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**DPC [Domestic Policy Council] -
Ricchetti Priority Project**

2/9/99

TRADE

ISSUE	PRIORITY OF	NOTES
U.S. - Africa Partnership for Economic Growth	SOTU, Treas.	The House International Relations Committee will hold a hearing on the Africa Trade bill on Feb. 11. Floor action on the bill is expected during the week of February 22.
Child Labor	SOTU, Labor, NEC	
Firm Commitment to Free and Fair Trade	SOTU, Commerce, Labor	The House Ways and Means Committee intends to move directly to the floor with a miscellaneous tariff bill that was passed by the House last fall but never saw action in the Senate.
Traditional Trade Negotiating Authority	SOTU	
Caribbean Basin Trade Enhancement	SOTU, USTR, Treas.	
New WTO Round of Global Trade -- Agricultural Trade Issues -- Transperancy	SOTU, USTR	
International Labor Rights -- Establish New Multilateral Program at the ILO to Provide Technical Assistance to Developing Nations -- Encourage International Financial Institutions to Build Commitment to Core Labor Standards	SOTU, Labor, NEC	

<p>U.S. Manufacturing Exports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-- Additional Funding for Ex-Im Bank-- Expand Trade Development Agency-- Increase Resources for Export Advocacy and Service Delivery to Small Business Exporters-- Expand U.S. Efforts to Establish a Commercial Infrastructure in Developing Countries	<p>SOTU, NEC</p>	
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GOP INITIATIVES

ISSUE	PRIORITY OF	NOTES
Fast Track Trade Authority	Lott, Treas.	Lott listed this priority in a speech on Jan. 27
General Trade		Senator Roth plans an aggressive Finance Committee schedule on trade.
OECD Shipbuilding	Senate	This is a priority of Senator Lott's.

FAMILIES

Issue	Priority Of	Notes
<p>Child Care Block Grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Increase Funding for Child Care Subsidies -- Promote Early Learning -- Improve Child Care Quality 	DPC, FLOTUS, HHS	
<p>Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Increase Credit for Families Earning Under \$60 thousand -- New Tax Credit to Businesses that Provide Child Care Services for Employees -- Stay At Home Parents Initiative 	Treas., DPC, NEC	Senate Democrats have made the Child Care ACCESS Act a priority in this Congress.
<p>Family & Medical Leave Act Expansion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Lowering the Threshold 	SOTU, Labor	Most Democrats support, but some are uneasy.
<p>Child Support Law Enforcement Initiative</p>	DPC, Justice, HHS	
<p>Restore Additional Funding for SSI, Medicaid and Food Stamps for Legal Immigrants</p>	DPC, HHS, SSA, USDA	
<p>Prohibiting Discrimination Against Parents</p>	SOTU, DPC	Senator Dodd and Representative Slaughter plan to introduce legislation and gather support in Congress.
<p>Supporting Former Foster Care Youth</p>	SOTU, DPC, HHS, FLOTUS	Representative Cardin is interested in working on a bill. Senator Dodd has stated that this will be included in his Adolescent bill.

GOP INITIATIVES

ISSUE	PRIORITY OF	NOTES
Child Custody Protection Act		
Partial Birth Abortion Ban		

