

Senators tackle welfare reform

The GOP is still divided on eliminating cash benefits to unmarried teen-age mothers.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Working behind the scenes last month, Republicans settled some of the disputes that kept the Senate from overhauling anti-poverty programs and requiring single mothers to work in return for a monthly welfare check.

But an emotional sticking point — and a politically risky issue for Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole — remains as lawmakers return this week and try to close a deal on welfare reform, the cornerstone of the GOP's social agenda.

Some conservatives, led by GOP presidential contender Phil Gramm of Texas, continue to insist that the legislation bar unmarried teen-age mothers from receiving cash support as a way of discouraging out-of-wedlock births.

Other conservatives, including anti-abortion forces, say cutting off these welfare checks will force young women to have abortions and increase the likelihood that they will not finish high school.

Presidential politics, Democratic opposition, and the GOP rift over illegitimate births forced Dole, R-Kan., to postpone debate on his welfare bill last month.

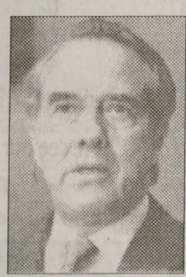
Dole, who is also seeking the Republican nomination for president, has since worked out several compromises to appease critics, who range from GOP moderates to Christian conservatives.

Dole's concessions include a ban on aid to immigrants, demanded by Gramm, and for moderates, an exemption from mandatory work requirements for mothers of children under age 1.

But some critics remain skeptical, and the Senate's 46 Democrats are largely united in denouncing the legislation as the "Home Alone" bill because it has no guarantee of child care for single mothers who would be required to work.

"Dole has got himself a real dilemma," says Gary L. Bauer, president of the Family Research Council, a conservative research and advocacy group devoted to domestic policy and family issues.

On the one hand, he said, Dole is under pressure from conservatives like himself and Gramm to use the welfare bill to send a tough message to teen-age mothers who get pregnant and ask taxpayers to support their children.



Sen. Bob Dole

"Subsidizing illegitimacy is a recipe for perpetuating welfare dependency," Bauer and other conservatives, including the Christian Coalition's Ralph E. Reed Jr., told Dole in a recent letter.

Dole must also satisfy more moderate Senate Republicans, who oppose prohibitions on aid to teenagers and children born to women already on welfare.

If he leans to the right, it's not clear that Dole will have the majority he needs, Bauer said. But if Dole slights conservatives, it's also not clear that he'll have the votes to push the bill through.

Bauer believes it would be a disaster for both Dole and President Clinton, who promised three years ago to "end welfare as we know it," if the Senate is unable to write a bill that can be signed into law. The House approved its welfare overhaul in March.

Sen. Lauch Faircloth, a conservative North Carolina Republican, said voters have told him, as he crisscrossed the state over the summer recess, that they expect welfare reform this year.

"It's the one issue that they want something done about," he said. "And when they talk about welfare reform, they're not talking about new programs, new giveaways. They want more work, more family orientation, more things that bring the families together."

In the meantime, Gramm and Faircloth

continue to hold firm to their demands that Dole tilt his bill to the right.

"We have a very strong disagreement (with Dole) on the whole issue of giving people more and more money to have more and more children," Gramm said. "If we could have a united Republican position we could be successful."

Gramm said Dole's bill fails to fulfill the GOP campaign promises of 1994, when Republicans took control of the House and Senate. "It's not as if I'm asking Dole to support something alien to our philosophy; it's what we promised we would do in the election."

"We have euphemized and compromised too much in federal government, and in Congress we have euphemized, compromised and subsidized until it's time to cut something cold, flat, stop it," added Faircloth. He referred to his push to end the automatic increase in cash payments that women on welfare receive when they have additional children.

Dole's legislation would leave that kind of decision to the states, while giving them responsibility for designing cash welfare, child care and job training programs.

"It is a cleverly concocted scam that does not do a single thing."

— Robert Greenstein
director, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

Initially, the bill had no requirement that states continue to spend any of their own money on welfare. But in the face of criticism from GOP moderates, Dole said he would rewrite the plan to require states to spend at least some money on welfare for the first two years.

Dole's plan, however, is merely cosmetic, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a liberal research and advocacy group.

"It is a cleverly concocted scam that does not do a single thing," said the center's director, Robert Greenstein.

U.S. taxpayers giving millions to Olympic Games

The government is paying for trash pickup, recycling, security and transportation. Some have estimated the total amount at \$92 million.

ATLANTA (AP) — Even if you haven't personally spent a dime yet for a ticket, T-shirt or souvenir trinket, you're helping Atlanta pay for the 1996 Olympic Games — through your federal tax dollars.

Though the Games themselves are privately funded from sources including television rights, corporate sponsorships and ticket sales, the federal government is pitching in tens of millions of dollars worth of services that are crucial to their success.

The biggest expenditures: — \$35 million for security, carried out mainly by the military. — \$28 million for buses and other transportation assistance.

Federal agencies also will be involved in trash pickup, recycling, testing energy technology, bicycle trail construction and environmental protection, among other areas.

An aide to Vice President Al Gore, whose office is coordinating

the federal government's Olympic activities, said he did not know the total amount of money the various agencies are spending. Some estimates have put the figure as high as \$92 million.

The state of Georgia is spending more than \$150 million on public buildings that will be used during the Games, though no state tax money is going directly to the Olympics. Atlanta and other local governments are spending about \$90 million on projects related to the Olympics.

