

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5218

To promote the fulfillment of basic unmet needs and to protect certain basic economic rights of the people of the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 6, 1994

Mr. DELLUMS (for himself, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. EVANS, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. OWENS, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. BONIOR) introduced the following bill; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Education and Labor, Foreign Affairs, Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs, Government Operations, Armed Services, and Ways and Means

A BILL

To promote the fulfillment of basic unmet needs and to protect certain basic economic rights of the people of the United States, 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 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “A
5 Living Wage, Jobs For All Act”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents is
7 as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
 Sec. 2. Basic economic rights and responsibilities under the 1944 “Economic Bill of Rights”.
 Sec. 3. Program to implement basic economic rights and responsibilities.
 Sec. 4. Grants and incentives to States and local governments to encourage public works and public services planning.
 Sec. 5. International economic policy to increase worldwide living standards.
 Sec. 6. Establishment of conversion planning fund.
 Sec. 7. Implementation.
 Sec. 8. Authorization of appropriations.

1 **SEC. 2. BASIC ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**
 2 **UNDER THE 1944 “ECONOMIC BILL OF**
 3 **RIGHTS”.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Congress affirms the respon-
 5 sibility of the Federal government to implement and, in
 6 accordance with current and foreseeable trends, update
 7 and extend, in accordance with subsection (b), the state-
 8 ment by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in the State of
 9 the Union message of January 11, 1944: “In our days
 10 these economic truths have become self-evident. We have
 11 accepted so to speak a second Bill of Rights under which
 12 a new basis of security and prosperity can be established
 13 for all—regardless of station, rank or creed. Among these
 14 are the following:

15 “(1) The right to a useful and remunerative job
 16 in the industries or shops or farms or mines of the
 17 Nation.

18 “(2) The right to earn enough to provide for an
 19 adequate living.

1 “(3) The right of every farmer to raise and sell
2 farm products at a return which will provide a de-
3 cent family living.

4 “(4) The right of every business, large or small,
5 to trade in an atmosphere of freedom from unfair
6 competition and domination by monopolies at home
7 or abroad.

8 “(5) The right of every family to a decent
9 home.

10 “(6) The right to adequate medical care and
11 the opportunity to achieve and enjoy good health.

12 “(7) The right to adequate protection from the
13 economic fears of old age, sickness, accident and un-
14 employment.

15 “(8) The right to a good education.”.

16 (b) UPDATE AND EXTENSION OF BILL OF RIGHTS.—

17 In updating and extending the 1944 “Economic Bill of
18 Rights” described in subsection (a), the following require-
19 ments should be met:

20 (1) Every adult American able and willing to
21 earn a living through paid work has the right to a
22 free choice among opportunities for useful and pro-
23 ductive paid employment (part- or full-time) at de-
24 cent real wages or for self- employment.

1 (2) Every adult American unable to work for
2 pay or find employment has the right to an adequate
3 standard of living that rises with increases in the
4 wealth and productivity of the society.

5 (c) RESPONSIBILITY OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.—
6 Each Federal agency and commission, including the Board
7 of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, has the re-
8 sponsibility to plan and carry out its policies, programs,
9 projects, and budgets in a manner designed to help estab-
10 lish and maintain conditions under which all adult Ameri-
11 cans may freely exercise the economic rights described in
12 subsection (a). Each such Federal agency or commission
13 shall not directly or indirectly promote recession, stagna-
14 tion, or unemployment as a means of reducing wages and
15 salaries or inflation.

16 **SEC. 3. PROGRAM TO IMPLEMENT BASIC ECONOMIC**
17 **RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.**

18 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall establish
20 a program to implement the basic economic rights
21 and responsibilities described in section 2 in the
22 United States for the purpose of improving the qual-
23 ity of life in the United States by the year 2000 and
24 the early years of the 21st Century.

1 (2) POLICIES AND PROJECTS UNDER THE PRO-
2 GRAM.—Such program shall include policies and
3 projects designed to—

4 (A) implement the economic and social ob-
5 ligations under the Employment Act of 1946,
6 the Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act
7 of 1978, the Charter of the United Nations, the
8 Charter of the Organization of American
9 States, the Universal Declaration of Human
10 Rights, and the International Covenant on Civil
11 and Political Rights;

12 (B) provide quick action to enlarge employ-
13 ment opportunities through reductions in real
14 interest rates, and implement programs of pri-
15 vate and public works and services to use the
16 abilities of the jobless in repairing and improv-
17 ing the Nation's infrastructure of private indus-
18 try, public facilities, and human services, with
19 special emphasis on the availability of good and
20 affordable education, health promotion services,
21 housing, child care, artistic cultural activities,
22 and basic as well as applied research and devel-
23 opment;