HEALTH CARE

ISSUE	Priority Of	Notes
<p>Long Term Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Tax Credit to Compensate for Cost of Long Term Care Services -- National Family Caregiver Program -- Educate Medicare Beneficiaries Initiative -- Long Term Care Insurance to Federal Employees -- HUD Competitive Grants for Assisted Living Facilities -- New Community based long term care options -- Nursing Home Quality Initiative 	<p>SOTU, DPC, NEC, HUD, VP, Treas., HHS</p>	<p>The House Commerce Subcom on Health will hold a hearing on Medicare risk adjustment on 2/3.</p> <p>Senator Daschle introduced the Health Protection and Assistance for Older Americans Act. This bill includes a number of the Administration's long term care initiatives, including the tax credit, the National Family Caregivers Program, and the OPM long term care insurance piece, as well as our Medicare buy-in options.</p> <p>Portions of the nursing home quality initiative are dependent upon user fees that are unpopular with the provider community.</p> <p>Bipartisan Jeffords/Kennedy/Roth/Moynihan bill is a priority for the sponsors, but it is unclear whether Lott wants to move.</p>
<p>Medicare Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Use of Surplus -- HCFA Reforms -- Management Reforms -- Basic Reforms -- Prescription Drugs -- Buy-In Option for Displaced Workers -- New Options for Americans 55 to 65 to Obtain Health Insurance -- Broken Promise Retirees -- Cancer Clinical Trials 	<p>SOTU, DPC, NEC, Labor, Treas.</p>	<p>Senate Democrats have made the Health Protection and Assistance for Older Americans Act a priority for this Congress.</p> <p>Senator Daschle introduced the Health Protection and Assistance for Older Americans Act. This bill includes a number of the Administration's long term care initiatives, including the tax credit, the National Family Caregivers Program, and the OPM long term care insurance piece, as well as our Medicare buy-in options.</p>

<p>Tobacco Legislation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Justice Department Litigation -- Tax to Reimburse Government for non-Medicare costs of tobacco-related disease in future -- Raise Price of Cigarettes -- FDA Authority -- Funding for Critical Public Health Efforts to Prevent Youth Smoking -- Protect Farmers and Farming Communities -- Recoupment -- Smuggling Prevention 	<p>SOTU, DPC, NEC, VP Justice, Treas.</p>	<p>Lott strongly opposes the Administration's proposal to raise tobacco taxes.</p> <p>Representative Bilrakis and Senators Graham and Hutchinson have introduced legislation prohibiting HHS from treating any Medicaid-related funds recovered as part of State litigation from one or more tobacco companies as an overpayment under the Medicaid Program.</p> <p>This legislation represents an obstacle to any possibility for an alternative bill that creates a desirable menu of priority investment areas.</p>
<p>Patients' Bill of Rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Access to Needed Specialists -- Access to Emergency Room Services -- Independent and External Appeals Process -- Right to Compensation 	<p>SOTU, DPC</p>	<p>Senate Democrats have made this a high priority in Congress.</p> <p>Senators Daschle and Kennedy introduced the Senate Democrats' version of this legislation. Representative Dingell has introduced his bill in the House.</p> <p>Senator Jeffords has introduced his version of the Patient Bill of Rights. It is essentially the same version of the bill the Republican leadership sanctioned last year.</p> <p>Representative Bilrakis has introduced his version of the Patient Bill of Rights.</p> <p>There are a number of unresolved issues, with liability compromise being the major one.</p> <p>Speaker Hastert has indicated that he will proceed on a regular order Committee mark-up basis.</p> <p>Lott listed Consumer Rights from Health Care Abuses as a priority in a speech given on Jan. 27.</p>
<p>Small Businesses to Purchase Health Insurance</p>	<p>SOTU, Treas.</p>	<p>There is interest in Congress, but at this point the initiative needs a sponsor.</p>

<p>Improving Access to Health Insurance Through Medicaid and CHIP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Restore Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility to Legal Immigrants -- Improve the Transitional Medical Assistance Program -- Liberalization of the TANF Outreach Fund and Removal of Outreach from the Cap on CHIP Administrative Expenditures 	DPC, NEC	This policy will be linked to Medicaid savings.
<p>New Biomedical Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Diabetes -- Combating Diseases Associated with Aging -- Development of Vaccines for TB, malaria, and AIDS 	SOTU, VP, HHS	
<p>Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment and Prevention Grants</p>	VP	
<p>Privacy of Medical Records</p>	SOTU	There is Republican support for this issue.
<p>Health Care Access for Uninsured Workers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Community Networks 	SOTU, HHS	
<p>Critical Mental Health Prevention and Treatment Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Targets hard-to-reach adults and children with severe mental illness -- Improve School Violence Abatement Programs -- New Effective Medications -- Services for Older Americans 	SOTU	The White House will host a conference on mental health this spring.
<p>Family Planning Grants Increase</p>	SOTU, FLOTUS	
<p>GME at Children's Hospitals</p>	FLOTUS	Sponsors of this legislation are needed.
<p>Safety and Health: Occupational and Mines</p>	Labor	Senator Byrd has shown an interest in increasing appropriations in this area.

