

Thurber's Thoughts

I've started this blog to share thoughts on issues and concerns that face all of us. Thanks for stopping by!

SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

Quotes of the Day - it pays to be on welfare

Note the dates of the quotes and extrapolate to today, when we have record numbers of people participating in government welfare programs:

"The fundamental fact in the lives of the poor in most parts of America is that the wages of common labor are far below the benefits of AFDC, Medicaid, food stamps, public housing, public defenders, leisure time and all the other goods and services of the welfare state." ~ George Gilder, *Wealth And Poverty*, 1981

"A study by Michael Tanner, Stephen Moore, and David Hartman of the Cato Institute has revealed that in 40 states, it pays more for one to be on welfare than to accept a job at \$8.00 per hour; in 17 states, welfare pays more than work at \$10.00 per hour; and in six states plus the District of Columbia, welfare totals more than working for \$12.00 hourly. The study also showed that in 29 states, welfare benefits are worth more than the average secretary's pay; in nine states, such benefits are equal to more than the average starting salary for a teacher; and in six states, welfare pays more than an entry-level position for a computer programmer. When the entire package is computed, welfare amounts to the (pretax) equivalent of a \$30,500 wage in Massachusetts, \$32,200 in Alaska, and \$36,400 in Hawaii." ~ William P. Hoar, *The Right Answers*, *The New American*, P. 42, June 10, 1996