24 (C) provide quick action to begin staged
25 reductions in the length of the work year

1 through longer paid vacations, the elimination
2 of compulsory overtime, curbing excessive over-
3 time through an increase in the premium to tri-
4 ple time on all hours in excess of 40 in any
5 week, exempting administrative, executive, and
6 professional employees from the overtime pre-
7 mium only if their salary levels are three times
8 the annual value of the minimum wage, reduc-
9 ing the average work week in manufacturing
10 and mining to no more than 35 hours without
11 any corresponding loss in weekly wages, and
12 voluntary work-sharing arrangements;

13 (D) vastly increase the opportunities for
14 freely-chosen part-time employment, with social
15 security and health benefits, to meet the needs
16 of older people, students, the disabled, and peo-
17 ple with housekeeping and child care respon-
18 sibilities;

19 (E) take such other steps as may be need-
20 ed to cope with the threats of increased jobless-
21 ness caused by technologies that replace people
22 with robots and other machines, including vast-
23 ly improved opportunities for up-to-date and ef-
24 fective education, training, or retraining;

1 (F) prevent or control inflationary ten-
2 dencies through a full battery of standby poli-
3 cies, including public controls over price fixing
4 through monopolistic practices or restraint of
5 trade, the promotion of competition and produc-
6 tivity, and wage-price policies arrived at
7 through tripartite business-labor-government
8 cooperation;

9 (G) provide improved Federal incentives
10 for investment, expansion, and increased em-
11 ployment by small, medium, and large business
12 enterprises, and by such other private sector en-
13 tities as labor unions, professional associations,
14 and nonprofit, voluntary and cooperative orga-
15 nizations, including neighborhood, tenant, home
16 owner and self-help associations and organiza-
17 tions of family farmers, women, minorities, and
18 the unemployed;

19 (H) promote conditions for increased self-
20 empowerment by individuals victimized by dis-
21 crimination in hiring, training, wages, salaries,
22 fringe benefits or promotion on the basis of
23 prejudice concerning race, color, sex, language,
24 religion, political or other opinions, national ori-
25 gin, property, birth or other status, station in

1 life, political or sexual orientation, or personal
2 disability;

3 (I) through these and other activities work
4 toward reducing, not later than three years
5 after the date of the enactment of this Act, offi-
6 cially measured unemployment to the interim
7 goal of 4 percent, as set forth in the Full Em-
8 ployment and Balanced Growth Act of 1978;

9 (J) achieve American leadership in goods
10 production through such specific innovations
11 as—

12 (i) agricultural systems geared to de-
13 livering the kinds and quantities of food
14 needed to abolish hunger and malnutrition
15 in the world and the kinds and quantities
16 of fiber needed for adequate clothing in all
17 climates;

18 (ii) more efficient transportation
19 (such as railroads, buses, trolley cars, and
20 subways) and passenger cars that are
21 safer, pollute less, and are more efficient
22 than cars currently produced;

23 (iii) exportable housing modules that
24 include communication, weatherization,

1 lighting, plumbing, heating, cooking, and
2 washing equipment;

3 (iv) the mining of urban regions for
4 the enormous amount of valuable materials
5 that can be recovered through the inte-
6 grated recycling of liquid, gaseous, and
7 solid wastes; and

8 (v) improved software needed for
9 supercomputers for the purpose of estab-
10 lishing and maintaining an information
11 highway available to all educational institu-
12 tions and individuals at all levels of in-
13 come, wealth, and power; and

14 (K) develop American leadership in the
15 provision of services through such specific inno-
16 vations as—

17 (i) educational systems based on add-
18 ing an “r” for reasoning and an “r” for
19 responsibility to the traditional “reading,
20 ‘riting, and ‘rithmetic”;

21 (ii) health services oriented not only
22 toward better disease treatment but also
23 the promotion of well-being as the best
24 form of preventing disease and disability,
25 extending the life span, and providing the

1 elderly not only with medical and other
2 health services but with opportunities to
3 make productive use of their experience,
4 knowledge, wisdom, and skills;

5 (iii) child care systems dedicated to
6 excellence through staffs composed of three
7 generations of both men and women; and

8 (iv) training and financing facilities to
9 help small and medium-sized enterprises
10 develop efficient systems for the repair or
11 updating of broken or obsolete equipment
12 now lying idle throughout the Nation.

13 (b) INCLUSION OF PROGRAM IN ANNUAL SUBMIS-
14 SION OF BUDGET.—Section 1105(a) of title 31, United
15 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow-
16 ing new paragraph:

17 “(30) beginning with fiscal year 1995, a de-
18 scription of the program to implement basic eco-
19 nomic rights and responsibilities in the United
20 States as provided for in section 3(a) of the A Liv-
21 ing Wage, Jobs For All Act.”.

