

## Study Aid:

# Great Society Legislation

1964

### **24th Amendment**

Banned poll taxes in federal elections.

1964

### **Civil Rights Act of 1964**

Banned discrimination and segregation in schools, the workplace, and public accommodations based on race, color, sex, religion, and national origin.

1964

### **Urban Mass Transportation Act**

Provided financial aid for urban mass transit systems.

1964

### **Economic Opportunity Act**

Authorized Head Start, Job Corps, Work-Study programs, Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA), Neighborhood Youth Corps, and Community Action Programs (CAPS).

1964

### **Food Stamp Act**

Strengthened the agricultural economy and provided an improved level of nutrition to low income families.

1965

### **Higher Education Act**

Provided federal scholarships, low-interest loans, and financial aid.

1965

### **Immigration and Nationality Act**

Abolished the National Origins Formula that gave preferential status to immigrants from Northern Europe. Allowed equal immigration status, yet continued to restrict the number of immigrants per year.

1965

### **Voting Rights Act**

Enacted to guarantee enforcement of the 14th and 15th Amendments by eliminating voter literacy tests and discriminatory practices that kept minority populations from voting.

1965

### **Social Security Acts**

Established Medicare, a health insurance plan for people 65 and older, and Medicaid, a health insurance plan for the poor.

1964

### **Wilderness Preservation Act**

Banned commercial use in over nine million acres of national forest.

1965

### **Elementary and Secondary Education Act**

Provided equal access, high standards, and accountability for primary and secondary education.

1965

### **Department of Housing and Urban Development Act**

Administered federal housing programs, commonly referred to as "HUD."

1966

### **Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act**

Enacted the "Model Cities" program to rehabilitate urban areas facing increased violence and poverty through the funding of improvement projects.

1966

### **Truth in Packaging Act**

Set standards for labeling consumer products.

## Sources

Andy East, "The Enduring Legacy of President Lyndon Baines Johnson," 2015, The Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library.

The Washington Post, "Evaluating the success of the Great Society," 2014. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/special/national/great-society-at-50/>