



COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

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MAY 11 1976

The Honorable Thomas S. Foley, Chairman
Committee on Agriculture
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In your letter of December 5, 1975, you requested that the General Accounting Office identify differences in five aspects of the Food Stamp, Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs. You also requested that we determine the reasons for any significant differences identified.

We met on several occasions with members of the Committee staff to brief them on information being developed and to ensure that we were concentrating our efforts on the areas of greatest interest to the Committee. In March 1976, the Committee staff advised us that they needed the results of our work in time to be used for consideration of a proposed bill to amend the Food Stamp Act. As a result, on April 20, 1976, we delivered to the Committee 200 copies of a Statement of Facts in lieu of a formal report. The Statement of Facts contains a detailed discussion on the following aspects of the Food Stamp, AFDC, and SSI programs:

- verification actions associated with the application process,
- treatment of income in determining eligibility for and amount of benefits received,
- treatment of certain resources in determining eligibility,
- issues regarding eligibility redeterminations or recertifications, and
- work registration.

Also, schedules comparing the requirements of the law and regulations for the Food Stamp, AFDC, and SSI programs were included for the last four of the above cited program aspects.

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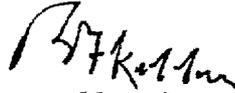
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The information included in the Statement of Facts was obtained from reviewing appropriate laws and their legislative histories, regulations, and agency documents. Also, we interviewed various program officials to determine the rationale for various regulations.

Subsequent to our providing the 200 copies to the Committee, it was agreed by the Committee staff that we could make distribution of copies of the Statement of Facts to anyone requesting it.

We trust that the information provided will be useful to the Committee.

Sincerely yours,



Deputy Comptroller General
of the United States