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questions, they will come up with the wrong answers.

The food stamp program is an improvement over the commodity food program, which it replaced, but it has fallen far short of eradicating hunger among the poor. Today, half the poor families in America do not benefit from food stamps.

Congress should be asking why that is true. Until every American can afford a nutritionally adequate diet, the country will pay dearly in a variety of ways: infant death and illness, adult malnutrition and susceptibility to disease, needless and untimely death among the elderly.

Instead, many in Congress ignore that question and ask what can be done to cut the cost of the program.

The food stamp program cannot be studied in a vacuum. Instead of asking why it costs so much, Congress would do well to ask why in the richest country in the world so many people need such a program. Part of the answer is obvious from the monthly unemployment statistics. People who want to work can't find jobs.

Yet while grumbling about undeserving people on food stamps, Congress fails to come up with a program to enable out-of-work Americans to find employment.

Capitol Hill is awash with complaints about graft in the food stamp program. There is some, to be sure. Chiselers should be prosecuted, and, increasingly, they are. But there are no statistics to indicate that food stamp recipients are less law-abiding than heads of giant corporations or members of Congress; in fact, a case could be made for the opposite.

The food stamp program badly needs reform. It needs to be simpler to administer. The purchase price should be eliminated. Doing away with that necessity for making a large, lump-sum payment would enable many more people to use food stamps. But that would increase the cost of the program, and Congress seems intent on cutting costs even if it means depriving poor people of help they need.

It makes us angry to hear of a senator's daughter receiving food stamps. But it also makes us angry to hear of a millionaire who paid no income taxes or a businessman who writes off lavish gifts, dinners and travel as business expenses. If low-income people have learned to take advantage of government regulations, they have not lacked high-income teachers.

Congress needs first to deal with these basic questions: Does this country want to insure that no family is denied an adequate diet? Will the country accomplish that goal by providing jobs for people who want to work and income subsidies for people who can't work?

So far, it appears that many—perhaps a majority—in Congress, cannot answer "yes" to those questions.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF SENATOR MONDALE**

Mr. MONDALE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a statement of Mrs. Mondale's and my estimated net worth as of December 31, 1975, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the financial statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

*Financial statement of Senator and Mrs. Walter F. Mondale, December 31, 1975*

<b>Assets:</b>	
Residence in Washington.....	\$73,000
Automobile .....	875
Cash in deposits.....	3,009
Household and personal goods..	6,000

Cash value of life insurance.....	7,958
Personal contribution to Federal Employees Retirement Fund....	32,469
<b>Total assets.....</b>	<b>123,311</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
Mortgage on residence in Washington .....	33,138
Miscellaneous personal bills.....	2,000
Bank loan .....	8,635
State and Federal income tax payable in 1976 with respect to 1975 .....	2,177
<b>Total liabilities.....</b>	<b>45,950</b>
<b>Estimated net worth:</b>	<b>77,361</b>

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF SENATOR TUNNEY**

Mr. TUNNEY. Mr. President, having last released a report on my income and holdings in November 1975, I am again doing so because of my firm conviction that an officeholder should report fully on the money he makes, the property he owns and debts he owes. My financial statement follows:

