suffering.

There is a problem much more perceived in the hinterlands of America than we seem to realize. The poor in this country are suffering, but this is a result of the type of policy that we have here in the Congress, the policy of spending too much, the policy of inflating, the policy of destroying the currency. When a Nation destroys its currency, it transfers wealth from the poor and the middle class to the wealthy.

Even in this very bill where we are appropriating more money, it is to the benefit of many wealthy people: the people who build the houses, the people who receive the rents. So there is a transfer. There is a transfer of wealth, but the achievement on public housing policy has never been successful. This is what we are facing today.

But we are also facing the fact that the consequence of a 30- to 50-year welfare state is coming to an end.

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This is why the great debate is on. We have this every 30 years. We were much wealthier in 1965 and subsequently spent \$5 trillion on a welfare state. Now we are facing a bankruptcy.

The concern for the poor is justified. The poor are suffering. The poor are suffering because they pay the bills. I would like to see the challenge of the welfare for corporate welfare in this very bill itself. There are wealthy beneficiaries from this.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. PAUL. I yield to the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, my amendment specifically calls for the exemption of a mother who has a single child to keep her from being evicted for failure to do 8 hours a month of community service work. If the gentleman would speak to that particular part, we may reach some agreement on this.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Chairman, I think that is a minor point and something we should be concerned about. But I am also concerned about those individuals who have been evicted from their homes because they have been taxed. The system that we have today works on a regressive tax system.

We talk about the Social Security tax that goes into the general revenues. Those are on individuals that have a greater tax burden than the wealthy. And this is the reason this country is getting poorer. But you are

taking money from poor people and giving it to another group of poor people and in the transition, the wealthy get more money. So we do not have a very good system here.

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. PAUL. I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I hope the gentleman was here when we debated the mandate, the unfunded mandate amendment, and understands that to implement the plan that is in the bill, it is going to cost \$65 million a year. The gentleman is aware of that.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Chairman, I think so. This is the reason I have great concern about most of the details of this bill and also the reason I will be voting against the bill. I think the gentlemen make many good points.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, if the gentleman will continue to yield, I thank the gentleman for supporting our efforts.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

Mr. Chairman, first of all, I want to again commend the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. JACKSON] for his efforts. I particularly want to commend him for his concern about the children of the poor.

One of the things I think we must keep in mind is children's personalities. I am the father of a 3-year-old, and I know for a fact that from zero to 6 is a very critical time for a child. If we think about children's development, they develop their personalities; they become who they are. And our children have basically one life to live. And there are no dress rehearsals and this is it. And that is why it is so critical that parents be with children.

Somebody asked a question just a moment ago, why is it not zero to 3? Well, the fact still remains that zero to 3 is a critical period, but most children go to school at 5 to 6. The question becomes, who takes care of those children before they go to school? I think that is extremely important.

Another thing that we have to keep in mind is that taking care of children is a very, very significant job. It takes time. Children need their parents. So the fact is that the Jackson amendment is very, very critical.

If we want to talk about ending the cycle of poverty, one of the greatest ways to end that cycle is to make sure that children are taken care of so that they then form the personalities so that they then grow up so that they then become responsible citizens. And what happens to those children between zero and 6 will go with them for the rest of their lives.

My distinguished colleague from North Carolina on the Democratic side just talked about something that was very critical. He talked about liability. Somebody asked a question, well, why can we not take these children to work with us and do this volunteer work?