

# EBRI:NOTES

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The Institute keeps track of activities that may have an effect on its education and research activities. On a periodic basis, the Institute issues "EBRI Notes" as a means of making such information available to others.

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### FSUC Offers Information for Users of Federal Statistics

The Federal Statistics Users Conference, a nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C., offers members, including business firms, labor groups, colleges and universities, state and local governments, research organizations and trade associations, up-to-date information on Federal statistical programs and provides a forum for the exchange of ideas on how to improve the use of these statistics. FSUC publishes a monthly newsletter which aids in the location of hard-to-find statistical data. For further information, contact the FSUC at 1030 Fifteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005; (202) 393-3522.

### Senate Committee on Aging to Issue Report

The results of studies by the Senate Committee on Aging, chaired by Senator Lawton Chiles of Florida, will be available at the end of June, in a report entitled "Emerging Options for Work and Retirement Policy - An Analysis of Major Income and Employment Issues with an Agenda for Research Priorities." The report studies the aging population as a whole and discusses retirement, employment and income maintenance policies affecting older Americans.

The report and additional information will be available by contacting John A. Edie, Chief Counsel, Senate Special Committee on Aging, Room G-233, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.

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### NCHSR Issues Bibliography on Health Status, Medical Care Utilization and Outcome

The National Center for Health Services Research has issued a four-volume bibliography published under the Research Report Series, entitled Health Status, Medical Care Utilization and Outcome: An Annotated Bibliography of Empirical Studies. The bibliography is an attempt to bring together literature relevant to estimating the process associated with the decision to seek health care, treatment and its actual outcome. Data on health status, medical care utilization and outcome are interpreted through a systems model of the health care system, which follows the developments resulting from a patient's decision to seek health care. The bibliography was compiled by Linnea C. Freeburg, Carnegie-Mellon University. The outline based on the systems model of health care delivery was formulated by Judith R. Lave, Lester B. Lave, and Samuel Leinhardt, Carnegie-Mellon University. Copies may be obtained for a fee from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, VA 22161; (703) 557-4650. Further information may be obtained from NCHSR, Publications and Information Branch, Room 7-44, 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, MD 20782; (301) 436-8970.

### Industrial Union Department, AFL-CIO Releases Report on Benefit Fund Investment Policies

The IUD Executive Council's Committee on Benefit Fund Investment Policies has recently issued a report entitled "Pensions: A Study of Benefit Fund Investment Policies." The Committee's purpose behind the study was to examine ways in which pension and other benefit funds could be made to better serve the immediate and long-range investments of fund beneficiaries. The benefit plans maintained by ten companies and the holdings of 192 collectively bargained or public employee pension plans were surveyed and examined by the Committee. The report questions the overall management by employers of benefit funds covering union-member employees. It recommends that affiliate unions attain a voice in fund management and suggests a number of general guidelines for fund investment. Copies of the report may be obtained from Richard Prosten, Secretary-IUD Executive Council's Committee on Benefit Fund Investment Policies, Industrial Union Department, AFL-CIO, 815 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006; (202) 393-5581.

### Government Agencies Announce New Research Studies

1. Department of Labor Announces Interest in Economic Research Studies on Pension and Retirement Issues - The Pension and Welfare Benefit Program, U.S. Department of Labor announced its interest in sponsoring studies involving economic research on pension and retirement issues. The studies would involve ERISA and retirement issues in general. Up to six studies may be undertaken. For further information, contact Mr. Lynn Spurgeon, Room S-1516, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210; (202) 523-6445.
2. Health and Human Services Announces Interest in Studies on Retirement Policy - The Department of Health and Human Services (formerly Department of Health, Education and Welfare) announced May 28 its interest in sponsoring major retirement policy studies. The purpose behind these studies is to increase knowledge in the area of retirement policy, by exploring the effects of individual, employer

and government actions. Particularly, HHS seeks to focus on the development of simulation models of specific retirement aspects and the economics of income transfer programs for retirement. Questions concerning these studies should be directed to Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 457F, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, Washington, D.C. 20201.