<b>FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF SENATOR JOHN V. TUNNEY</b>	
<b>INCOME (GROSS—1975)</b>	
Salary from U.S. Senate.....	\$43,025.00
Honoraria .....	11,000.00
Property rental.....	7,800.00
Royalty from book.....	6,750.00
Dividends .....	146.50
Interest .....	12.00
<b>STOCKS AND BONDS (1975)</b>	
865 shares of Washington Groups, Inc. <sup>1</sup>	
1,500 shares of Lord Simcoe Hotel, Ltd.	
<b>CAPITAL GAINS (1975)</b>	
\$8,980.00 from sale of Washington Group, Inc. stock.	
<b>CURRENT REAL ESTATE INTERESTS (1975)</b>	
<b>Residence:</b>	
<i>Property tax assessed market value</i>	
Northwest, Washington, D.C.	\$123,721.00
Los Angeles, Calif.....	71,200.00
<b>Residence:</b>	
<i>Property taxes</i>	
Northwest, Washington, D.C....	\$2,261.61
Los Angeles, Calif.....	2,419.24
Two mortgages at Riggs National Bank; Washington, D.C.	
<b>OTHER ASSETS (1975)</b>	
Ancient coin collection, 1972 Pontiac Lemans, Household furniture, Books.	
<b>TAXES PAID IN 1975</b>	
Federal: \$9,697.00.	
California: \$2,890.00.	
<b>LOANS (1975)<sup>2</sup></b>	
Security Pacific National Bank..	\$15,090.00
Riggs National Bank; Washington, D.C.....	5,500.00
Senate Employees Federal Credit Union; Washington, D.C.....	4,905.93
Blind Trust at White, Weld & Co., Inc.; c/o Mr. Thatcher M. Brown, Jr.; 55 Water Street; New York, New York dissolved April 15, 1975.	
<sup>2</sup> Amounts owed as of December 31, 1975.	

**LASER COMBATS DIABETES-CAUSED BLINDNESS**

Mr. McGEE. Mr. President, as Senators know, the Senate has on several occasions funded research programs into the various aspects of diabetes. The ultimate goal, of course, is to rid this country of the disease.

mate goal, of course, is to rid this country of the disease.

In previous comments, I have called for full support of diabetes research, noting as each is reported, the advances that are being made in detection and treatment as well as public awareness.

Not too long ago, we noted reports that special blood tests might show a person's potential or vulnerability to diabetes. This is just one step toward the goal of prevention which the National Diabetes Association and I have predicted will be realized with time.

Until that time, however, the effects of diabetes and its related diseases, have to be dealt with and overcome. One of those effects is blindness, and in that regard, I am happy to inform my colleagues of another medical advance as reported in the Washington Star on April 1.

I ask unanimous consent that an article by Robert Pear, "Laser Combats Diabetes-Caused Blindness," be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

**LASER COMBATS DIABETES-CAUSED BLINDNESS (By Robert Pear)**

New evidence from a nationwide study shows that treatment with lasers and other powerful beams of light can substantially reduce the risk of blindness for some people with severe eye disease caused by diabetes, government doctors said today.

The finding, announced by Dr. Carl Kupfer, director of the National Eye Institute, one of the National Institutes of Health, has potential importance for more than 300,000 Americans whose sight is threatened by a disease known as diabetic retinopathy, a leading cause of blindness in the United States.

Diabetic retinopathy is a disorder of the blood vessels of the retina, the light-sensitive tissue at the back of the eye which transmits visual impulses to the brain.

The longer a diabetic patient lives, the more likely he or she is to develop the disorder, which Kupfer called the leading cause of new adult blindness in the United States.

To reduce the risk of blindness, scientists for the last two years have been testing a technique called photocoagulation. In this therapy, an intense beam of light—the argon laser or xenon arc light—is directed into the eye and focused on a small spot on the retina in an effort to destroy or weld together proliferating new blood vessels.

At a news conference today, Kupfer said there is now "conclusive evidence that this treatment is beneficial for certain patients with this eye disease in that it reduces the risk of blindness."

Clinical tests of the new technique, the most extensive such trials in the history of eye research, have been conducted on more than 1,720 patients at 16 medical centers.

Doctors reported that after two years of followup, the great majority of eyes in the study, whether treated or untreated, did not go blind. But the percentage which did go blind was significantly greater among untreated eyes (16 percent) than among treated eyes (6 percent).

In the more severe form of diabetic retinopathy, new blood vessels sprout from the existing ones, erupt through the surface of the retina and grow between the retina and the clear, jelly-like substance that fills the center of the eye, threatening vision.

Diabetes has become the nation's third-ranking cause of death and is increasing rapidly, a national commission reported to