

# Welfare Fraud: How To Attack It

## Patterson Wants Credit Policies

By EMORY DANIELS

With welfare costs spiraling upwards in recent years, pledges of reform have been made by such high sources as President Nixon, the U.S. Congress and the Oakland County prosecutor.

The latter, Republican L. Brooks Patterson, organized a research team last June from staff members and turned them loose for four months.

The result was a 130-page report entitled "A Prosecutor's Program to Attack Welfare Fraud." The report is basically a look at the welfare system through the eyes of a prosecutor.

It is also, however, a compilation of recommendations for legislative and procedural changes. The format is an index of how fraud is perpetrated, faults in the present system which encourage fraud, and corrective action.

One underlying philosophy of the recommendations is that welfare payments are a form of credit and should be dispensed under a system of normal credit policy controls.

Certain persons who receive public assistance would be required to pay back that money once they obtain a source of income. For these individuals, welfare payments are to be made in the form of a loan.

All welfare recipients would be subject to a "credit check" by agreeing to release of confidential information on assets, income, and other financial resources.

An unspoken assumption is that those who never become self-supporting will be written off as "bad debts," with the Dept. of Social Services attempting to determine how many "creditors" will be unable to "pay back" the federal, state or county government.

THROUGHOUT THE REPORT are the philosophies of a prosecutor, a conservative Republican, and a businessman as well as the credit manager.

Readers are apt to find some of the recommendations common sense approaches, some as a stroke of genius, others as cliché ridden, and still others as downright dangerous and undermeritoric.

Although the report may have been a political ploy to advance Patterson's career, rising welfare costs dictate that serious attention be given some recommendations.

The 50 - some recommendations can be summarized into groupings involving identification, verification, cost reduction, decrease of recipients, and aids to prosecution.

An initial step Patterson favors is to require photographic identification cards before clients may receive or cash checks and food stamps. Identification would be aided by requiring social security numbers on applications, birth certificates and marriage licenses. Some welfare recipients would be required to submit to fingerprinting.

L. Brooks Patterson, prosecuting attorney for Oakland County, has chided critics of his welfare reform study for distortion and dishonest criticism of its contents without having read it.

I have read the report and would like to offer some of the honest criticism he says he welcomes.

The thrust of the study is that the welfare system affords recipients many opportunities to cheat or be greedy, and any such opportunities must be eliminated.

No honest citizen can question this intent. Fraud, greed, favoritism and lying are issues that have brought this country to the point of crisis recently. At all levels they should be eliminated.

Patterson's good intent of stopping welfare fraud and mismanagement, however, has gone awry in this study. It is full of inaccuracies, generalizations, misrepresentations, and bewildering recommendations.

It is simply a poor job that would greatly increase costs of operating the welfare system, be of little discernible value in reducing fraud, and create a further mountain of bureaucracy in a system already choking with red tape. Worst of all, it would cause great hardship and indignity to the needy poor he says he aims to help.

"Their lives would be a continuous round of: checkups and degrading and time-consuming tasks with every bit of information they give considered suspect until proven otherwise."

FOR EXAMPLE, to eliminate possible theft or fraud, recipients would be compelled to pick up their checks at Social Services offices rather than receiving them through the mail.

"The possibility of buying food stamps by mail would be eliminated, even for the very few who now can do so, although the study mistakenly implies this is standard procedure."

Whether old, crippled, or a mother with small children (all poor), recipients in Farmington, Novi or even more distant Oakland County locations must now travel 50 to 60 miles or more to and from Pontiac if they wish to buy food stamps - and con-



BROOKS PATTERSON

L. BROOKS PATTERSON  
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



COUNTY OF OAKLAND

ANOTHER SERIES of recommendations takes the approach that aid to certain recipients should be considered as a "loan" with payment due the state at a future date.

This, in effect, shifts the burden of support from the government to an individual. Those in the loan category include students, aliens, wayward husbands, and senior citizens.