Federal Employee Health Benefits Act		Republicans would like to strip coverage gained last session.
Contraception Coverage in Private Insurance		
Fighting Childhood Asthma	EPA, FLOTUS	Senator Durbin has drafted legislation to provide competitive grant funds to states designing asthma intervention and prevention programs. Although his initiative differs from the Administration's in many important aspects, he has indicated his strong desire to work with us to design a proposal that mirrors our initiative.
Hepatitis C testing and treatment	VA	Currently being implemented administratively.
Smoking cessation counseling	VA	Currently being implemented administratively.
Clinic Violence	SOTU	Money to prevent violence against health clinics
Genetic Discrimination Initiative		
Controlling the Spread of Infectious Diseases	VPOTUS	
Nutrition Assistance	Agriculture	
Indian Health Service	HHS	

GOP INITIATIVES

ISSUE	PRIORITY OF	NOTES
Managed Care Legislation	Senate, House	Rep. Bilirakis plans on introducing the GOP bill on February 2. Dingell introduced the Democratic bill from the last Congress on January 19. Lott has listed this as a priority.
Consumer Rights from Health Care Abuses		

EDUCATION

ISSUE	Priority Of	Note
<p>Elementary and Secondary Education Act Reauthorization</p> <p>--Accountability Proposals: End Social Promotion Qualified Teachers Fix Failing Schools School Report Cards Effective Discipline Policies</p> <p>-- Public School Choice: Charter Schools Work-Site Schools Magnet Schools</p> <p>-- Bilingual Education -- Safe and Drug-Free Schools -- Class Size Reduction -- Technology</p>	<p>SOTU, DPC, Education</p>	<p>The major education reauthorization of this Congress. The target date for transmission of the Administration bill is March 15. Likely to be fights over such issues as accountability requirements, choice/vouchers and changes to bilingual education.</p> <p>Senate Democrats have introduced the Public Schools Excellence Act, which includes the Administration's school modernization, class-size, after-school, teacher quality, and relevant accountability proposals. Senate Democrats have made this bill a priority for this Congress.</p> <p>In addition to reauthorization of ESEA, several of these initiatives are also priority budget requests.</p> <p>Senate Republicans would like to put off consideration until summer. However, House Republicans would like to move more quickly on the issue.</p>
<p>School Construction</p> <p>-- School Modernization Bonds -- Qualified Zone Academy Bonds -- Native American School Component</p>	<p>DPC, Treas., Education</p>	<p>Senator Lautenberg will take the lead on this issue. Senators Robb and Harkin have a strong interest in this initiative.</p>
<p>21st Century Schools</p> <p>-- 21st Century Community Learning Center Program -- After School Programs</p>	<p>SOTU, DPC, Education</p>	<p>Senate Democrats have made the Public Schools Excellence Act a priority for this Congress.</p> <p>This legislation incorporates both the 21st Century Learning Program and funds for community-based after-school programs through the Child Care and Development Block Grant (See Families Section)</p>
<p>Work Place Literacy</p>	<p>Treas., NEC, Education, Labor</p>	
<p>English Literacy/Civics</p>	<p>SOTU, DPC, Education</p>	<p>High priority for DPC and legal immigrant groups.</p>

Education Technology -- Digital Libraries -- Technology Literacy Challenge Fund	NEC, Education	
60 Month Limit on student loan interest deduction elimination	Treas., NEC	
Employer-provided educational assistance and include graduate extension education	Treas.	
Elimination of tax when forgiving student loans	Treas.	
Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs	Education	
Adult Education State Grants	Education, NEC	This initiative has bipartisan support.
Comprehensive School Reform Demonstrations program	Education	
Postsecondary student financial aid	Education	
Work Study funding increase	Education	

