

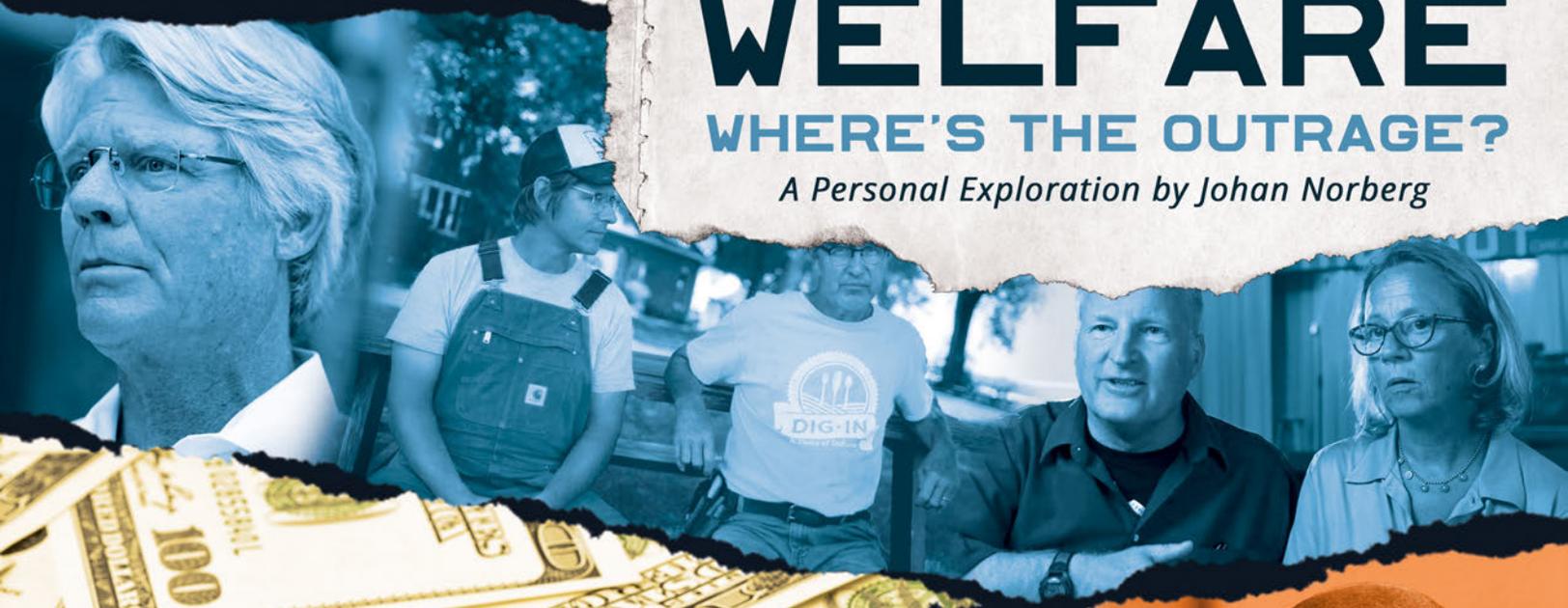
Take Action
Students



CORPORATE WELFARE

WHERE'S THE OUTRAGE?

A Personal Exploration by Johan Norberg



Corporate Welfare Engagement Toolkit

Take Action – Students

Tax exemptions, subsidies, regulations, and bailouts... who pays when cronyism between business and government benefits the wealthy and well-connected?

Corporate Welfare: Where's the Outrage? explores the many strands of cronyism by telling powerful stories of people trying to bring change to their communities. Corporate welfare is an issue that transcends left/right politics; it's simply unfair to ask the poor to subsidize the rich.

Get Involved

- **Find a corporate welfare issue** – This should be easy... estimates range from \$100 billion at the national level to millions at the local level. Some ideas on where to start:
 - **Good Jobs** – www.goodjobsfirst.org
 - **Open The Books** – www.openthebooks.com
 - **The Sunlight Foundation** – www.sunlightfoundation.com
 - **The Center for Responsive Politics** – www.opensecrets.org
- **Join a local group** – National organizations such as Students for Liberty, America's Future Foundation, and Young Americans for Liberty have local chapters across the country. You can get great experience as a volunteer and network with others who care about the same issues.
- **Write it, Record it, Spread the Word** – Campus newspapers, online blogs, social media, podcasts, and videos can help raise awareness about an issue.
- **Contact your elected representatives** – From your local town councilor to your representatives and senators, each elected official is accountable to you. Make your feelings known when an outrageous proposal is being considered by your legislature.

Take Action

- **Small actions add up.** One person can make a difference, especially when they propel agents of change in their community. You can write letters, sign petitions, or donate money to organizations that fight corporate welfare and cronyism.
- **Support companies not actively soliciting subsidies.** You cannot blame a business for taking a tax deduction or enjoying the advantages of a loophole. But no one can make you buy a product or service from a company actively seeking to reduce competition or enrich itself through the taxpayer.
- **Attend budget meetings.** Advance agendas are often posted online or in the local media. When questionable regulations or budget items are being considered, show up to ask a few hard questions rather than allowing them to pass uncontested. It's your money!
- **Vote.** Remember, cronyism is a relationship between business and government. In the marketplace and at the polls, your vote is your voice.