

Economic Stimulus & Stabilization

- **National Industrial Recovery Act (1933)**- Created National Recovery Administration (NRA). Legalized industry collaboration for price controls and collective bargaining for labor.
- **Agricultural Adjustment Act (1933, Reauthorized 1938)**- Created Agricultural Adjustment Administration (AAA). Introduced measures to reduce crop supply, stabilize prices and support farm incomes.
- **Indian Reorganization Act (1934)**- Land returned or added to tribal holdings, development of tribal businesses promoted, a system of credit established, a return to self-governance.
- **Virgin Islands Company (1934)**- Rehabilitated the sugar and rum industries of the Virgin Islands; reduced unemployment; provided various farm services and loan programs; coordinated with a homesteading program.
- **Legislation for American Indians in Oklahoma and Native Alaskans (1936)**- Extended provisions of the Indian Reorganization Act to these areas.
- **U.S. Travel Bureau (1937)**- Helped increase recreational travel & tourism within the United States.

Bank Stabilization & Financial Reform

- **Emergency Banking Relief Act (1933)**- Gave the president emergency powers over the US banking system, under which he called a 'bank holiday' to allow evaluation of all banks and closure of insolvent ones.
- **Glass-Steagall Banking Act (1933)**- Created Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to insure personal bank accounts. Separated commercial from investment banking – The 'Firewall.'
- **Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) (1933)**- Insured bank deposits against bank failure, up to a certain level.
- **Securities Act (1933) & Securities Exchange Act (1934)**- Created Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Allowed federal regulation of stock trading in public corporations.
- **Gold Reserve Act (1934)**- Called in all private gold and created a government hoard (Fort Knox).
- **Frazier-Lemke Farm Bankruptcy Act (1934)**- Protected farms from creditor repossession.
- **Banking Act (1935)**- Restructured and centralized the Federal Reserve Bank.
- **Public Utility Holding Company Act (1935)**- Protected consumers from certain rate increases, and also from high-risk speculation activities.

Relief & Welfare

- **Federal Emergency Relief Act (1933)**- Created the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA). Gave financial aid to states to support local relief programs for the destitute.
- **Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation (FSCC) (1933)** – Distributed surplus food and commodities to those in need.
- **Social Security Act (1935)**- Created a national system of pensions, unemployment insurance and aid to mothers with children, and created Social Security Administration (SSA) to administer it.
- **New Public Works Programs**
- **Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) (1933)**- Created under Emergency Conservation Act. Put unemployed, unskilled young men to work on rural and park improvements.
- **Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) (1933)**- Created under the Tennessee Valley Authority Act. Planned river basin development based on dams and hydroelectricity.
- **Public Works Administration (PWA) (1933)**- Created under the National Industrial Recovery Act. Paid private contractors to build large-scale projects proposed by states.
- **Civil Works Administration (CWA) (1933)**- Created by Executive Order as temporary work relief under FERA. Hired unemployed directly to work on local projects; became model for WPA.
- **Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) (1933)**- Created under the Federal Emergency Relief Act to award grants to states for works programs to hire the unemployed and provide direct relief payments to the indigent.
- **Works Progress Administration (WPA) (1935)** – *renamed Work Projects Administration (1939)* Created by Executive Order to fund state and local public works projects. Hired the unemployed directly and became the largest of all public works programs.

- **National Youth Administration (NYA) (1935)**- Created by Executive Order as a subdivision of the WPA. Hired young men and women, both in and out of school, for works programs.
- **Rural Electrification Administration (REA) (1935)**- Created by Executive Order to bring electricity to isolated rural areas. Made permanent by Rural Electrification Act (1936).
- **Soil Conservation Service (SCS) (1935)**- Created by Soil Conservation Act (1935) to continue work of Soil Erosion Service (SES) created under Emergency Conservation Act (1933).
- **Puerto Rico Reconstruction Administration (PRRA) (1935)**- Large-scale public works program, hired thousands of unemployed men & women, long-lasting improvements to infrastructure, education, health, agricultural land, etc.

Expansion of Existing Public Works Programs

- **Bureau of Public Roads (BPR) (1918)** – *renamed Public Roads Administration (1939)* Built roads in national parks & forests, assisted states with road construction, helped beautify highways, and conducted various transportation studies.
- **U.S. Post Office Department (1792)**- Worked with the U.S. Treasury, and later the Public Buildings Administration (PBA), to create new post office buildings and artworks in post offices.
- **Bureau of Reclamation (1902)**- Built dams and irrigation projects in the western states and major river basin projects on the Columbia, Colorado & Sacramento River systems.
- **Army Corps of Engineers (1802)**- Built levees, dams and canals across the country, built the Missouri river basin project and made levee improvements along the Mississippi, Ohio and Sacramento Rivers.
- **U.S. Armed Forces and National Defense Industries**- Improvements to military bases, funding for Naval & Coast Guard vessels, jobs for defense industry workers & tradesmen, energy for airplane production, job training for young unemployed men & women, discipline & leadership skills in the CCC.
- **Arts & Culture Programs**
- **Public Works of Art Project (PWAP) (1933)**- Paid for by the CWA and operated by the U.S. Treasury.
- **Art & Culture Projects of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) (1934)**- Plays, concerts, and artwork.
- **Treasury Section of Fine Arts (TSFA) (1934)**– Oversaw artworks created to enhance public buildings, notably post offices.
- **Treasury Relief Art Project (TRAP) (1935)**- The smallest of the programs to hire unemployed artists to create public artworks.
- **Federal Project Number One (Federal One) (1935)**- Created by the WPA to employ artists, writers, historians and other professionals.

