The aim in this edition has been, once again, to provide an up-to-date text on Welfare Benefits Law: an effective account of the key principles, with practical insights and commentary on the practice of the subject. The context in which social welfare issues arise, is also important. For that reason there has been some further extension, in this edition, into Community Care Law territory - for example in giving an outline account of the support given, through services as well as financial benefits, to children with disabilities and special needs, their parents, and carers. As well as current and recent benefits, this updated edition covers developments in: ECHR and Human Rights, Overpayments, Child Support and benefits, Housing benefits, Civil partnerships, State pension.

The role of welfare benefits. A clearer book on a difficult topic does not exist, whether the reader is a claimant, a welfare adviser or a professional. This book provides an up-to-date text on welfare benefits law in the UK. It is an effective account of the key principles, with practical insights and commentary on the subject. The context in which UK social welfare issues arise is also important. For that reason, there has been further extension in this edition into the territory of community care law, such as giving an outline account of the support given, through services as well as financial benefits, to children with disabilities and special needs, to their parents, and to carers. As well as current and recent benefits, this updated edition covers developments in: the ECHR and human rights, overpayments, child support and benefits, housing benefits, civil partnerships, state
There is much debate on whether financial incentives and disincentives in the welfare system affect union formation and childbearing. This report examines the evidence, focusing on studies from the last decade from English speaking countries which look at such measures as welfare benefits, tax credits, and employment programmes, and their impact on single parenthood, marriage, cohabitation, divorce, and childbearing rates. These include studies on the introduction of the Working Families Tax Credit in Great Britain; the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) in the United States; as well as some studies from Australia, including the Family Tax Benefit. The report concludes with the implications for welfare policy in Great Britain, and the methodological problems of researching welfare systems and family structure.

How does political party control determine changes to social policy, and by extension, influence inequality in America? Conventional theories show that Democratic control of the federal government produces more social expenditures and less inequality. Welfare for the Wealthy re-examines this relationship by evaluating how political party power results in changes to both public social spending and subsidies for private welfare - and how a trade-off between the two, in turn, affects income inequality. Christopher Faricy finds that both Democrats and Republicans have increased social spending over the last forty-two years. And while both political parties increase federal social spending, Democrats and Republicans differ in how they spend federal money, which socioeconomic groups benefit, and the resulting consequences for income inequality. Over the last two decades new arrangements have emerged for the finance and delivery of social welfare in the United States and other industrial democracies. Moving beyond the conventional paradigm of the welfare state, these arrangements form an alternative model. This study details a fresh vision of social welfare transfers--how they are delivered, and whom they benefit. The authors explore the use of private enterprise and market-oriented approaches to the delivery of social provisions, and examine how welfare benefits are derived from the full range of modern social transfers including tax expenditures, credit subsidies, and those induced by regulatory activity. Reappraising the modern boundaries of social welfare, this book provides insights into the structure and dynamics of a novel social model that will open new avenues for scientific study and public debate.

Sixteenth edition. This comprehensive practical guide to welfare benefits in the UK, including tax credits, is updated annually and cross-referenced to law and regulations. This edition includes advance information on the new universal credit and personal independence payment. The book is fully indexed and cross-referenced throughout to the relevant legislation. It covers England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Enabling power: Welfare Benefits Up-rating Act 2013, ss. 1 (1) (2) (3) (5) (7), 2 (1) (2) (3) (4) & Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992, s. 132 (1). Issued: 28.02.2014. Made: 24.02.2014. Laid: -. Coming into force: 07.04.2014 for art. 2; 06.04.2014 for arts 3, 4. Effect: S.I. 2002/2005, 2007; 2006/965 amended. Territorial extent & classification: E/W/S/NI. General Despite costing hundreds of billions of dollars and subsidizing everything from homeownership and child care to health insurance, tax expenditures (commonly known as tax loopholes) have received little attention from those who study American government. This oversight has contributed to an incomplete and misleading portrait of U.S. social policy. Here Christopher Howard analyzes the "hidden" welfare state created by such programs as tax deductions for home mortgage interest and employer-provided retirement pensions, the Earned Income...
Tax Credit, and the Targeted Jobs Tax Credit. Basing his work on the histories of these four tax expenditures, Howard highlights the distinctive characteristics of all such policies. Tax expenditures are created more routinely and quietly than traditional social programs, for instance, and over time generate unusual coalitions of support. They expand and contract without deliberate changes to individual programs. Howard helps the reader to appreciate the historic links between the hidden welfare state and U.S. tax policy, which accentuate the importance of Congress and political parties. He also focuses on the reasons why individuals, businesses, and public officials support tax expenditures. The Hidden Welfare State will appeal to anyone interested in the origins, development, and structure of the American welfare state. Students of public finance will gain new insights into the politics of taxation. And as policymakers increasingly promote tax expenditures to address social problems, the book offers some sobering lessons about how such programs work.

In 1970, a single mother with two children working full-time at the federal minimum wage in the US received no direct cash benefits from the federal government. Today, after a period of austerity, that same mother would receive $7,572 in federal cash benefits. This money does not come from social assistance, family allowances, or other programs we traditionally see as part of the welfare state. Instead, she benefits from the earned income tax credit (EITC) and the child tax credit (CTC)—tax credits for low-income families that have become a major component of American social policy. In The Fiscalization of Social Policy, Joshua McCabe challenges conventional wisdom on American exceptionalism, offering the first and only comparative analysis of the politics of tax credits. Drawing comparisons between similar developments in the UK and Canada, McCabe upends much of what we know about tax credits for low-income families. Rather than attributing these changes to anti-welfare attitudes, mobilization of conservative forces, shifts toward workfare, or racial antagonism, he argues that the growing use of tax credits for social policy was a strategic adaptation to austerity. While all three countries employ the same set of tax credits, child US poverty rates remain highest, as their tax credits paradoxically exclude the poorest families. A critical examination of social policy over the last fifty years, The Fiscalization of Social Policy shows why the US government hasn't tackled poverty, even while it implements greater tax benefits for the poor.