1 **SEC. 4. GRANTS AND INCENTIVES TO STATES AND LOCAL**
2 **GOVERNMENTS TO ENCOURAGE PUBLIC**
3 **WORKS AND PUBLIC SERVICES PLANNING.**

4 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—In order to implement the
5 basic economic rights and responsibilities described in sec-
6 tion 2, the Secretary of Labor may provide grants and
7 other incentives to States and local governments to en-
8 courage short- and long-term public works and public serv-
9 ices planning in urban, suburban, and rural areas.

10 (b) APPLICATION.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide a
12 grant or other incentive under subsection (a) to a
13 State or local government only if such State or local
14 government submits an application at such time, in
15 such form, and containing such information as the
16 Secretary may reasonably require.

17 (2) CONTENTS.—Such application shall include
18 a strategic and tactical plan that—

19 (A) focuses on projects—

20 (i) to improve the quality of life for all
21 people in such State or jurisdiction of local
22 government, as the case may be;

23 (ii) to renovate, and to the extent de-
24 sirable, enlarge, the decaying infrastruc-
25 ture of public facilities and services re-

1 required for productive, efficient, and profit-
2 able enterprise;

3 (iii) to utilize wasted labor power and
4 improve the productivity of those suffering
5 from joblessness and poverty; and

6 (iv) that are, for the most part, con-
7 ducted under contracts awarded competi-
8 tively to smaller as well as larger busi-
9 nesses or such other private sector entities
10 as non-profit enterprises, cooperatives,
11 labor unions, neighborhood corporations, or
12 voluntary associations,

13 (B) includes a balanced combination of
14 capital intensive projects, which promote more
15 off-site employment in basic industries, and
16 labor intensive projects, which provide for more
17 on-site employment, through such valuable ac-
18 tivities as the clean-up, conservation, restora-
19 tion, or rehabilitation of buildings, grounds, and
20 land, water and forest resources;

21 (C) provides for accelerated implementa-
22 tion of such projects to help meet the varying
23 employment needs of those people who have
24 been victimized by long-term unemployment, re-
25 cession, plant closings, agricultural decline, em-

1 employment discrimination, or inadequate edu-
2 cation or training by implementing activities
3 such as project analyses, feasibility and cost-
4 benefit studies, zoning, land acquisition, or site
5 preparation;

6 (D) provides for systematic on-the-job
7 training, including additional classroom edu-
8 cation, as necessary, for individuals described in
9 subparagraph (C), together with appropriate
10 priorities for employing the poor, unemployed,
11 or displaced living in the immediate neighbor-
12 hood of any project;

13 (E) includes action to obtain necessary
14 funds from various combinations of private,
15 local, and State resources without undue reli-
16 ance on Federal funding; and

17 (F) places all projects in the perspective of
18 publicly discussed goals for improving the qual-
19 ity of life in the United States by the year 2000
20 and the early years of the 21st Century.

21 **SEC. 5. INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY TO INCREASE**
22 **WORLDWIDE LIVING STANDARDS.**

23 (a) **POLICY STATEMENT.**—To protect employment,
24 wage levels, living standards and private industry in the
25 United States and elsewhere, it shall be the policy of the

1 Federal government to cooperate with the governments of
2 other countries and with the United Nations to help de-
3 velop an international community based on rising living
4 standards, particularly for those people with the lowest
5 levels of income, wealth, access to public facilities, free
6 trade union organization, and political power.

7 (b) REVIEW OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF LAW AND
8 REGULATIONS.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President, acting
10 through the appropriate Federal agencies, shall re-
11 view all provisions of Federal law, including regula-
12 tions issued under such provisions, that interfere
13 with the implementation of the policy described in
14 subsection (a).

15 (2) SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED CHANGES IN
16 PROVISIONS OF LAW AND REGULATION TO THE CON-
17 GRESS.—The President shall submit to the Congress
18 proposed changes, if any, in the provisions of law
19 and regulations described in paragraph (1) for the
20 purpose of implementing the policy described in sub-
21 section (a).

