

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 258

To establish the Federal Interagency Working Group on Reducing Poverty which will create and carry out a national plan to cut poverty in America in half in ten years.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2015

Ms. LEE (for herself, Mr. HONDA, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. NADLER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. CHU of California, Mr. POCAN, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. TONKO, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

A BILL

To establish the Federal Interagency Working Group on Reducing Poverty which will create and carry out a national plan to cut poverty in America in half in ten years.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Half in Ten Act of
5 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) The persistence of poverty, and especially
4 intergenerational poverty, in America can be seen as
5 a deep, structural problem that implicates our value
6 system and our educational and economic institu-
7 tions.

8 (2) Poverty may be defined as the lack of basic
9 necessities of life such as food, shelter, clothing,
10 health care, education, economic security, and eco-
11 nomic opportunity.

12 (3) Policy initiatives and many safety net pro-
13 grams addressing poverty have not kept pace with
14 the needs of millions of Americans.

15 (4) The lack of an equitable distribution of
16 housing choices across the country leads to isolation
17 and concentrated poverty.

18 (5) There were 45.3 million Americans living in
19 poverty in 2013, consisting of 14.5 percent of the
20 American people (U.S. Census Bureau, September
21 2014).

22 (6) Poverty has a disproportionate impact on
23 minority communities in America with 27.2 percent
24 of African-Americans, 23.5 percent of Hispanics,
25 10.5 percent of Asian-Americans, and 9.6 percent of

1 Whites living in poverty in the United States in
2 2013 (U.S. Census Bureau, September 2014).

3 (7) In 2013 a family of 4 was considered poor
4 under the U.S. Census Bureau's official measure if
5 the family's income was below \$22,834.

6 (8) The economic consequences of poverty in
7 the United States are estimated to be at least \$500
8 billion per year (Center for American Progress,
9 2007).

10 (9) Children who grow up in poverty experience
11 higher crime rates, decreased productivity, and high-
12 er health costs over their lives (Center for American
13 Progress, 2007).

14 (10) 4,145,717 seniors lived in poverty in 2013
15 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2014).

16 (11) Young Americans, ages 18–24, experience
17 a higher poverty rate than the national average
18 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2014).

19 (12) 15,769,921 children lived in poverty in
20 2010 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2014).

21 (13) Almost 38.31 percent of African-American
22 children and over 32.26 percent of Hispanic children
23 lived in poverty in 2009 (U.S. Census Bureau,
24 2011).

1 (14) The 46,180,000 of Americans in poverty
2 in 2010 was the largest number yet recorded in the
3 52 years for which poverty estimates are available
4 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2011).

5 (15) Individuals and families in poverty are
6 more socially vulnerable to natural disasters, ex-
7 treme weather and impacts of climate change and
8 have greater difficulty preparing for, responding to
9 and recovering from such events (Oxfam America,
10 2009).

11 (16) Children who live in families who fall into
12 poverty for even short periods of time are at greater
13 risk of a lifetime of lower earnings, lower edu-
14 cational attainment, and increased reliance on public
15 services and increased rates of incarceration (First
16 Focus, 2008).

17 (17) It is estimated that the additional 3 mil-
18 lion children who were forced into poverty due to the
19 recession of 2008, resulted in \$35 billion in eco-
20 nomic losses annually, and will cause at least \$1.7
21 trillion in economic losses to the United States dur-
22 ing their lifetimes (First Focus, 2008).

23 (18) Reducing poverty, especially child poverty,
24 not only reduces costs for Federal, State, and local
25 social services and benefits programs, but also in-

1 creases tax revenue at all levels of government (Chil-
2 dren’s Defense Fund, 2009).

3 (19) The House of Representatives, on January
4 22, 2008, has resolved that it is the sense of Con-
5 gress that the United States should set a national
6 goal of cutting poverty in half over the next 10
7 years.

8 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

9 In this Act:

10 (1) **FEDERAL AGENCY.**—The term “Federal
11 agency” means any executive department, Govern-
12 ment corporation, Government-controlled corpora-
13 tion, or other establishment in the executive branch
14 of the Government (including the Executive Office of
15 the President), or any independent regulatory agen-
16 cy.