Before a student would receive any public assistance, for example, he would sign a contract (promissory note) agreeing to pay back aid received after graduation or departure from school.

In case of marriage separation, the husband would be obligated to pay back upon reconciliation any welfare his wife receives during his absence.

A person sponsoring an alien into this country, under Patterson's recommendation, would have to sign a contract obligating the sponsor to pay for any welfare payments received by the alien. If the alien receives welfare during two of his first five years here, he would be deported.

Another suggestion is that Old-Age Assistance be withheld from those senior citizens with children capable of supporting them, unless the recipient agrees to a lien being placed on real property.

The lien would be used by government to recover the sum, or at least half, of the amount paid out in Old Age Assistance.

The theory behind the lien mechanism is that children who fail to support their elderly, dependent parents should not benefit from an inheritance until the state is reimbursed.

Patterson would reduce the welfare roles by requiring stepfathers to support stepchildren, insisting that parents support dependent children away from home, and vice versa, and insisting that a woman be supported by a man living in her home who isn't a legal spouse.

IN THE CASE of aid for illegitimate children, Patterson recommends that identification of the "unnamed" father be mandatory before assistance is paid.

Also, a sliding scale of benefits would be utilized when there are second or third illegitimate children. Thus, the second illegitimate child would receive less public assistance than his older sibling.

The amount of welfare expenses would also be reduced by passage of state law making employees on strike ineligible for any form of public assistance, including food stamps.

Those who quit jobs to qualify for welfare would be declared ineligible, and "employable" persons must submit to job training programs and be willing to accept employment to maintain eligibility.

Another key message in the Patterson report is to avoid buckpassing from one governmental unit to another, and to limit federal involvement in welfare. The unit which allocates funds has greatest incentive to exercise controls, he argues, and this is best practiced at the county level.

THE REPORT SUGGESTS a number of procedural changes to tighten the book-keeping apparatus, such as mandatory home visits, verification of a spouse's resources, a status change form, and a state-appointed doctor to examine persons applying for aid to the incapacitated.

The task force also suggests changes in the application forms, such as a provision outlining penalties for perjury which would aid in prosecution of fraud after the fact. Another prosecution aid would be to require caseworkers to keep narrative reports on all contacts with clients.

Patterson strongly recommends elimination of the presumptive eligibility and simplified methods and require compulsory verification of fact. Under the current system, an applicant's word is taken at face value, and investigators, if made, is conducted after payments begin.

Patterson suggests applicants be required to sign a disclosure form to give the

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

IN THE CASE of aid for illegitimate children, Patterson recommends that identification of the "unnamed" father be mandatory before assistance is paid.

Also, a sliding scale of benefits would be utilized when there are second or third illegitimate children. Thus, the second illegitimate child would receive less public assistance than his older sibling.

The amount of welfare expenses would also be reduced by passage of state law making employees on strike ineligible for any form of public assistance, including food stamps.

Those who quit jobs to qualify for welfare would be declared ineligible, and "employable" persons must submit to job training programs and be willing to accept employment to maintain eligibility.

Another key message in the Patterson report is to avoid buckpassing from one governmental unit to another, and to limit federal involvement in welfare. The unit which allocates funds has greatest incentive to exercise controls, he argues, and this is best practiced at the county level.

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes by calling for a state task force to investigate welfare fraud, a special grand jury to indict welfare cheaters in Wayne County, and a statewide moratorium to allow cheaters to confess (without penalty) and pay back money unlawfully received.

Patterson declared such a moratorium in Oakland County in February 1973. The result was that 43 persons turned themselves in and promised restitution of about \$70,000 in funds fraudulently received.

In a final plea to take steps to stop fraud, Patterson says: "Failure to do otherwise will bankrupt the nation and create a helpless corps of dependents who will lack forever the ability to attain self-support."

investigation should never be informed a query is in process, and believes visits by caseworkers for verification should be unannounced.

He also suggests that cash rewards be given for information leading to the prosecution of someone for fraud.

Patterson concludes