22 (3) CONSIDERATIONS.—In reviewing the provi-
23 sions of law and regulations under paragraph (1),
24 and submitting proposed changes in such provisions
25 of law and regulations under paragraph (2), the

1 President shall consider the extent to which actions
2 can be taken to—

3 (A) reduce unemployment and
4 underemployment in pre-industrial and indus-
5 trializing countries by increasing opportunities
6 for productive paid work and non-wage work
7 (such as self-employment, parenting, household
8 work, and volunteering) at higher and steadier
9 levels of real income without reducing general
10 levels of employment in the United States;

11 (B) promote higher levels of wages and
12 salaries in such countries as will provide larger
13 markets for their own industries and for ex-
14 ports of goods and services from the United
15 States;

16 (C) withdraw Federal incentives, guaran-
17 tees, and tax concessions from any United
18 States-based transnational corporation whose
19 operations in pre-industrial or industrializing
20 countries may directly undermine the standard
21 of living or deny to employees the rights of free
22 collective bargaining; and

23 (D) reduce trade barriers without reducing
24 general levels of employment in the United
25 States.

1 (c) CONTRIBUTIONS BY UNITED STATES TO CERTAIN
2 INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS CONTINGENT
3 UPON DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CER-
4 TAIN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.—Notwithstanding any
5 other provision of law, amounts appropriated for the pur-
6 pose of making contributions to the International Mone-
7 tary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction
8 and Development may be provided to such Fund or Bank
9 only if such Fund or Bank, as the case may be, has devel-
10 oped and implemented such policies and procedures that
11 will—

12 (1) raise the standard of living in countries re-
13 ceiving any financial assistance from such Fund or
14 Bank, as the case may be, rather than impose aus-
15 terity; and

16 (2) contribute to the economic viability, credit
17 worthiness, and the ability to import goods and serv-
18 ices into such countries from the United States.

19 (d) INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL CONFERENCES
20 TO REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT.—Not later than 90 days
21 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Presi-
22 dent—

23 (1) shall instruct the United States representa-
24 tive to the United Nations to propose to the United
25 Nations the prompt beginning of a series of inter-

1 national and regional conferences on alternative
2 methods of planning for the reduction of involuntary
3 unemployment; and

4 (2) shall, acting through the Secretary of
5 Labor, promote the convening in the United States
6 or elsewhere of international and regional con-
7 ferences on coping with unemployment and
8 underemployment and moving toward fuller employ-
9 ment in the world.

10 In carrying out paragraph (2), the Secretary of Labor
11 shall provide financial and technical assistance to orga-
12 nized labor and cooperative, community, non-profit and
13 voluntary organizations, with priority for widespread com-
14 munication on how best to control facility closings and
15 capital flight by large businesses and to facilitate
16 transnational labor organizations and collective bargain-
17 ing.

18 **SEC. 6. ESTABLISHMENT OF CONVERSION PLANNING**

19 **FUND.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—In the annual message of the
21 President to the Congress at the beginning of the first
22 session of the Congress after the date of the enactment
23 of this Act, the President shall include a specific proposal
24 for the establishment of a Conversion Planning Fund (in
25 this section referred to as the “Fund”) to be administered

1 by such Federal agencies as the President may recommend
2 and as shall be determined by law.

3 (b) DUTIES.—The Fund shall promote and activate
4 short- and long-term plans for coping with declines in ci-
5 vilian or military activities by developing specific policies,
6 programs, and projects (including feasibility studies, edu-
7 cation, training, and inducements for whatever increased
8 labor mobility may be necessary or desirable) for the ex-
9 pansion of economic activities in sectors where additional
10 or improved goods or services are needed.

11 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to amounts de-
13 scribed in paragraph (2), there are authorized to be
14 appropriated to carry out this section such sums as
15 may be necessary.

16 (2) AVAILABILITY OF DEFENSE FUNDS.—Of
17 the amounts appropriated pursuant to the authoriza-
18 tions of appropriations contained in each Act au-
19 thORIZING appropriations for a fiscal year for military
20 activities of the Department of Defense, the Sec-
21 retary of Defense shall transfer 1 percent of such
22 amounts to the Fund for the purpose of carrying out
23 this section.

24 **SEC. 7. IMPLEMENTATION.**

25 (a) IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall establish
2 an annual schedule for the purpose of implementing
3 this Act. Such schedule shall include recommenda-
4 tions for—

5 (A) a restructuring of Federal budget pri-
6 orities to provide for—

7 (i) reductions in wasteful or unneces-
8 sary military expenditures;

9 (ii) increased Federal revenues
10 through reducing or eliminating wasteful
11 tax expenditures and other loopholes in the
12 tax laws;

13 (iii) reducing the interest on the Fed-
14 eral debt by reductions in both Federal
15 deficits and real interest rates;

16 (iv) the appropriate use of public and
17 private pension funds to help attain the in-
18 vestment, output, and employment goals of
19 this Act; and

20 (v) the promotion or creation of pri-
21 vate and public development banks in
22 urban and agricultural areas of high job-
23 lessness and poverty; and

24 (B) the promotion of educational activities
25 within each State on locally-based over-all plan-

1 ning, with special attention to educational proc-
2 esses that promote and use the creative abilities
3 of small, medium, and large business enter-
4 prises, and by such other private sector entities
5 as labor unions, professional associations and
6 non-profit, voluntary and cooperative organiza-
7 tions, including neighborhood, tenant, home
8 owner and self-help associations and organiza-
9 tions of the unemployed.