17 (2) **POVERTY.**—The term “poverty” means an
18 income level and living standard associated with and
19 based on the official poverty measure as established
20 and updated by the U.S. Census Bureau which es-
21 tablishes a threshold of minimum income necessary
22 to achieve a standard of living free from deprivation
23 of basic needs.

24 (3) **EXTREME POVERTY.**—The term “extreme
25 poverty” means having an income level or living

1 standard at a level of extreme deprivation based on
2 living with income below 50 percent of the Federal
3 poverty line as established by the U.S. Census.

4 (4) NEAR POVERTY.—The term “near poverty”
5 means having a level of household income below 200
6 percent of the Federal poverty line.

7 (5) CHILD POVERTY.—The term “child pov-
8 erty” means poverty which impacts those persons
9 under 18 years of age.

10 (6) DEPRIVATION.—The term “deprivation”
11 means lacking some or all basic human needs.

12 (7) DECENT LIVING STANDARD.—The term
13 “decent living standard” means the amount of an-
14 nual income that would allow an individual to live
15 beyond deprivation at a safe and decent, but modest,
16 standard of living.

17 (8) ALTERNATIVE POVERTY MEASURES.—The
18 term “alternative poverty measures” means meas-
19 ures and indicators, other than the traditional in-
20 come based measure of poverty, which can provide a
21 more detailed picture of the low-income and poverty
22 stricken populations, such as the number of people
23 who were kept above poverty by Government sup-
24 ports, the number of people who are poor due to
25 medical expenses, child care, and work expenses, the

1 rates of food insecurity, the number of people who
2 are asset poor (with less than three months of in-
3 come saved), the number of disconnected youth, teen
4 birth rates, participation rates in Federal anti-pov-
5 erty programs for all eligible populations, and the
6 number of people who are unbanked.

7 (9) REGIONAL COSTS OF LIVING.—The term
8 “regional costs of living” means a measure of the
9 differing costs of maintaining a given living standard
10 in varying regional, geographic, urban or rural re-
11 gions.

12 (10) ECONOMIC INSECURITY.—The term “eco-
13 nomic insecurity” means the inability of individuals
14 and households to cope with routine adverse or cost-
15 ly life events and the lack of means to maintain a
16 decent standard of living and to recover from the
17 costly consequences of those events.

18 (11) ECONOMIC STABILITY.—The term “eco-
19 nomic stability” means individuals and households
20 have access to the means and support systems nec-
21 essary to effectively cope with adverse or costly life
22 events and have the ability to effectively recover
23 from the consequences of those events while main-
24 taining their standard of living or maintaining a de-
25 cent standard of living.

1 (12) DIGITAL DIVIDE.—The term “digital di-
2 vide” means the gap between individuals, house-
3 holds, businesses and geographic areas at different
4 socio-economic levels with regard to both their access
5 information and communications technologies and
6 including the imbalance both in physical access to
7 technology and the resources, education and skills
8 needed to effectively use computer technology and
9 the Internet for a wide variety of activities.

10 (13) OUTCOMES.—The term “outcomes” means
11 change in the economic status, economic instability
12 or economic security of an individual, household or
13 other population which is attributable to a planned
14 intervention, benefit, or service or series of interven-
15 tions, benefits, and services, regardless of whether
16 such an intervention was intended to change such
17 economic status.

18 (14) DISPARATE IMPACT.—The term “disparate
19 impact” refers to the historic and ongoing impacts
20 of the pattern and practice of discrimination in em-
21 ployment, education, housing, banking and nearly
22 every other aspect of American life in the economy,
23 society or culture that have an adverse impact on
24 minorities, women, or other protected groups, re-

1 (C) eliminating extreme poverty in Amer-
2 ica;

3 (D) improving the effectiveness and out-
4 comes of poverty related programs by improving
5 our understanding of the root causes of poverty,
6 the social, economic, and the cultural contribu-
7 tors to persistent intergenerational poverty;

8 (E) improving the measure of poverty to
9 include more indicators and measures that can
10 meaningfully account for other aspects relating
11 to the measure of poverty, such as regional dif-
12 ferences in costs of living, the impact of rising
13 income inequality, the impact of the persistent
14 “digital divide”, expanding the understanding
15 of poverty by distinguishing a standard that
16 measures a level of freedom from deprivation
17 versus a standard that measures a standard of
18 economic adequacy provided by a living wage
19 and access to a decent living standard, and the
20 impact of poverty on other measures of eco-
21 nomic stability and economic outcomes, such as
22 educational attainment, rates of incarceration,
23 lifetime earnings, access to health care, health
24 care outcomes, access to housing, and including

