

Federal 'Welfare Czar'  
Is Under Study, Ford Says

1-22-76

NYT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21—The Administration is considering a plan to name for the first time an interagency welfare coordinator, President Ford indicated yesterday in his briefing on budget proposals.

In response to a reporter's question whether the Administration had plans to name a "welfare czar," with powers comparable to those of Frank G. Zarb, the Federal energy administrator, the President said:

"That of course, is a possibility, although no specific decision has been made as yet. In order to achieve our welfare reform, which is needed and necessary, we have to get some additional authority, some flexibility, from the Congress.

"We will ask for the authority and once that authority is given—and I hope the Congress will respond—it is conceivable that we will appoint a so-called welfare czar."