This annual handbook provides comprehensive coverage of all social security benefits and the tax credits scheme. It is fully indexed and cross-referenced throughout to the relevant legislation. Analyzes the effectiveness of the earned income tax credit in the United States and offers suggestions for how it can be improved. During 1984-96, welfare and tax policy changed dramatically. The Earned Income Tax Credit was expanded, welfare benefits were cut, welfare time limits were added and cases were terminated, Medicaid for the working poor was expanded, training programs were redirected, and subsidized or free child care was expanded. Many of the program changes were intended to encourage low income women to work. During this same time period there were unprecedented increases in the employment and hours of single mothers, particularly those with young children. In this paper, we first document these large changes in policies and employment. We then examine if the policy changes are the reason for the large increases in single mothers' labor supply. We find evidence that a large share of the increase in work by single mothers can be attributed to the EITC, with smaller shares for welfare benefit reductions, welfare waivers, changes in training programs, and child care expansions. We also find that most of these policies increased hours worked. Our results indicate that financial incentives through the tax and welfare systems have substantial effects.
on single mothers' labor supply decisions. Efforts to promote work have been the centerpiece of welfare reform over the past ten years. In signing the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, President Bill Clinton pledged that the sweeping overhaul would "end welfare as we know it" by promoting work, responsibility, and family. To accomplish these goals, policymakers relied on two sets of tools: strict limits on eligibility for traditional benefits and a set of programs designed to make work pay. When Work Is Not Enough presents the first comprehensive analysis of the work support system. Drawing on both state and national data, Robert Stoker and Laura Wilson evaluate a broad range of policies that provide cash or in-kind benefits to low-wage workers, low-income working families, and families moving from welfare to work. These programs include minimum wage rates, Earned Income Tax Credit programs, medical assistance programs, food programs, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families earned income disregards, childcare grants, and rental assistance. Stoker and Wilson break new ground by examining the adequacy and coverage of the work support system in all fifty states and the District of Columbia. They address the prospects for reforming the system, as well as its impact on the politics of redistribution in the United States. Rich in analysis, When Work Is Not Enough will be essential reading for anyone interested in the impact and future of welfare reform.In this paper we provide an overview of the literature relating labour supply to taxes and welfare benefits with a focus on presenting the empirical consensus. We begin with a basic continuous hours model, where individuals have completely free choice over their hours of work. We then consider fixed costs of work, the complications introduced by the benefits system, dynamic aspects of labour supply and we place the analysis in the context of the family. The key conclusion of this work is that in order to estimate the impact of tax reform and be able to generalise results, a structural approach that takes account of many of these issues is desirable. We then discuss the "new Tax Responsiveness" literature which uses the response of taxable income to the marginal tax rate as a summary statistic of the behavioural response to taxation. Underlying this approach is the unsatisfactory nature of using hours as a proxy for labour effort for those with high levels of autonomy on the job and who already work long hours, such as the self employed or senior executives. After discussing relevant theory we then provide a summary of empirical estimates and the methodology underlying the studies. Our conclusion is that hours of work are relatively inelastic for men, but are a little more responsive for married women and lone mothers. On the other hand, participation is quite sensitive to taxation and benefits for women. Within this paper we present new estimates form a discrete participation model for both married and single men based on the numerous reforms over the past two decades in the UK. We find that the participation of low education men is somewhat more responsive to incentives than previously thought. For men with high levels of education, participation is virtually unresponsive; here the literature on taxable income suggests that there may be significant welfare costs of taxation, although much of this seems to be a result of shifting income and consumption to non-taxable forms as opposed to actual reductions in work effort. -- Labour Supply ; Income taxation ; Welfare Benefits ; Tax Credits ; Incentive EffectsWritten for student claimants and their advisers, this is a comprehensive guide to: student support for further and higher education; how student income is treated for social security benefit, health benefit and tax credit purposes; entitlement to means-tested benefits and support for both full-time and part-time students; claiming tax credits while studying; financial support when taking time out from studying; welfare benefits and tax credits relevant to students; council
This study analyzes the performance of social assistance and family benefit programs in eight new member states of the European Union from the perspective of fiscal impact and effectiveness. It is based on household survey data for six of the countries, as well as budget data and information on program design collected at the national level. The paper finds that, although social assistance programs in the new member states are small in terms of coverage and expenditure levels (reaching 2 to 5 percent of the population), the programs are an important safety net for the poor. Programs are relatively well targeted, with between 30 and 60 percent of resources going to the poorest quintile of the population. For those who receive them, benefits can make up as much as 37 percent of average consumption of the poor. "This book chronicles the impact of the sweeping transformation of the social safety net that occurred in the mid-1990s. With the dramatic expansion of tax credits--a combination of the Earned Income Tax Credit and other refunds--the economic fortunes of the working poor have been bolstered as never before. 'It's Not Like I'm Poor' looks at how working families plan to use their annual windfall to build up savings, go back to school, and send their kids to college. But dreams of economic mobility are often dashed by the reality of making monthly ends meet on meager wages."--Provided by publisher.

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