1 other measures as necessary to improve our un-
2 derstanding of why poverty persists in America;

3 (F) eliminating the disparate rates of pov-
4 erty based on race, ethnicity, gender, age, or
5 sexual orientation and identity, especially
6 among children in those households so im-
7 pacted;

8 (G) measuring effectiveness of poverty re-
9 lated programs on the basis of long-term out-
10 comes, including the long-term savings and
11 value of preventive practice and policy, and em-
12 ploying fact based measures of programs to
13 make improvements;

14 (H) improving the accessibility of benefit
15 and social services programs, reducing the com-
16 plexity and difficulty of enrollment, and improv-
17 ing the rates of enrollment in need based pro-
18 grams for all eligible recipients to maximize the
19 impact of benefits and social services programs
20 on reducing the impacts of poverty and improv-
21 ing economic outcomes;

22 (I) making more uniform eligibility re-
23 quirements to improve the coordination of serv-
24 ice delivery, reduce gaps in eligibility, and im-

1 prove outcomes of programs addressing poverty
2 in the Federal Government;

3 (J) reducing the negative impacts of asset
4 limits for eligibility which impact Federal, State
5 and local poverty programs on the effectiveness
6 of programs where limited eligibility creates
7 gaps in necessary service and benefit delivery,
8 and restricts access to benefits as individuals
9 and families attempt to transition off of assist-
10 ance programs and which can prevent needy
11 beneficiaries from improving long-term out-
12 comes and achieving long-term economic inde-
13 pendence from need-based programs;

14 (K) identifying Federal programs, includ-
15 ing those related to disaster relief, hazard miti-
16 gation, extreme weather and climate change,
17 and necessary reforms to better target re-
18 sources towards disproportionately impacted so-
19 cially vulnerable, low income and disadvantaged
20 communities may provide greater socio-eco-
21 nomic benefits;

22 (L) improving the ability of community-
23 based organizations to participate in the devel-
24 opment, oversight and implementation of Fed-
25 eral poverty-related programs;

1 (M) improving access to good jobs with
2 adequate wages and benefits by individuals liv-
3 ing in poverty, low-income households, and the
4 unemployed;

5 (N) expanding and stabilizing poor and
6 low-income persons connection to work and ac-
7 cess to critical job training and/or skills up-
8 grade training that will lead to re-entry in the
9 workforce;

10 (O) developing a comprehensive strategy to
11 connect low-income young people and to re-con-
12 nect currently disconnected youth to education,
13 work, and their community; and

14 (P) shifting the focus of poverty and
15 means-tested programs across the Federal Gov-
16 ernment beyond the relief of deprivation and in-
17 stead setting goals, measures, and outcomes
18 more focused on measuring the success of pro-
19 grams in supporting and improving how capable
20 individuals and families can access educational
21 and economic opportunities to successfully tran-
22 sition away from accessing public assistance
23 and benefits and achieving long-term economic
24 stability which will reduce long-term costs in
25 domestic social needs programs, reduce long-

1 term health care costs due to the improved
2 health of formerly poverty stricken households,
3 increase the number of taxpaying individuals
4 which will increase revenue, and lower the en-
5 rollment and costs in need based benefits and
6 services programs, thus improving the economy
7 and reducing long-term deficits for Federal,
8 State, and local governments;

9 (2) oversee, coordinate, and integrate all poli-
10 cies and activities of the Federal Government, in co-
11 ordination and consultation with the Domestic Pol-
12 icy Council and the National Economic Council,
13 across all agencies relating to reducing the number
14 of individuals, families, and children living below the
15 Federal poverty line, in extreme poverty or near pov-
16 erty and increasing the number of households able
17 to achieve long-term economic stability with assets
18 sufficient to maintain a decent living standard with-
19 out relying on public supports—

20 (A) economic, commercial, and pro-
21 grammatic policies that can effect or relieve the
22 effects of poverty through job creation, and eco-
23 nomic development targeted to low income, mi-
24 nority, rural, urban and other populations who