Olympics officials and their supporters in Congress defend the federal spending as necessary for a national event that will attract thousands of foreign visitors. Though the Olympics are in Atlanta, they say, they really are America's games.

"We as a nation have never been able to achieve perfect symmetry between paying taxes and receiving federal benefits," said Jack Quinn, Gore's chief of staff. "You in Georgia pay tax dollars to build roads in Idaho, and there's no getting around that."

Sen. Paul Coverdell, R-Ga., an ardent supporter of the security expenditures, agreed.

"You have a world event in your nation, you accept responsibility for those visitors," Coverdell said. "They don't just drop out of the sky into one jurisdiction. They're coming to the U.S."

The federal spending has drawn some harsh criticism, notably from Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., who has for two years tried to force Atlanta to repay the federal government if the Olympics turn a profit.

But McCain has been unable to build up much support for his cause. His most recent Olympic bill failed in the Senate last month by a whopping 80-20 vote.

Such a vote flies in the face of efforts to rein in the federal budget, said Pete Sapp, spokesman for the National Taxpayers Union.

"I think Senator McCain's proposal was a fair and modest one," Sapp said. "If it was for something less Mom-and-apple-pie, it would have been approved right away."

Sapp said much of the federal spending for the Games is spread out and hidden deep within the thicket of agency budgets, making it virtually impossible for the public to know exactly what the government is doing.

"If it weren't hidden and if it were plain, I'd wager we'd be spending far less on it, if not zero," he said.

"There are things we should spend public money on, but they shouldn't lie and say they're not doing it," said Melissa Metcalfe, head of the public interest group

Common Cause in Georgia.

Billy Payne, the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games president, sees no contradiction between the federal spending and his pledge to put on a privately financed Games.

"Inside the venues is our responsibility," Payne said. Other areas, he said, only government can handle.

"You can call it a private thing, but this is a showcase for the United States."

— Allan Lipsett
spokesman for Newt Gingrich

And amid his demands for shrinking the federal budget, even House Speaker Newt Gingrich supports the Olympic spending.

"You can call it a private thing, but this is a showcase for the world for the United States," said Gingrich spokesman Allan Lipsett.

Gingrich, whose congressional district is just north of Atlanta, has helped with every request made by the Olympics, Lipsett said.

"It has not been a blank check" to the Atlanta committee, he said. "If it's something a federal agency can do, he's helped get that through."



MAIL BOXES ETC.®

John & Diana Hill
Owners

MAIL BOX SPECIAL

Rent 3 Months, Get 1 Month Free

Street Address or P.O. Boxes available with 24 hr. secured access

- Fax Sending & Receiving
- Office & Shipping Supplies
- Custom Packing Service
- UPS and Fed Ex Outlet
- Copies - 24-Hr Access
- Etc., Etc., Etc.

1511 S. Texas Ave., C.S., TX 77840

(In the Culpepper Shopping Center, next to Swenson's)
764-6107 • Fax: 696-7246

MSC Leadership Positions Available



Vice President of Training

Director of Marketing and Research Analysis

Chair, Committee for the Awareness of Mexican

American Culture

Director of Financial Procedures

Director of Financial Planning and Analysis

Black Awareness Committee, Director of Finance

BAC Applications are due September 8, 1995.

None of these positions require experience.

Applications due September 18th, 1995 to MSC 216.

Please contact Sarah Wilson at 845-1515 for more information. Applications available from Nancy Adams, 216 MSC.

People with disabilities, please call 845-1515 to inform us of any special needs. We would like to serve you to the best of our ability.

What are the Most Powerful Words In Your Permanent Record?
(check one)

- Transcript
- Resume
- Diploma
- The Wall Street Journal

For special student rates send in coupon below or for faster service call 1-800-2BUY-WSJ

7am-10pm Eastern Time Mon.-Fri.

Send me a one-year subscription for \$87.00
 I'd prefer a 15-week subscription for \$33.00

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 School name _____ Graduation date _____

Check enclosed Bill me later Charge to my: AMEX VISA
 MasterCard Diners Club

Card no. _____ Expiration date _____
 Signature _____

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.
 Mail coupon to: The Wall Street Journal 200 Burnett Road, Chicopee, MA 01020
 ©1995 Dow Jones & Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Offer good for a limited time and only in the continental U.S. 70DD

THE BATTALION Classifieds



To place an ad, phone 845-0569

Get 'Em While It's Hot!



CLEARANCE PRICES!
 MOUNTAIN BIKES STARTING AT \$199.99!
 by Raleigh and Giant

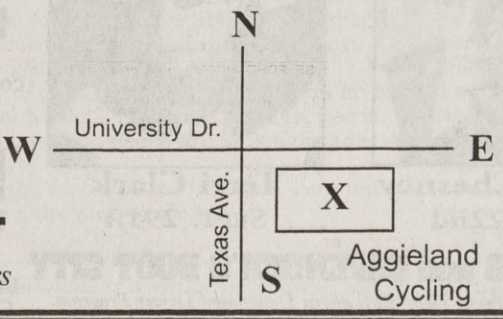
- Includes:
- Fully assembled & adjusted
 - No Time Limit Minor Adjustment Policy
 - Backed by AggieLand Cyclings' famous commitment to quality service.



Raleigh M50
 Save \$40 Only \$329.99



Cannondale M200
 Save \$50 Only \$399.99



AGGIELAND CYCLING & FITNESS
 696-9490 202 UNIVERSITY DR. EAST
 Proudly Serving Aggies for 11 Years