10 (2) INCLUSION OF IMPLEMENTATION SCHED-
11 ULE IN PRESIDENTIAL ECONOMIC REPORT.—Section
12 3(a) of the Employment Act of 1946 (15 U.S.C.
13 1022(a)) is amended—

14 (A) in paragraph (3), by striking “; and”
15 and inserting a semicolon;

16 (B) in paragraph (4), by striking the pe-
17 riod at the end and inserting “; and” and

18 (C) by adding at the end the following new
19 paragraph:

20 “(5) beginning with fiscal year 1995, the an-
21 nual implementation schedule established under sec-
22 tion 7(a)(1) of the A Living Wage, Jobs For All
23 Act.”.

1 (b) OVERSIGHT BY JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE.—
2 Section 11(b) of the Employment Act of 1946 (15 U.S.C.
3 1024(b)) is amended—

4 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “; and” and
5 inserting a semicolon;

6 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at
7 the end and inserting “; and” and

8 (3) by adding at the end the following new
9 paragraph:

10 “(4) beginning with fiscal year 1995, to mon-
11 itor actions taken or proposed to be taken under the
12 A Living Wage, Jobs For All Act and report its con-
13 clusions thereon to the Congress and the American
14 people, with special attention to the extent to which
15 the Federal agencies have successfully carried out
16 the provisions of such Act.”.

17 (c) BUDGETS.—Notwithstanding any other provision
18 of law, all budgetary data for specific programs, whether
19 in budget messages and resolutions or in legislative au-
20 thorizations and appropriations, shall include or be accom-
21 panied by descriptive evaluations and quantitative esti-
22 mates (including monetary quantities) of the direct and
23 indirect impacts on—

1 (1) gross outlays and net outlays calculated in
2 terms of estimates on whatever consequences addi-
3 tional paid employment may have on—

4 (A) reducing outlays by reducing the num-
5 ber of people receiving unemployment com-
6 pensation, public assistance, and other transfer
7 payments (without necessarily including re-
8 duced outlays resulting from improvements in
9 public health and safety); and

10 (B) increasing tax receipts as a result of
11 more people earning income subject to social se-
12 curity and income taxes and more business en-
13 terprises earning the larger, more stable and
14 less subsidized total profits possible under con-
15 ditions of full employment; and

16 (2) benefits that may be conferred or costs im-
17 posed on various groups or persons in society.

18 (d) PRESIDENTIAL BUDGET MESSAGES.—All budget
19 messages from the President to the Congress shall be
20 based on policies and programs to reduce officially meas-
21 ured unemployment to the interim levels set forth in the
22 Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act of 1978 and
23 toward this end shall include—

24 (1) a total impact analysis on the direct and in-
25 direct consequences flowing from each over-all budg-

1 et for levels of employment, output and prices, and
2 on foreign trade, environmental quality, and the dis-
3 tribution of income and wealth;

4 (2) to facilitate State and local public works
5 and public services planning under section 4, esti-
6 mates of the direct and indirect flow of all Federal
7 outlays (including off-budget outlays) to each State
8 and each district of the House of Representatives,

9 (3) a tax expenditure budget as defined in the
10 Congressional Budget Act of 1974 but presented not
11 only in a separately published special analysis but
12 also—

13 (A) incorporated into the general revenue
14 provisions of the budget; and

15 (B) accompanied by estimates of the bene-
16 fits sought and thus far obtained by such
17 planned losses of tax revenue;

18 (4) a zero-based budgetary review of every pro-
19 gram involving more than \$100,000,000 in gross
20 outlays;

21 (5) such full distinctions between operating and
22 investment outlays as regularly appear in the budg-
23 ets of business organizations and local and State
24 governments;

1 (6) a wealth inventory providing information on
2 recent and prospective changes in the type and esti-
3 mated value of—

4 (A) assets owned by local and State gov-
5 ernments and the Federal government;

6 (B) personal wealth; and

7 (C) the country's net stock of both repro-
8 ducible and non-reproducible tangible wealth;
9 and

10 (7) the expression of any debt and deficit data
11 in constant as well as current dollars.

12 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

13 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
14 as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

○

HR 5218 IH—2