1 suffer disparate rates of poverty, among Fed-
2 eral agencies; and

3 (B) services and benefits including emer-
4 gency programs, discretionary economic pro-
5 grams, and other policies and activities nec-
6 essary to ensure that the Federal Government
7 is able to mount effective responses to economic
8 downturns and increases in the rates of poverty;

9 (3) ensure that all relevant Federal agencies
10 comply with appropriate guidelines, policies, and di-
11 rectives from the Federal Interagency Working
12 Group on Reducing Poverty and the Department of
13 Health and Human Services and other Federal
14 agencies with responsibilities relating to poverty re-
15 duction or improving economic stability and inde-
16 pendence;

17 (4) ensure that Federal agencies, State govern-
18 ments and relevant congressional committees have
19 access to, receive, and appropriately disseminate best
20 practices in the administration of programs, have
21 adequate resources to maximize the public awareness
22 of programs, increase the reach of those programs,
23 especially into historically disenfranchised commu-
24 nities, maximize enrollment for all eligible Ameri-
25 cans, share relevant data, and issue relevant guid-

1 ance in consultation with non-government organiza-
2 tions and policy experts in the field and State and
3 local government officials who administer or direct
4 policy for anti-poverty programs in increasing and
5 maximizing the enrollment into and administration
6 of programs and services designed to alleviate pov-
7 erty;

8 (5) enact best practices for improved data col-
9 lection, relevant to—

10 (A) reducing poverty;

11 (B) reducing the racial, ethnic, age, gen-
12 der, and sexual orientation or sexual identity
13 based disparities in the rates of poverty;

14 (C) adequately measuring the effectiveness,
15 efficiency and impact of programs on the out-
16 comes for individuals, families and communities
17 who receive benefits and services;

18 (D) streamlining enrollment and eligibility
19 for programs;

20 (E) improving long-term outcomes for indi-
21 viduals who are enrolled in service and benefit
22 programs;

23 (F) reducing reliance on public programs;

24 (G) improving connections to work;

25 (H) improving economic stability;

1 (I) improving savings and investment, ac-
2 cess to capital, increasing rates of entrepreneur-
3 ship;

4 (J) improving our understanding of the
5 impact of extreme weather and natural disas-
6 ters on economically vulnerable communities
7 and improving those communities' resilience to
8 and recovery from extreme weather and natural
9 disasters;

10 (K) improving access to living-wage em-
11 ployment; and

12 (L) improving access to employment-based
13 benefits; and

14 (6) study the feasibility of and test different
15 interagency, State and local, public/private models of
16 cooperative service and benefit delivery by creating
17 necessary exemptions, waivers and funding sources
18 to allow improved cooperation and innovation in the
19 development of programs, practices, policies and pro-
20 cedures that advance the goal of reducing poverty
21 and increasing economic opportunity.

22 (b) DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL POVERTY POLICY.—
23 There shall be a Staff Director of National Poverty Policy,
24 who shall be the head of the Federal Interagency Working
25 Group on Reducing Poverty.

1 **SEC. 5. APPOINTMENT AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DI-**
2 **RECTOR.**

3 (a) APPOINTMENT.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Staff Director shall be
5 appointed by the Secretary of Housing and Urban
6 Development.

7 (2) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Secretary shall ap-
8 point the Staff Director from among individuals who
9 have demonstrated ability and knowledge in social
10 policy, improving outcome-based management, issues
11 of equity and equal opportunity and access to serv-
12 ices and economic opportunity.

13 (b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Staff Director shall—

14 (1) advise the Secretary and all relevant cabinet
15 secretaries, and agency officials regarding the estab-
16 lishment of policies, goals, objectives, and priorities
17 for reducing poverty in America in half in ten years,
18 ending child poverty, ending extreme poverty and
19 eliminating racial, ethnic, gender, and sexual iden-
20 tity and orientation based disparities in the rates of
21 poverty;

22 (2) advise the Secretary, when directed by the
23 Secretary, advise relevant cabinet secretaries, heads
24 of independent Federal agencies and other entities
25 within the Executive Office of the President regard-
26 ing mechanisms to improve the effectiveness, coordi-

1 nation, impact, and outcomes of social services, ben-
2 efits, and other poverty reduction and economic op-
3 portunity programs, in collaboration with experts in
4 the field, non-governmental organizations, and other
5 governments;

6 (3) work with Federal agencies to oversee, co-
7 ordinate, and integrate the implementation of the
8 National Plan or Strategy, including consultation
9 with independent non-governmental policy experts
10 and service provider groups engaged in serving low-
11 income persons, children and households, State and
12 local government officials who administer or direct
13 policy for anti-poverty programs, and with as many
14 groups that directly represent low-income people,
15 such as public housing tenants' associations, or
16 other similar groups; and

17 (4) resolve any disputes that arise between Fed-
18 eral agencies relating to the National Plan to reduce
19 poverty in half in ten years or other matters within
20 the responsibility of the Office.