GOP INITIATIVES

ISSUE	PRIORITY OF	NOTES
<p>Educational Opportunities Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Returning Control to Parents -- Supporting Exceptional Teachers -- Safe and Secure Schools -- Dollars to the Classroom -- Basic Academies 	Senate	This is a placeholder with no real substance other than to extend ESEA programs as-is for 5 years.
<p>ED-Flex</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Extension of ED-Flex program from 12 to 50 states 		<p>During late January and early February, the House Committee on Education is expected to consider issues involving state and local control and flexibility over federal education spending. The House is expected to lay the predicate for mark-up of a proposal to extend existing "ed-flex" authority that currently allows 12 states to receive waivers from certain requirements governing federal education programs. Moderate Democrats are working with committee Republicans in the House to move the legislation.</p> <p>The Senate Health Committee approved the Frist-Wyden Ed-Flex bill by a vote of 10-0 on January 27. None of the committee's Democrats was present for the vote. Majority Leader Lott announced yesterday that the bill would receive rapid floor action.</p> <p>Senate Democrats will use the bill as a vehicle to try to attach Administration education priorities.</p>

ECONOMY

Issue	Priority Of	Notes
<p>Social Security Solvency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- 62% of Projected Budget Surplus -- Investment of Portions of Surplus -- Eliminate the Earnings Test 	<p>SOTU, SSA, NEC, DPC</p>	<p>The Senate Republicans have deemed this a priority, and have put a placeholder in in anticipation of the White House bill.</p> <p>The House Committee on Ways and Means is expected to hold hearings on the subject, but nothing has been scheduled at this point.</p>
<p>Universal Savings Accounts (USAs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reserve 11% of Surplus - Government Matching Funds 	<p>SOTU, DPC, NEC</p>	<p>Senate Democrats are anxious to get more details on this initiative.</p>
<p>New Markets Investment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- New Markets Tax Credit -- America's Private Investment Companies (APICs) -- SBICs Targeted to New Markets -- New Markets Venture Capital Firms (NMVCs) -- New Markets Lending Companies (NMLC) -- Continued Growth for CDFIs -- BusinessLINC -- Specialized Small Business Investment Companies (SSBICs) 	<p>NEC, SBA, Treas.</p>	<p>Authorizing legislation will be required.</p> <p>In the House, this is a high priority of both the CBC and the CHC.</p>
<p>Worker Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Re-Employment Initiative -- Closing the Skills Gap -- Youth Right Track Partnership 	<p>SOTU, Labor, NEC</p>	

<p>Safety Net For Farmers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Crop Insurance Program Reforms -- Farm Income Assistance 	<p>Agriculture</p>	<p>The Agricultural Safety Net and Market Competitiveness Act was introduced in the Senate by Senator Daschle as part of the Senate Democratic agenda.</p> <p>The Senate Agriculture Committee is planning a series of hearings on this issue in March.</p> <p>The Administration is developing principles for crop insurance legislation.</p> <p>Senator Lugar has introduced the U.S. Agricultural Trade Act</p>
<p>Welfare-to-Work Reauthorization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Increase Assistance -- Responsible Fathers Initiative -- Long-Term Welfare Recipients -- Housing Vouchers -- Transportation Funds -- Tax Credits 	<p>SOTU, DPC, Labor, Treas., VPOTUS</p>	<p>Representative Goodling has stated that since there is such a large TANF surplus, there is no need to put more money into Welfare-to-Work. Rep Cardin will take the lead for the Democrats.</p>
<p>Disability-- Economic Opportunities for People with Disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Work Incentives Improvement Act -- Technology for Americans with Disabilities -- Tax Credit for Disabled Workers -- Emergency Care for Service-Connected Disabled Veterans 	<p>SSA, DPC, VP, HHS, Labor, NEC, Treas.</p>	<p>Senators Kennedy and Jeffords are expected to offer a bill in early February. This bill is expected to include the Administration's Work Incentives Improvement Act.</p> <p>Although there has been no companion bill introduced in the House, Representatives Johnson and Lazio are likely sponsors.</p> <p>This initiative will require authorizing legislation.</p>
<p>Minimum Wage Increase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- \$5.15 to \$6.15 Over Two Years 	<p>SOTU, Labor</p>	<p>High priority for Congressional Democrats.</p>
<p>Pensions</p>	<p>Treas., NEC</p>	<p>Senator Roth is working on retirement plan legislation.</p>
<p>Equal Pay</p>	<p>SOTU</p>	<p>As part of the Senate Democratic agenda, Senator Daschle announced the Paycheck Fairness Act as a top priority.</p>
<p>Information Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Increase in Technology Research -- Research and Development Tax Credits 	<p>NEC, Treas.</p>	

