

CHAPTER

4

Section 2

The National Government and the 50 States

The 1996 Welfare Reform Act resulted in 50 separate State welfare systems. Primary responsibility for welfare shifted from the Federal Government to individual States. Study the cartoon below and answer the questions that follow.



Gary Brookings/Richmond Times-Dispatch

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Interpreting Political Cartoons

1. Who does each person in the cartoon represent?
2. Why do you think the house on the truck looks old and battered?
3. What is the attitude of the driver toward the delivery of the house? What is the attitude of the man with the briefcase?
4. **Drawing Conclusions** What do you think are some of the advantages and disadvantages of welfare programs that are controlled by each individual State?