21 **SEC. 6. CONSULTATION.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director may consult and ob-
23 tain recommendations from, as needed, such Presidential
24 and other advisory entities such as consultation with inde-
25 pendent non-governmental policy experts and service pro-

1 vider groups engaged in serving low-income persons, chil-
2 dren, and households; State and local government officials
3 who administer or direct policy for anti-poverty programs,
4 and groups made up of low-income people, such as public
5 housing tenants' associations, or other similar groups as
6 the Director determines will assist in carrying out the mis-
7 sion of the Office, including, but not limited to—

8 (1) the Administration for Children and Fami-
9 lies (ACF);

10 (2) the Administration on Aging (AoA);

11 (3) the Department of Agriculture (USDA);

12 (4) the Bankruptcy Courts;

13 (5) the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protec-
14 tion;

15 (6) the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA);

16 (7) the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA);

17 (8) the Bureau of the Census;

18 (9) the Center for Nutrition Policy and Pro-
19 motion;

20 (10) the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Serv-
21 ices (formerly the Health Care Financing Adminis-
22 tration);

23 (11) the Commission on Civil Rights;

24 (12) the Office of Community Planning and
25 Development;

- 1 (13) the Consumer Financial Protection Bu-
2 reau;
- 3 (14) the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Jus-
4 tice and Delinquency Prevention;
- 5 (15) the Corporation for National and Commu-
6 nity Service;
- 7 (16) the Council of Economic Advisers;
- 8 (17) the Department of Commerce (DOC);
- 9 (18) the Department of Defense (DOD);
- 10 (19) the Department of Education (ED);
- 11 (20) the Department of Health and Human
12 Services (HHS);
- 13 (21) the Department of Housing and Urban
14 Development (HUD);
- 15 (22) the Department of Justice (DOJ);
- 16 (23) the Department of Labor (DOL);
- 17 (24) the Department of the Treasury;
- 18 (25) the Department of Transportation (DOT);
- 19 (26) the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA);
- 20 (27) the Disability Employment Policy Office;
- 21 (28) the Domestic Policy Council;
- 22 (29) the Drug Enforcement Administration
23 (DEA);
- 24 (30) the Economic Development Administra-
25 tion;

- 1 (31) the Economic Research Service;
- 2 (32) the English Language Acquisition Office;
- 3 (33) the Equal Employment Opportunity Com-
- 4 mission (EEOC);
- 5 (34) the Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity;
- 6 (35) the Federal Bureau of Prisons;
- 7 (36) the Federal Housing Finance Board;
- 8 (37) the Federal Labor Relations Authority;
- 9 (38) the Federal Trade Commission (FTC);
- 10 (39) the Food and Nutrition Service;
- 11 (40) the Indian Health Service;
- 12 (41) the Interagency Council on Homelessness;
- 13 (42) the Internal Revenue Service (IRS);
- 14 (43) the Legal Services Corporation;
- 15 (44) the National AIDS Policy Office;
- 16 (45) the National Credit Union Administration;
- 17 (46) the National Economic Council;
- 18 (47) the National Institutes of Health (NIH);
- 19 (48) the National Labor Relations Board;
- 20 (49) the Occupational Safety & Health Admin-
- 21 istration (OSHA);
- 22 (50) the Office of Management and Budget
- 23 (OMB);
- 24 (51) the Office of Refugee Resettlement;

1 (52) the Office of Policy Development and Re-
2 search (Housing and Urban Development Depart-
3 ment);

4 (53) the Small Business Administration (SBA);

5 (54) the Social Security Administration (SSA);

6 (55) the Substance Abuse and Mental Health
7 Services Administration;

8 (56) the Veterans' Employment and Training
9 Service; and

10 (57) the Women's Bureau (Labor Department).

