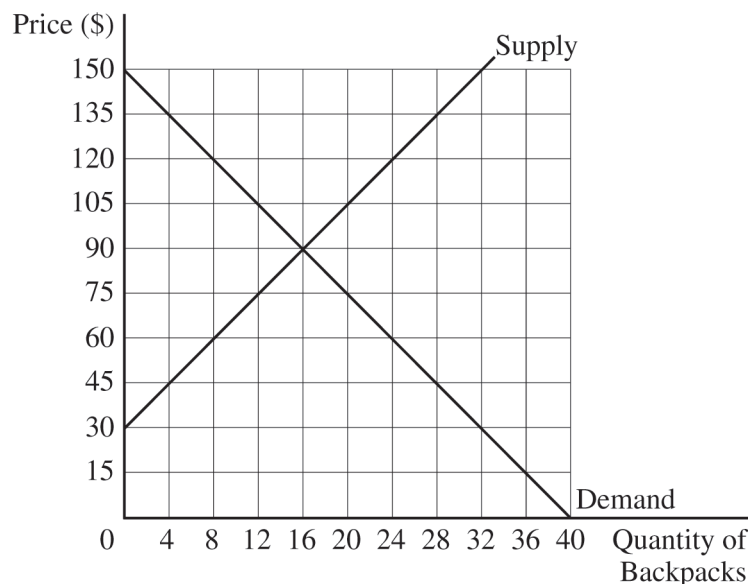


3. Backpacks are produced in a perfectly competitive market that has no externalities. The provided graph shows the market supply and demand curves for backpacks in the country of Jambo.



- (a) Calculate total economic surplus at the market equilibrium. Show your work.
- (b) To decrease the price of backpacks for students, the government of Jambo has decided to set a price ceiling of \$60 per backpack. Compared to the market equilibrium, will the quantity of backpacks purchased increase, decrease, or not change as a result of the price ceiling? Explain.
- (c) Suppose instead the government of Jambo provides a per-unit subsidy of \$30 to the sellers of backpacks.
- Identify the price paid by consumers per backpack after the per-unit subsidy is implemented.
  - Calculate the total cost of the subsidy to the government. Show your work.
  - Does the per-unit subsidy cause deadweight loss to increase, decrease, or remain the same compared to the market equilibrium in part (a)? Explain.

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**Begin your response to this question at the top of a new page in the separate Free Response booklet and fill in the appropriate circle at the top of each page to indicate the question number.**

**Question 3: Short****5 points**

**(a)** Calculate the total economic surplus as \$960 and show the work. **1 point**

$$\text{Total Economic Surplus} = \frac{1}{2} \times (\$150 - \$30) \times (16 - 0) = \frac{1}{2} \times \$120 \times 16 = \$960$$

**(b)** State that the quantity of backpacks purchased will decrease and explain that the price ceiling causes a decrease in the quantity supplied of backpacks and the quantity purchased in the market will be limited by the quantity supplied (8), which is less than the equilibrium quantity (16). **1 point**

**(c) (i)** State the price consumers pay per backpack after the per-unit subsidy is \$75. **1 point**

**(ii)** Calculate the total cost of the subsidy to the government as \$600 and show the work. **1 point**

$$\text{Total Cost of Subsidy to the Government} = \text{Per-unit Subsidy} \times \text{Quantity of Backpacks}$$

$$\text{Total Cost of Subsidy to the Government} = \$30 \times 20 = \$600$$

**(iii)** State the deadweight loss will increase and explain with **ONE** of the following. **1 point**

- The per-unit subsidy causes the new equilibrium quantity (20 backpacks) to be greater than the allocatively efficient quantity (16 backpacks).
- The per-unit subsidy causes the marginal cost (\$105) to be greater than the marginal benefit (\$75) at the new equilibrium quantity (20 backpacks).

**Total for part (c) 3 points**

**Total for question 3 5 points**