Reorganization of Public Works Programs

- **U.S. Treasury, Public Buildings Branch (PBB) (1933)** – Part of new Procurement Division created to consolidate federal building activities. Managed the construction and repair of most federal buildings. Managed Treasury Section of Painting & Sculpture and Treasury Relief Art Project.
- **Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) (1937)**- Created by Bonneville Power Act. Managed electric power grid and sales from the Columbia River project.
- **Public Buildings Administration (PBA) (1939)**- Created under the Reorganization Act of 1939 to manage all federal (non-military) buildings, taking over the work of the U.S. Treasury Procurement Division.
- **Federal Works Agency (FWA) (1939)**- Created under the Reorganization Act of 1939 as an umbrella agency to administer existing public works programs, including the PWA, WPA, USHA, PRA (BPR), and PBA.
- **Federal Security Agency (FSA) (1939)**- Created under the Reorganization Act of 1939 to manage a number of federal agencies & offices, including the the CCC, the NYA, and the Social Security Board.
- **Rural & Farm Assistance**
- **Agricultural Adjustment Act (1933, 1938)**- Created Agricultural Adjustment Administration (AAA) for price stabilization and income support through government purchases, marketing boards, and land retirement.
- **Farm Credit Act (1933)**- Created Farm Credit Administration (FCA). Oversight of all farm credit programs & refinancing of farm mortgages.
- **Frazier-Lemke Farm Bankruptcy Act (1934)**- Protected farms from creditor repossession

- **Virgin Islands Company (1934)**- Rehabilitated the sugar and rum industries of the Virgin Islands; reduced unemployment; provided various farm services and loan programs; coordinated with a homesteading program.
- **Resettlement Administration (RA) (1935)**- Evolved from earlier emergency relief legislation. Created planned communities for Americans whose livelihoods had been upturned by the Depression; rehabilitated overused land; made loans to farmers.
- **Soil Conservation Act (1935)**- Created Social Conservation Service (SCS) to help build soil protection and water conservation works, following on success of emergency Soil Erosion Service (SES).
- **Rural Electrification Act (1936)**- Preceded by Executive Order creating Rural Electrification Administration (REA) (1935); brought electric grid to distant rural areas.
- **Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (1937)**- Provided aid to tenant farmers and sharecroppers.

Housing Aid & Mortgage Reform

- **Home Owners' Loan Act (1933)**- Created Home Owners' Loan Corporation (HOLC). Provided financial assistance to home owners and the mortgage industry.
- **National Housing Act (1934)**- Created the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) to guarantee mortgages with banks Created the Federal Savings & Loan Insurance Corporation to act like Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (see above) for Savings and Loan institutions.
- **United States Housing Act (1937)**- Created U.S. Housing Authority (USHA) to build public housing.

Labor Law

- **National Industrial Recovery Act (1933)**- Insured the right of workers to organize, provides for a national minimum wage and outlaws child labor.
- **Wagner-Peyser Act / U.S. Employment Service (1933)**- Abolished and then re-formed the U.S. Employment Service (USES) into a more efficient agency; The USES helped reconnect jobless workers to the labor market.
- **National Labor Relations Act (Wagner Act) (1935)**- Reaffirmed the right of collective bargaining, with rules and enforcement by a National Labor Relations Board (NLRB).
- **Social Security Act (1935)**- Provided unemployment insurance and social security taxes on payrolls and paychecks.
- **Fair Labor Standards Act (1938)**- Restored rights lost when the National Industrial Recovery Act was overturned by the Supreme Court: minimum wage and no child labor.

Regulation of Trade, Transport, & Communications

- **Repeal of Prohibition (1933)**- 21st amendment to the Constitution approved by Congress, followed by states.
- **Export-Import Bank (1934)**- Created to help facilitate trade with other nations; Began as two banks, consolidated into one in 1935.
- **Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act (1934)**- Led to trade agreements with 19 countries between 1934 and 1939.
- **Communications Act (1934)**- Established Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to regulate radio spectrum.
- **Civil Aeronautics Act (1938)**- Established the Civil Aeronautics Authority (CAA); later split into the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) to regulate carriers and the Civil Aeronautics Administration (later, the Federal Aviation Administration) to control air traffic.
- **Robinson-Patman Act (1936)**- Also called the "Anti-Price Discrimination Act"; strengthened rules against monopolistic control and pricing (chiefly aimed at chain stores); complemented by Wheeler-Lea Act (1938).

These summaries are the work of Brent McKee, with assistance from Richard Walker.