Electricity Restructuring	DOE, NEC, CEQ	Not moving yet, but smaller Public Utility Holding Company Act bill moving now through Senate Banking Committee, mark-up scheduled for Feb. 11.
Y2K		House and Senate Republicans will pursue liability relief legislation. The Senate Small Business Committee will report out a bipartisan bill during the week of February 11.
Financial Modernization/Reform	SOTU, Treas.	The House Banking Committee will hold several hearings on financial services modernization in Feb. The Senate Banking Committee will mark-up legislation on Feb. 25. The Senate GOP has deemed this the biggest piece of unfinished business from the previous Congress. Additionally, the Senate Banking Committee will mark-up a package of bank regulatory reforms on Feb. 11.
Job Corps Center Improvements	Labor	
Improve Economic Indicators	Labor	
U.I. Enhancements & Reform	Labor	
One Stop services to Workers & Employers (X-Cut)	Labor, SBA, NPR	
Innovative Enforcement/Alternative Dispute Res. (X-Cut)	Labor	
21st Century Job Creation Initiative	HUD	High priority for HUD
Corporate Tax Shelters	Treas.	
Increase in USDA Research	Agriculture	
HUBZones	SBA	
Targeted business development assistance to women business owners	SBA	

Modernize SBA	SBA	
Income Security Enhancement Act	Senate Democrats	

GOP INITIATIVES

ISSUE	PRIORITY OF	NOTES
Tax Cuts for All Americans Act	Senate, House	Cornerstone of the GOP's Congressional agenda. Hastert includes this in his first nine bills.
Regulatory/Risk Reform	Lott, House Government Reform and Oversight Committee	The committee expects to mark up a bill on February 2 or 3 which may require a veto threat when it reaches the House floor. Lott listed this priority in a speech on Jan. 27. He wants a more aggressive bill than last year's Thompson/Glenn measure. VPOTUS concerned about this issue.
Unfunded Mandates Reform	House GOP	Republicans worked during the last Congress to extend unfunded mandate procedures to bills affecting the private sector. Incoming Chairman Drier has indicated he will act quickly on HR 350, which would allow any member to force debate and a vote on any bill on the House floor that imposes unfunded mandates of \$100 million or more on the private sector. Senator Abraham has a bill in the Senate.
Bankruptcy Reform	Lott	Lott listed this priority in a speech on Jan. 27 Senator Grassley is anxious to reach a compromise on this measure. Senators Grassley and Hatch may introduce the Conference Report to last years Bankruptcy reform bill and have it held at the desk. The rumor is that the Majority Leader may try and move this bill without going through committee as one of the first orders of legislative business after the conclusion of impeachment.
H.R. 68, the Small Business Investment Company Technical Corrections Act		The Senate Small Business Committee is holding an executive meeting on Friday, 2/5 at 9:30 AM to mark-up two bills H.R. 68 and S. 314. The Senate version of H.R. 68 has yet to be introduced.

