



For Immediate Release

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Low-Income Working Families A Priority This Legislative Session 26 States Target Low-Income Families

11/28/2007 – Boston, MA (The Sloan Work and Family Research Network) — the leading web destination for free, credible, and current information on work-family issues — has just released, “State Policy Makers: Supporting Low-Income Working Families”. The brief highlights the legislative activity in states that have introduced bills targeting low-income working families. It also summarizes research on challenges faced by low-income working families and how providing specific resources benefits businesses and states. Over a quarter of US working families are low-income families.

During the past year, 26 states have introduced bills that support the 9.2 million low-income working families across the nation. While all working families strive to balance work and family commitments, low-income families face additional challenges. Often without health care coverage, adequate housing, job benefits, job training, a living wage, or child care, low-income families regularly face economic hardships and difficulty meeting the basic needs of their family.

States have proposed legislation for low-income working families, including bills that:

- Support access to health care coverage
- Investigate the impact of economic development subsidies
- Establish fair wages or protections
- Encourage or support the use of the Earned Income Tax Credit
- Provide services or asset building opportunities

“State Policy Makers: Supporting Low-Income Working Families,” can be viewed at: http://wfnetwork.bc.edu/pdfs/policy_makers12.pdf. For more information on low-wage workers, visit the Sloan Work and Family Research Network website -- a “one stop shop” for state policy resources with a bills and statutes database, policy briefs, statistics, and additional state policy resources at: <http://wfnetwork.bc.edu/policy.php>.

About the Sloan Work and Family Research Network

Founded in 1997, the [Sloan Work and Family Research Network](http://www.wfnetwork.bc.edu) ([wfnetwork.bc.edu](http://www.wfnetwork.bc.edu)) is the premier online destination for work and family information. The Sloan Network offers multi-disciplinary, credible teaching resources, evidence-based information on workforce issues, and unbiased policy data about work and family topics for academics, workplace practitioners, and state public policy makers. In addition to disabilities, the Sloan Network provides information on various work-family issues, including child and afterschool care, multi-generational workforce, flexible work arrangements, low-wage workers, family leave, breastfeeding, domestic violence, military families, and overwork.

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