

# GOVERNMENT AP

## Chapter 19: Domestic Policy

### MERIDIAN NOTES

#### Vocabulary

1. Public Policy	A general plan of action adopted by the government to solve a social problem, counter a threat, or pursue an objective.	12. Entitlements	Benefits to which every eligible person has a legal right and that the government cannot deny.
2. Welfare State	A nation in which the government assumes responsibility for the welfare of its citizens, redistributing income to reduce social inequality.	13. Poverty Level	The minimum cash income that will provide for a family's basic needs; calculated as three times the cost of a market basket of food that provides for a minimally nutritious diet.
3. Social Welfare Programs	Government programs that provide the minimum living standards necessary for all citizens.	14. Feminization of Poverty	The term applied to the fact that a growing percentage of all poor Americans are women or dependents on women.
4. Great Depression	The longest and deepest setback the American economy has ever experienced. It began with the stock market crash on October 24, 1929, and did not end until the start of World War II.	15. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Act (TANIF)	A 1996 national act that abolished the longtime welfare policy, AFDC (Aid for Families with Dependent Children). TANIF gives the states much more control over welfare policy.
5. New Deal	The measures advocated by the Roosevelt Administration to alleviate the Depression.	16. Medicare	A health insurance program serving primarily persons sixty-five and older.
6. Great Society	President Lyndon Johnson's broad array of programs designed to redress political, social, and economic inequality.	17. Medicaid	A need-based comprehensive medical and hospitalization program
7. War on Poverty	A part of President Lyndon Johnson's Great Society program, intended to eradicate poverty within ten years.	18. State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)	A health insurance program designed to provide children in families with low incomes access to medical care.
8. Social Insurance	A government-backed guarantee against loss by individuals without regard to need.	19. Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA)	The federal government's primary law to assist the nation's elementary and secondary school. It emerged as part of President Lyndon Johnson's Great Society program.
9. Social Security	Social insurance that provides economic assistance to persons faced with unemployment, disability, or old age. It is financed by taxes on employers and employees.	20. No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB)	The latest reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.
10. Social Security Act	The law that provided for social security and is the basis of modern American social welfare.	21. Means-tested Benefits	Conditional benefits provided by government to individuals whose income falls below a designated threshold.
11. Public Assistance	Government aid to individuals who can demonstrate a need for that aid.	22. Non-means-tested Benefits	Benefits provided by government to all citizens, regardless of income; medicare and social security are examples.

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Roosevelt signs the Social Security Act August 14<sup>th</sup>, 1935