S. 314, The Small Business Year 2000 Readiness Act		The Senate Small Business Committee is holding an executive meeting on Friday, 2/5 at 9:30 AM to mark-up two bills H.R. 68 and S. 314.
Biennial Budgeting	Lott	Lott listed this priority in a speech on Jan. 27 VPOTUS concerned about this issue.
Financial Services Reform	Lott	Lott listed this priority in a speech on Jan. 27 Hastert includes this in his first nine bills.
Grazing Reform Rollback		Republicans may attempt to rollback Department of Interior grazing regulations.
Multilateral Development Banks		The Asian, African, Inter-American and other regional development banks are scheduled for reauthorization. As usual, they will be considered by the Banking Committees collectively.
Community Development Block Grants		Key issue here is whether this reauthorization gets merged with certain federal housing programs. Such a coupling could complicate an otherwise straightforward reauthorization.
Elimination of Death Tax	Hastert	Hastert includes this in his first nine bills.

COMMUNITIES

Issue	Priority Of	Notes
AmeriCorps	SOTU, DPC, Corporation for National Service	<p>The budget proposes \$585 million for AmeriCorps, an increase of \$113 million over last year. This level would support 69 thousand AmeriCorps members next year, growing to reach 100 thousand members per year by 2002.</p> <p>The Corporation for National Service Reauthorization is up during this Congress. Senator Kennedy is working on legislation and is seeking bipartisan support.</p> <p>POTUS did an AmeriCorps Event on Feb. 10</p>
Campaign Finance Reform	SOTU, DPC, VP	<p>The Senate Democratic Leadership has introduced the Congressional Election Spending Limit and Reform Act.</p> <p>POTUS supports the bipartisan Shays-Meehan/McCain-Feingold bill. Senator Feingold's staff has advised that they have adopted a House first strategy.</p>
Climate Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clean Air Partnership Fund - Tax Credit for Energy Efficient Building Equipment - Wind and Biomass Tax Credit/Expand Eligible Biomass Sources Extension - Tax Incentives for Purchase of Energy Efficient Cars, Homes, Appliances - Cut Greenhouse Gas Emissions - Energy Efficient Goals in Federal Procurement Process - Restructuring of Electric Industry - R & D Funding for Energy Efficiency - Kyoto Protocol - Credit for Early Action 	SOTU, VP, DOE, EPA, USDA, NEC, CEQ	<p>House Science Committee Chairman Sensenbrenner indicated support last year for discretionary research funding at the agencies.</p> <p>Senator Hagel is reportedly shopping a bill to 'scrap' the Kyoto Protocol.</p> <p>Senators Chafee, Lieberman and Mack are pushing a bill to give companies credit now for any greenhouse gas reductions; administration generally supportive. Senator Murkowski may have competing, less desirable bill.</p>

<p>Crime Bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 21st Century Policing Initiative - Zero Tolerance Drug Supervision - Brady Waiting Period - Preventing Violent Juveniles from Buying Guns - Child Safety Locks for Handguns - Assisting Victims of Crime - Safe, Disciplined, Drug-Free Schools - Additional Funding for Prisons - National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign - High Intensity Trafficking Area Program - Counter-Drug Technology Center 	<p>SOTU, DPC, Justice, VP ONDCP, NPR</p>	<p>The Senate Republican Leadership has introduced the Drug Free Century Act as part of their priority agenda. Additionally, Senator Lott announced in a speech given Jan. 27 that juvenile crime is a legislative priority for Republicans during this Congress, and the Republican's Juvenile Crime bill is being held at the desk.</p>
<p>Decennial Census</p>	<p>Commerce, NPR</p>	
<p>Lands Legacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Full, Mandatory LWCF Funding - Land Acquisition Grants* - Planning Grants and Loans* - Farmland Protection* - Urban Parks and Forests* - Forest and Wildlife Protection* - Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund* - Forest Legacy Program* - Smart Growth Partnership* - National Marine Sanctuaries - Coastal Zone Management Act - National Estuarine Research Reserves System - Coral Reef Restoration - Coastal Dredge Area Restoration - Fisheries Habitat Restoration - Saving America's Natural Treasures <p>*Designates initiatives which cross over into Livability Agenda</p>	<p>SOTU, Interior, Treas., EPA, Agriculture, OVP, Commerce/NOAA, CEQ</p>	<p>POTUS has met with Senators Breaux and Landrieu about their bill to fully fund LWCF and to allocate OCS revenues heavily toward coastal states. The White House is working with these Senators to move their position closer to our Land Legacy approach.</p> <p>House Resources Committee Chairman Young plans to reintroduce legislation that he had introduced last Congress with Rep. Dingell to use a greater portion of the OCS revenues for coastal states, infrastructure, conservation, and teaming activities.</p> <p>This initiative is discretionary for FY 2000. Principles are being developed for legislation that would make this initiative mandatory for FY 2001 and beyond.</p>

