Chapter Exercises for **Chapter 2: The History of Social Work**

1. Learn more about various political parties and their stances on social welfare by going to their websites. In addition to the Democratic and Republican parties, seek information about the Libertarian Party, the Green Party, the Progressive Party, the Constitution Party, or others that run candidates in your locale. Focusing on the issue of social welfare, locate the parties on a spectrum from most liberal to most conservative.

2. Read an editorial from one of the nation’s leading newspapers or news websites. What political perspective does the editorial reflect, and how did you reach this conclusion?

3. Role-play a situation in which you must ask for public assistance. How did you feel

about being in need and asking for help?

4. Review Exhibit 2.1, the social work and social welfare policy timeline, and select one

landmark event. Read about the time period and list the relevant political situation,

environmental factors, human needs, and social justice issues of the time.

5. Choose a social welfare service available in your community. Gather the history of this

agency. In what ways does its history compare to what you read in this chapter?