



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

MEMO

November 26, 1974

SUBJECT: "Report to the Speaker" on the U.S. Department of HEW report on "Welfare in Pennsylvania" and the related response by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare in the "Report to the Governor"

TO: Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Sherman L. Hill, Chairman - House Health & Welfare Committee

You most likely recall that in the beginning of the 157th Session of the General Assembly, Majority Leader Robert J. Butera presented a list of Legislative Priorities to the General Assembly and the Governor. One of the fifteen priorities is related to Public Welfare and states as follows:

"We will conduct a complete study of the Welfare Department's organization, its standards, procedures, and rules and regulations."

This is the charge that has guided the Leadership of the House Health and Welfare Committee in the area of public welfare for 1973 and 1974. It was in an effort to partially fulfill this charge that culminated in the completion and submission of the report "Welfare in Pennsylvania", better known as the Carleson Report, in January of this year. Because of your interest in that matter, I presented you with a copy of that report with a memo dated January 21, 1974.

Since January there has been much discussion and speculation about the Carleson Report. Later this year the Department of Public Welfare responded officially to the Carleson Report in a "Report to the Governor". Because of the comments and other findings in these reports, especially in the "Report to the Governor", we felt it imperative to develop a "Report to the Speaker" as a lasting record and token of a most sincere and constructive effort by the House Health and Welfare Committee and the complete House of Representatives to attempt to achieve true and meaningful welfare reform in Pennsylvania. The genuine goal being to assist the truly needy.

We would be happy to provide you with a copy of the "Report to the Speaker". If you wish to have a copy of this report, please fill out the enclosed response sheet and send it to me immediately or call my office at (717) 787-9042 or (717) 787-8948. Since the end of the Session is drawing nigh, your request should be submitted by November 30.

The Carleson Report continues to be very constructive in providing numerous practical alternative policy options to help improve the public assistance program in Pennsylvania and save millions of dollars. The comments on the green pages in the "Report to the Speaker", a 284 page document, provide numerous ideas for improving the system as you can readily observe.

It was a pleasure working with you in the 157th and 158th Sessions and I wish you the very best in your future endeavors.

SHERMAN L. HILL, MEMBER
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COMMITTEES

HEALTH AND WELFARE, CHAIRMAN
APPROPRIATIONS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

February 5, 1974

SUBJECT: WELFARE REFORM IN PENNSYLVANIA (H.B. 1843, P.N. 2425)

TO: Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Sherman L. Hill

Enclosed is all the thorough information developed by Darvin E. Boyd regarding Welfare Reform in House Bill 1843, P.N. 2425.

I thought these materials may help you to better understand the proposed welfare reforms in attempting to change a very complex system.

The enclosures include the following:

1. House Bill 1843, P.N. 2425
2. Analysis of House Bill 1843, P.N. 2425
3. A Summary of Welfare Reform in Pennsylvania, dated February 4, 1974.
4. An eleven (11) page summary on the current payment levels, the Flat Grant Proposal, the Administration's Proposal, and the Minimum Basic Standard of Adequate Care.
5. A thirty-one (31) page report providing county by county increases of the Proposed Flat Grant Allowances over the current allowances and in comparison with the Minimum Basic Standard of Adequate Care.

If you have any questions, contact me at 7-9042, 7-8948 or network listing 479-3449. Darvin is available at 783-1022.