11 (b) NATIONAL STRATEGY.—In developing and updat-
12 ing the National Strategy the Executive Director shall
13 consult with the Domestic Policy Council, the National
14 Economic Council, and, as appropriate, hold regional pub-
15 lic hearings around the country to collect information and
16 feedback from the public on their efforts and experience
17 for the development and updating of the National Strategy
18 and make this information available to the public.

19 **SEC. 7. REPORTS TO CONGRESS AND THE PUBLIC.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Chair of the Federal Inter-
21 agency Working Group on Reducing Poverty shall submit
22 an annual report to the appropriate congressional commit-
23 tees describing the activities, ongoing projects, and plans
24 of the Federal Government designed to meet the goals and
25 objectives of the National Strategy on Poverty. The report

1 shall include an accounting of the savings to the Govern-
2 ment from any increased efficiencies in the delivery of
3 services, any savings from reducing the numbers of Ameri-
4 cans living in poverty and reductions in the demand for
5 need based services and benefits for which persons living
6 in and near poverty are eligible, as well as an accounting
7 of any increase in revenue collections due to the numbers
8 of persons who become gainfully employed and pay taxes
9 into the Treasury instead of drawing benefits and services
10 from it.

11 (b) NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES WORK-
12 SHOP.—Within 90 days after funds are made available to
13 carry out this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human
14 Services shall contract with the National Academy of
15 Sciences (hereinafter in this subsection referred to as the
16 “NAS”) to initiate a workshop series to provide necessary
17 background information to enable the Working Group on
18 Reducing Poverty to develop and finalize its plan.

19 (1) The NAS shall convene a steering com-
20 mittee to organize, plan, and conduct a public work-
21 shop on what is known about the economic and so-
22 cial costs of poverty, including, but not limited to
23 the following:

24 (A) Macroeconomic costs (effects on pro-
25 ductivity and economic output).

1 (B) Health costs (effects on health expend-
2 itures and health status).

3 (C) Crime and other social costs.

4 (D) Direct Federal budget effects (e.g.,
5 outlays for income support and other poverty
6 reduction programs).

7 (E) Natural disaster related risks and
8 costs.

9 (F) The workshop shall also consider pov-
10 erty metrics (e.g., income poverty, food insecu-
11 rity, and other measures of deprivation), and
12 their role in assessing the effects of poverty and
13 the performance of anti-poverty programs.

14 The NAS shall commission experts to prepare pa-
15 pers that summarize and critique the relevant lit-
16 erature estimating monetary and non-monetary eco-
17 nomic and social impacts of poverty. A workshop
18 summary shall be produced that, along with the pa-
19 pers, shall be available electronically on the NAS
20 website. This workshop shall be convened within 6
21 months of receipt of a contract, the papers posted
22 immediately, and the summary released by the end
23 of month.

24 (2) The NAS steering committee shall organize,
25 plan, and conduct a second public workshop on what

1 is known about the economic and social costs and
2 benefits of a variety of programs and strategies to
3 reduce and prevent poverty. It shall take account of
4 such issues as the following:

5 (A) Short-term versus long-term effects,
6 including budget implications.

7 (B) Effects for different population
8 groups, such as children, the elderly, immi-
9 grants, long-term single-parent families, dis-
10 placed older workers, young people with large
11 loans, people in areas of concentrated poverty
12 and other social ills (e.g., Indian reservations,
13 some inner city areas, some rural areas).

14 (C) Effects by depth of poverty and near-
15 poverty (e.g., income to poverty ratios of less
16 than 50 percent, less than 100 percent, less
17 than 200 percent).

18 This second workshop shall be convened within 9
19 months of receipt of a contract, the papers posted
20 immediately, and a summary released by the end of
21 month 12.

22 (c) REPORT.—The relevant sections of the report
23 shall be posted on each agency’s website on the plans and
24 impacts specific to their agency.

1 (d) PUBLIC REPORT.—A version of each report sub-
2 mitted under this section shall be made available to the
3 public.

4 (e) LEGISLATIVE LANGUAGE.—The Working Group
5 on Reducing Poverty shall submit, as necessary, legislative
6 language, including specific legislative recommendations to
7 the Congress of the United States towards achieving the
8 national goals.

○