

**The original documents are located in Box 35, folder “Displaced Homemakers Equal Opportunity Act” of the Betty Ford White House Papers, 1973-1977 at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

DATE: 10/7/75

TO: Carolyn Porembka

FROM: Jeffrey Weinberg

Per your request, enclosed is a copy of S. 2353, the "Displaced Homemakers Equal Opportunity Act."

The Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare has not scheduled any action on the bill.



94TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2353

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 17 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 11), 1975

Mr. TUNNEY (for himself and Senator RANDOLPH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare

## A BILL

To provide for the establishment of model programs for displaced homemakers, and for other purposes.

- 1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3 That this Act may be cited as the "Displaced Homemakers  
4 Equal Opportunity Act".

### 5 FINDINGS AND PURPOSE

6 SEC. 2. (a) The Congress hereby finds that—

- 7 (1) homemakers are an unrecognized and unpaid  
8 segment of the national work force who make an invalu-  
9 able contribution to the welfare and economic stability  
10 of the Nation, but who receive no health, retirement,  
11 or unemployment benefits as a result of their labor;



(2) an increasing number of homemakers are displaced from their family roles by divorce, death, or loss of family income, including Federal assistance;

(3) displaced homemakers are often without any source of income because such homemakers—

(A) are ineligible for social security benefits, being either too young, or divorced from the family wage earner;

(B) are ineligible for Federal welfare assistance, being neither physically disabled, nor with children below a certain age; or

(C) are ineligible for unemployment insurance, having been engaged solely in unpaid labor in the home;

(4) displaced homemakers often are subject to discrimination in employment because of age, sex, or lack of any recent paid work experience; and

(5) displaced homemakers are often dependent upon welfare programs to provide for their basic necessities, but because such programs do not provide adequate job training and counseling services, displaced homemakers are often unable either to become self-sufficient or to improve their job potentials.

(b) It is the purpose of this Act to require the Secre-

tary of Health, Education, and Welfare to establish model programs to provide necessary counseling and information for displaced homemakers so that they may enjoy the independence and economic security vital to a productive life.

#### DEFINITIONS

SEC. 3. For the purposes of this Act—

(1) the term “displaced homemaker” means any individual who is not gainfully employed, or is having difficulty, or is likely to have difficulty in securing employment because that individual—

(A) has worked only in the home, providing unpaid household services for family members, and

(B) has been dependent on the income of another family member, but is no longer supported by the income of such family member, or has been dependent on Federal assistance, but is no longer eligible for such assistance;

(2) the term “income of another family member” means any income in support of an entire family unit for the purpose of providing that family unit with economic security, but does not include the payment of alimony; and

(3) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare.



## MODEL PROGRAMS

SEC. 4. (a) The Secretary is authorized to establish either directly or by way of grant, contract, or other arrangement, a maximum of thirty model programs of outreach, counseling, and information and referral for displaced homemakers. There shall be at least two model programs in each of the ten Federal geographic service regions in the United States for a period of two years. Each such program shall provide outreach, peer-counseling, and information and referral services designed to protect and insure the health, welfare, income capabilities, and employment of displaced homemakers within the served areas. Counseling services may include, but are not limited to, job, health, financial management, legal, and educational opportunities counseling. Information and referral services may include, but are not limited to, job and financial management training as well as health and general education.

(b) The Secretary shall employ displaced homemakers, to the maximum extent possible, for supervisory, technical, and administrative positions connected with model programs established under this Act.

## ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 5. (a) In order to carry out his functions under this Act, the Secretary shall designate, within one month after enactment of this Act, an Assistant Secretary as coordinator of the model programs. The Secretary shall—

(1) designate locations for the model programs within each of the ten Federal geographic regions,  
 (2) coordinate the operation of such programs,  
 (3) require quarterly reports for each such program from the agency or organization operating that program,  
 and  
 (4) consult and cooperate with the Secretary of Labor, the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration, the Commissioner of the Administration on Aging, and the heads of such other executive agencies as the Secretary considers appropriate to coordinate effectively the model programs established under this Act with existing Federal programs.

(b) The Secretary is authorized to make contracts or grants or other arrangements with any public agencies or private nonprofit organizations for the purpose of establishing model programs under this Act.

(c) The Secretary shall carry out his functions under this Act through the Assistant Secretary designated under subsection (a) of this section.

## EVALUATION AND STUDY OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS

SEC. 6. (a) The Secretary, in consultation with appropriate heads of executive agencies, shall—

(1) prepare and furnish to the Congress an evaluation of the model programs assisted under this Act including—



(A) a thorough assessment of such model programs,

(B) recommendations concerning the administration of such programs at the local, State, and Federal levels, specifying the most appropriate agency or subdivision thereof with which a national program should be coordinated, and

(C) recommendations to Congress concerning the viability of a national program of outreach, counseling, and information and referral for displaced homemakers, specifying the appropriate Federal agency through which such a program should be funded and directed; or

(2) prepare and furnish to the Congress a study to determine the feasibility of, and appropriate procedures for, allowing displaced homemakers to participate in—

(A) programs established under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 801 et seq.),

(B) work incentive programs established under section 432 (b) (1) of the Social Security Act,

(C) related Federal employment, education, and health assistance programs, and

(D) programs established or benefits provided under Federal and State unemployment compensa-

tion laws by including housework as labor eligible for such benefits or programs.

(b) The Secretary shall submit to the Congress the reports required by subsection (a) of this section within eighteen months after the establishment of the last model program in all of the Federal geographic service regions.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS

SEC. 7. In carrying out the provisions of this Act, the Secretary may accept, use, and dispose of contributions of money, services, and property.

#### AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 8. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums, not to exceed \$2,000,000 for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 1976, not to exceed \$400,000 for the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1976, and not to exceed \$2,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1977, as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act. Sums appropriated for any fiscal year to carry out the programs under this Act shall remain available for obligation and expenditure until the end of the fiscal year after the fiscal year for which such sums were appropriated.



94TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S. 2353**

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**A BILL**

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By Mr. TUNNEY and Mr. RANDOLPH

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