

2<sup>nd</sup> Hour

# NEW DEAL PROGRAMS

A series of programs and reforms enacted by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in the 1930s to combat the Great Depression

U.S HISTORY



REFORM

June 25<sup>th</sup>, 1938 - Present

# FAIR LABOR STANDARD



## Intended to protect workers.

Before this law existed, workers had weak rights and their employers had the upper hand.

“The FLSA set minimum standards that are still in effect today to prevent these abuses”. (Nancy Ashburn)

While there was no specific number, it was considered helpful and successful in a sense that it created a standard wage and working hours for workers.

## Critics?

As expected though, business owners and employers criticized the act because this gave voice to their employees.

“Between October 24, 1938 and June 30, 1940, the division received 43,715 complaints against businesses for violation of the act”. (Lisa Thompson)

Fair Labor Standard

REFORM

August 14<sup>th</sup>, 1935 - Present

# SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION



## **Aimed to prepare.**

Intended to provide a national pension fund for those who have decided to retire from work, making sure they are financially prepared once unemployed.

## **It was helpful and successful.**

Provided help to retired persons. "Covering over 40 million Americans". (New Deal Reading)

Considered as a successful act because it established a social insurance system that is still very much used today.

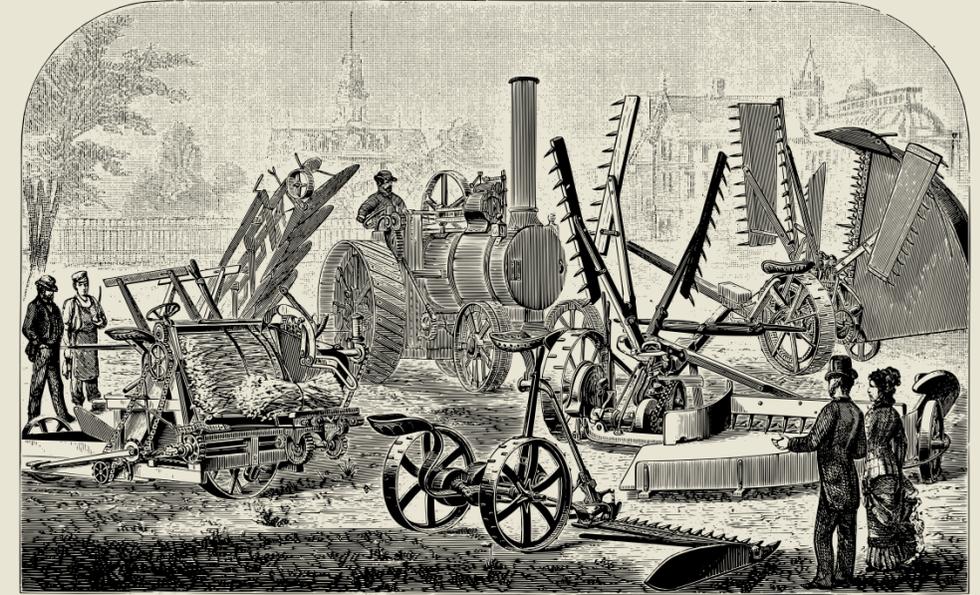
## **Critics?**

Economists and Politicians argued that this act discouraged people from saving and encouraged them to depend on the government.

RELIEF/RECOVERY

June 1933 - March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1934

# PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION



## For the industry and the people.

“Was intended both for industrial recovery and unemployment relief”. (New Deal Reading)

## Both the people and cities benefited.

Constructing these infrastructures, people gained jobs while cities gained public buildings, dams, roads and many more as the government spent over \$4 billion on 34 thousand construction projects like San Francisco’s Golden Gate Bridge.

## It was a success.

People had jobs and the infrastructures they were building helped boost the cities’ tourism and economy.

## Critics?

Conservatives viewed this act as something that contradicts to America’s free-market capitalism, thinking the government was being too involved.

## RECOVERY

June 27<sup>th</sup>, 1934 - Present

### To provide.

"To stimulate the building industry by providing small loans for home construction". (New Deal Reading)

### Who did it help?

American families. It was helpful in a sense that "between 1934 and 1972, families living in owner-occupied homes rose from 44 percent to 63 percent", (Britannica)

### Was it successful?

Mainly because it increased home-ownership and reduced monthly mortgage payments, all while giving construction jobs to people.

### Critics?

Certain groups who were excluded. The home-evaluation system reflected the prejudices of the time, excluding Black and Brown Americans in cities across the country.

# FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION



REFORM

1935 - Present

# FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORP.

## To insure.

Intended to restore the people's trust and confidence in banks, inspiring citizens to save money.

## Who did it help? How?

This helped the citizens and banks to start again, and gave protection to banks through insurance against bankruptcy or bank failure.

## Was it a successful law?

Yes. Because up until this day, it is still around, which reflects its effectiveness as people today still very much trusts banks.

## Critics?

FDR, himself, questioned this law, since it did sound like it wasn't doable or sustainable.



# Cites

Ashburn, Nancy. "Fair Labor Standards Act: A law aimed at protecting workers." Encyclopedia Britannica, 20 Nov. 2025, <https://www.britannica.com/money/Fair-Labor-Standards-Act>. Accessed 20 November 2025.

Fritz, Marie Justine. "Federal Housing Administration (FHA)". Encyclopedia Britannica, 17 Oct. 2025, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Federal-Housing-Administration>. Accessed 25 November 2025.

Hanson, David. New Deal "Alphabet Agencies." Virginia Western Community College, 2001.

Thompson, Lisa. "Fair Labor Standards Act (1938) – Living New Deal." Living New Deal, 2016, [livingnewdeal.org/glossary/fair-labor-standards-act-1938/](https://livingnewdeal.org/glossary/fair-labor-standards-act-1938/).



END

