PPOG 502

**Policy Analysis Paper Instructions**

In Module/Week 2, you will write a paragraph for your Topic Proposal, identifying an issue or problem within a public policy. This paragraph will serve as the foundation for the remainder of your policy analysis assignment. The paragraph must be approved inModule/Week 2 by the course instructor. (this is what you did ANN I have attached it)

In Module/Week 8, you will prepare a Policy Analysis Paper assessing a current public policy in light of economic principles studied in this course. Assume the role of a policy maker, using the paper to advocate for a change in policy. The goal is to prepare a final report for a “client” of 9 double-spaced pages exclusive of an abstract, references, and appendices. Citations must be consistent with the APA style guide. The Discussion Board Forums and NewsArticle Reviews will be helpful in preparing for this capstone project

**Research Paper Guidelines**

Please use these guidelines to write the Policy Analysis Paper. It is recommended that you organize and structure your paper with the following headings: Problem Definition and Framework, Theoretical Framework, Goals and Criteria, Alternative Solution, and Plan for Implementation.

**1.Define and frame a policy problem and the economic implications of the current policy.**

•Explain the history of the policy. What lead to theimplementation of the policy?

•Define the problem. How did the problem come about?What are the major causes of the problem? Why is the problem important to consider as an economic problem?According to Vining and Weimer, one of the steps in defining a policy problem is framing it as either a market or government failure. The framing helps you to determine if there is a strong rationale for government action and suggests generic policy alternatives for consideration. Consider demographics of the population, statistics to describe the magnitude of the problem, and any other public data that will essentially describe the problem or has been/will be impacted by the policy.

•As currently implemented, is the policy insufficient to address the intended policy need? Explain. What is the extent or magnitude of the problem? What are the issues with the policy or what is the policy not addressing? Is it getting better or worse? Is it better or worse there than elsewhere? Look at the policy in other states/countries and consider if the policy is working better or worse and why.

•Explain ambiguities, conflicts, problems, and contradictions related to the policy.

•Measure the problem. Find a way to measure that is consistent with the way that it is defined. You will need to find data (scores/statistics, etc.) to support your assertion of the issue.

**2.Outline the steps that have already been taken to try to deal with the problem.** This may include steps taken here or in other countries. Discuss the theoretical framework

•Draw on the Reading & Study from this course to discuss the key theoretical issues at the core of the problem.

•Relate the theoretical framework from this course to your analysis of the economic problem.

**3.Select appropriate goals and criteria.**

•Think about the problem’s causes. In light of the problems, what goals need to be set? Knowing the causes of the problem is critical to developing solutions to it.

•Goals may include economic growth, lower levels of unemployment, managing debt, lower levels of inflation, positive balance of trade, managing deficits and debt, etc.

•In order to have an effective policy, you also need stated objectives. What criteria will you use to propose a solution? The dimensions of policy objectives sometimes include effectiveness, costs, benefits, risks, uncertainty, political feasibility, administrative feasibility, equity/fairness, liberty or freedom/legality, and/or constitutionality.

**4.Propose an alternative solution.**

•What should be done about the problem? What actions might work to solve the problem or to reach the specified goals and objectives?

•Consider the following solutions that government can do:deregulate, regulate, subsidize, ration, tax, contract out, privatize, charge fees, educate, conduct research.

•Discuss the feasibility of the solution. Do not focus on broad societal changes or new economic systems beyond feasible limits.

•Explain your policy and how you believe the policy will transform the current issue. Consider economic, social and cultural implications to your policy proposal.

•Be sure to discuss the major effectiveness of this alternative— including both the use of resources required to implement it and its impacts.

5.**Plan for implementation**

•Predict the likely consequences of your policy once implemented. How will your policy impact other areas of policy or the implementation of services?

•Identify any tradeoffs that will need to be made to implement your policy as proposed.

•Identify any barriers to implementation.

**Format**

Follow these formatting requirements:

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All pages shall adhere to correct APA style.

•The cover page must include:

O Course/Section

o Public policy topic/issue in your title

o Your name

o Date of submission

•Be sure to include a running head and page numbers in the header section per APA guidelines.

•The length of the body must be at least 9 pages (this does not include the title page, abstract page, or reference page).

•All research shall be properly documented with in-text citations per APA guidelines.

•A minimum of 15 distinct scholarly, academic sources are required and must be listed in the reference section.

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