

Adopts Provision Requiring Able Stamp Recipients To Take Available Work

WASHINGTON — The Senate Agriculture Committee adopted last week a food stamp program reform requiring that the able-bodied shall have to accept work, when available, in order to remain eligible to participate in the program.

The Committee voted to accept a Helms amendment to a proposal by Senator S.I. Hayakawa to require work in the private sector. The Helms amendment gives states the option of establishing a mandatory workfare program (in which recipients would work for communities, counties or voluntary agencies in return for their food stamps on a minimum wage basis), or to have a combination of both.

Helms said, "Those three options — along with the provision we adopted at the suggestion of Senators Walter Huddleston and Alan Dixon that we have an 'escape clause' for anyone in a particularly unusual hardship situation who cannot find work — will provide state and local officials with the tools they need to assure that able-bodied food stamp recipients will no longer be able to use benefits intended for the truly needy."

Under the Committee agreement, by July 1, 1983, states would be required to establish either a workfare program for able-bodied food stamp recipients or to reduce benefits to households in which able-bodied recipients refuse to accept available employment.

Helms said the adoption of the workfare program was a "watershed" in the ongoing efforts to make the food stamp

program acceptable and accountable to American taxpayers."

"This is a major step in the right direction. Congress is increasingly becoming aware that the American public is demanding a work-ethic in its welfare system. The Committee recognizes that there is great potential for abuse among able-bodied recipients who refuse to work," said Helms, chairman of the Agriculture Committee.

Helms continued, "Approximately one-fourth of all food stamp households contain able-bodied men and women who are not working but who are receiving food stamps. This provision clearly targets reductions to those who are unwilling to accept private employment or a work-

fare assignment. This provision applies to able-bodied recipients between the ages of 18 and 60 who are not employed. This provision, does however, have adequate protections for those who are unable to work or who have small children."

Senator Hayakawa's provision requires food stamp recipients to obtain a job within seven months after initial participation in the program or face disqualification.

Helms added, "Probably more than any other complaint which I hear from North Carolinians, none is more frequent than that food stamp recipients are unwilling to accept available jobs. I hope North Carolina will be leader in implementing these provisions."

Central's Legal Clinic Helps Students Get Into Cases

By Edward Bishop

Walter Jones has always wanted to be a lawyer and now, in his final semester of law school, he is having the opportunity to put what he has learned in the past two and one half years at North Carolina Central's Law School to some practical use.

Jones, along with sixteen other third-year Central students, handles cases for local residents who have legal problems in the areas of estate planning, landlord-tenant matters, bankruptcy, adoption, and divorce.

Working out of the law school's legal clinic, Jones said, "I am finally

getting my opportunity to prove what I can do. Law school has been the hardest thing that I have ever done in my life, but being able to help people makes it all worth it."

The clinic was established at Central by T. Mcdona Ringer, its current director and the associate dean of the law school, and Ronald Belfon, a Central professor who is now on leave and running the Legal Services of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Students who participate in the clinic are given permission by the North Carolina State Bar Association and operate under the supervision of four licensed members of



Honored At Luncheon

Two long-time employees of North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company were honored at an anniversary luncheon last week at the company's home office. Pictured with NCM president and chief executive officer, W.J. Kennedy, III (center) are Mrs. Arteria T. Bryant (left), who observed her 40th anniversary, and A.E. Spears, Jr., who observed his 45th anniversary with NCM.

the state bar.

"The clinic is the only place where the practical and the theory of law school come together," said Ms. Susie Powell, a Central law professor and supervisor in the clinic. "Here in the clinic it all comes together."

"The purpose of the program is to provide students with an opportunity to develop a number of skills that are related to what they will be doing in a matter of months," said Ringer.

"It is probably one of the best things that could ever happen to a

student."

During the course of the clinical program, students interview clients, draft legal papers and represent their clients in court or during administrative hearings.

Jones, a native of New Bern, said that he puts in seventy hours a week in the clinic. He has handled divorce cases, child custody disputes, and guardianships cases.

"I do this not only because it is school, but because of sense of duty," said Jones, a Navy veteran. "I am not interested in making

money. I am interested in working as a lawyer and as a good one."

Students in the program are working in Raleigh, Fayetteville, Durham and several other cities throughout the state. The clinic is associated with North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company's Central Legal Services of

Durham and many of the clients are referred by the legal services outfit to the clinic at Central.

"The students are handling themselves well," said Ms. Powell, a former Legal Services director in North Carolina. "It will make them better lawyers."

YOUR VOTE
June 29
Can Change the Course of
Black History for at Least
The Next TEN Years

Release

(Continued from Page 13) about the requirement of individual legal representation as the linchpin of this new policy.

"The Justice Department's new plan places incredible pressure on attorneys to either agree to represent the Haitians or allow them to remain in detention," she continued, "again, we see the Administration establishing a discriminatory 'Haitian-only' policy for release." Mrs. Chisholm also agreed with other Haitian advocates that stringent bond conditions would be an impediment to release. Despite these drawbacks the Congresswoman voiced relief that several hundred Haitians, who have legal counsel and sponsors, would probably be released immediately.

Mrs. Chisholm dismissed Justice's claim that litigation had forced the detention of the Haitians. In fact, she credited the efforts of the Haitians' attorneys for the change in the Administration's policy. "The success of lawsuits in this area," said Rep. Chisholm, "forced the Administration's hand. They couldn't afford another court decision against them." Court decisions are still pending in the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals in New York and the District Court in Miami.

Mrs. Chisholm concluded by saying that "Haitian advocates would have to closely evaluate the release policy before claiming a complete victory." In her capacity as chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus Task Force on Haitian Refugees, Mrs. Chisholm has been an ardent supporter of the Haitians' claims for political asylum.

When an eggshell cracks while an egg is being boiled, seal it immediately by adding a splash of vinegar to the boiling water.



VOTE
ROLAND
LEARY

FOR

SHERIFF

PULL LEVER NO. 29—A

29-A

VOTE ON JUNE 29