3. CBO Announces Interest in the Development of Demographic Forecasting Models - The Congressional Budget Office has announced its intent to sponsor the development of demographic forecasting models. The purpose behind the development of these models is to provide useful retirement demographic information for the early part of the twenty-first century. Further information may be obtained by contacting Mr. Bill Hoagland, Congressional Budget Office, House Annex #2, Room 3341, Washington, D.C. 20515, (202) 225-1260.
4. President's Commission on Pension Policy Announces Development of Macroeconomic Model - PCPP has announced that ICF, Incorporated, Washington, D.C., is to develop for the Commission a long-term economic-demographic model of the U.S. pension system. The purpose of this model is to investigate the impact of retirement income systems on labor force participation and the impact of Social Security and private pensions on private savings behavior. For further information, contact the President's Commission on Pension Policy, 736 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.
5. PBGC Begins Development of Termination Forecasting Model - The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation has begun to assemble a special internal project staff that will be working to develop an effective modeling tool for simulating and predicting future plan terminations among both single and multi-employer pension plans. For further information, contact Mr. Emerson Beier, Assistant Executive Director, PBGC, 2020 K Street, N.W., Suite 7300, Washington, D.C. 20006.

#### Peter D. Hart Research Associates Survey Attitudes Toward Social Security

A study by Peter D. Hart Research Associates, entitled "Nationwide Study of Attitudes Toward Social Security" has just been released by the National Commission on Social Security. The report's aim was to study the public's attitude toward retirement, its knowledge and perception of the Social Security system and its knowledge of Social Security benefits and tax structure. It was found that a majority of those surveyed expect to receive Social Security in retirement, and expect it to be a primary source of retirement income. Consensus favors the system, and most would rather pay higher taxes (in the form of payroll taxes) than have their future retirement benefits reduced. On June 11, an ABC News-Harris survey was released which also confirmed these findings regarding attitudes toward Social Security payments and taxes. For further survey results, copies may be obtained from the National Commission on Social Security, 440 G Street, N.W., Room 126, Washington, D.C. 20218.

#### CATO Releases Study on Social Security

Social Security: The Inherent Contradiction, by Peter Ferrara, has been published by CATO Institute, San Francisco. The report examines the Social Security system. For copies, contact Mr. Peter Formaini, CATO Institute, 1700 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94111; (415) 433-4316.

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### AEI Releases Evaluation of Supplemental Security Income

The American Enterprise Institute has published a study for Public Policy Research entitled "Supplemental Security Income: The New Federal Program for the Aged, Blind, and Disabled." Prof. Paul L. Grimaldi, Seton Hall University, authored the work. He evaluates the first three years of the SSI program, 1974 through 1977. Copies may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Ilse Hinkle, AEI Publications, 1150 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036; (202) 862-5800.

### Fisher Institute Publishes Study on Health Care in Great Britain

"National Health Care in Great Britain: Lessons for the USA," is released by the Fisher Institute, Dallas. Author Dr. John Goodman of the University of Dallas, studies the economic effects of this socialized system on patients, doctors and hospitals in England. For further details, contact Mr. Bob Arnold, The Fisher Institute, 12810 Hillcrest Road, Dallas, TX 75230; (214) 233-1041.

### Institute for Contemporary Studies Release Study on Public Health Care

The Institute for Contemporary Studies, San Francisco, has issued a revised edition of a volume edited by Prof. Cotton Lindsey of Emory University entitled New Directions in Public Health Care: A Prescription for the 1980s. Additional information may be obtained from Mr. Larry Diamond, Public Policy Fellow, Institute for Contemporary Studies, 260 California Street, San Francisco, CA 94111; (415) 398-3010.

AT EBRI....

### Current Activities

EBRI is sponsoring its third Policy Forum on June 23, 1980 based on the recent publication Retirement Income Policy: Considerations for Effective Decision Making.

On July 16th, EBRI will sponsor its first Technical Workshop to explore to use of models as analytic tools in the retirement area.

### Publications

The Institute has also recently issued the following documents:

Modeling Analysis for Retirement Income Policy: Background and Overview, which discusses the role of models in retirement income policy analysis and provides a summary description of several models that have been or could be applied to various retirement income policy issues.

EBRI Review of Research:

- \* Demographics and Inflation: Cause for Concern Over Retirement Income Policy
- \* Retirement Income Systems: Coverage & Characteristics
- \* Providing Retirement Income Security: Social & Economic Considerations

Retirement Income Programs: Directions for Future Research

Draft Preliminary Analysis of Alternative Vesting Requirements