<p>Livability Agenda/Better America Bonds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Better America Bonds (BABs) -- Easing Traffic Congestion -- Community Planning -- Community Development Equity Credit -- Regional Connections -- Community Centered Schools -- Regional Crime Data Sharing 	<p>SOTU, DPC, OVP, Treas., EPA, HUD, Transportation, Justice, CEQ</p>	<p>The Transportation Equity Act (TEA-21) set anticipated levels of revenue from the gas tax for the out-years for spending from the Highway Trust Fund. There will be about \$1.4 billion over the planned level in 2000. The Administration's budget assumes that we will spend this for activities related to transit that are part of the Livability initiative. Because the highway money and the transit money are distributed by different formulas, this will be viewed by critics as taking money from certain states and giving it to others. Chairman Shuster will be interested in doing authorizing legislation that will spend the money on different priorities.</p> <p>Senator Daschle's office is interested in making BABs a priority. This initiative requires an authorizing tax bill.</p> <p>Senate bipartisan "Smart Growth" Caucus, started by Jeffords, Levin. Chafee plans on moving legislation soon.</p> <p>Only HUD Regional Connections component requires authorizing legislation. The remaining components are discretionary appropriations.</p>
<p>Millenium Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Saving America's Treasures 	<p>FLOTUS</p>	
<p>Pacific Salmon Restoration</p>		
<p>Race Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased funding for EEOC - Increased funding for DOJ's Civil Rights Division - Funding for Civil Rights Enforcement Partnerships - Increased Funding for Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs - Increased funding for HUD's Fair Housing Initiatives - Increased funding for USDA's Office of Civil Rights - Increased funding for Education's Office for Civil Rights - Hate Crimes Prevention Act - Reduce Racial Disparities in Health Status - ENDA 	<p>SOTU, VP, HHS, Justice, Labor, HUD, USDA, Education</p>	<p>Senator Cleland is very interested in this portion of our agenda.</p>

Reinventing Government -- Civil Service/Personnel Reform	SOTU, NPR-REGO	
Superfund Reauthorization	EPA	Republicans will attempt to reform Superfund (see below).
New Resources to guard against illegal immigration	Justice	
Program enhancements for DoJ's litigation efforts	Justice	
Public Safety Initiatives in Indian Lands	Justice	
Ensuring Water Quality	EPA, CEQ	Clean Water Act rewrite may happen, but Senator Chafee said this could raise wetlands issues.
Employment Non-Discrimination Act	SOTU	
Low Income Housing Tax Credit	DPC, NEC, Treas., SOTU (98)	Strong bipartisan support last year in the Senate. Now that Senator D'Amato is gone, initiative will need a new advocate.
Brownfields	DPC, NEC, Treas., HUD, EPA	Senate Democrats have made the Brownfields and Environmental Cleanup Act a priority for this Congress.
BIA Education Construction and School Operations	Interior	High priority for Interior
Land Management Operations	Interior	High priority for Interior
Indian Tribal Trust Fund Management	Interior	
California Bay Delta Ecosystem Restoration	Interior	
Improved Wildland Fire Management	Interior	
Science Support for Resource Management	Interior	
BIA Law Enforcement	Interior, Justice	
Indian Tribal Priority Allocations	Interior	

Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation	Interior	
Historically Black Colleges and Universities	Interior	Big issue for CBC Chairman Clyburn (D-SC)
Natural Hazards Warning and Response	Interior	
Central Valley Project Improvement Act	Interior	
Food Safety -- Food Quality Protection Act	Agriculture, NPR, EPA	High Priority for Agriculture Senator Daschle has introduced the SAFER Meat and Poultry Act in the Senate. Senator Harkin will likely take the lead on this issue, with Senators Durbin and Daschle supplying substantial support.
Water 2000	Agriculture	
Assisting Distressed Communities	Commerce	
Critical Infrastructure	Commerce	
Senior Housing Plan	HUD, OMB	High priority for HUD
New Housing Vouchers	SOTU, DPC, HUD	High priority for HUD and DPC -- Includes 25 thousand new vouchers for Welfare-to-Work
Expanding Continuum of Care for the Homeless	HUD, VA	
Citizen Volunteer Housing Corporation	HUD	
Additional funding to advance nation's scientific capabilities	Energy	High priority for Energy
Spallation Neutron Source	Energy	
Environmental Quality Programs	Energy	High priority for Energy
Focusing on High Risk Urban Air Toxics	EPA	
Improving Citizens-Right-to-Know	EPA	

Access Jobs Transportation Funding	DPC, Transportation	High priority for Transportation, DPC. Doubles Welfare-to-Work transportation funds.
New Transit Full Funding Grant Agreements	Transportation	
Transportation Research and Development	Transportation	
Nationwide Differential Global Positioning System	Transportation	
FAA Reauthorization	NPR, NEC, Senate, House	<p>This will be the first order of business for the Senate Commerce Committee.</p> <p>The House began consideration of a 6 month extension on Feb. 3.</p> <p>The Senate Commerce Committee is holding an executive business meeting on Thursday, February 4th at 9:30 to mark-up S. 82, the McCain/Hollings FAA Reauthorization bill.</p> <p>The Gore Commission Anniversary is Feb. 12.</p>

GOP INITIATIVES

ISSUES	PRIORITY OF	NOTES
S. 254, the Juvenile Crime Bill	Lott	Lott stated that this would be part of the GOP crime agenda. S. 254 is being held at the desk and is ready to go at any time.
Welfare Reform	Lott	Lott stated this was a priority in a speech given on Jan. 27.
Nuclear Waste	House	Speaker Hastert considers this an early action item. Reps. Upton and Towns have introduced essentially the same bill as the House passed last year.
Superfund Reform	House	Representatives Boehlert and Oxley vowed to pass comprehensive Superfund legislation this Congress.
Repeal of the Marriage Tax Penalty		This is a legislative priority of Speaker Hastert.

COMMUNITIES

Issue	Priority Of	Notes
21st Century Policing Initiative	SOTU, DPC, Justice	High priority for Justice
Zero Tolerance Drug Supervision	SOTU, ONDCP, Justice	Note: The Senate Republicans have made their Drug Free Century Act a priority for this Congress.
Brady Waiting Period Permanent	SOTU	
Preventing Violent Juveniles from buying guns	SOTU	
Additional Funding for Federal Prisons	Justice	High priority for Justice
Increased funding to combat cybercrime and terrorism	Justice	High priority for Justice
New Resources to guard against illegal immigration	Justice	
Program enhancements for DoJ's litigation efforts	Justice	
Public Safety Initiatives in Indian Lands	Justice	
Crime Bill	DPC	High priority for DPC
Child Safety Locks for Handguns	SOTU, Justice	
Make Schools Safe, Disciplined and Drug Free	SOTU, ONDCP, Justice	NOTE: Senate Democrats have made the Safe Schools, Safe Streets and Secure Borders Act a priority for this Congress.
Climate Change	SOTU, EPA	

Livability Agenda: Easing Traffic Congestion	SOTU	NOTE: The Transportation Equity Act (TEA-21) set anticipated levels of revenue from the gas tax for the out-years for spending from the Highway Trust Fund. There will be about \$1.4 billion over the planned level in 2000. The Administration's budget assumes that we will spend this for activities related to transit that are part of the Livability initiative. Because the highway money and the transit money are distributed by different formulas, this will be viewed by critics as taking money from certain states and giving it to others. Chairman Shuster will be interested in doing authorizing legislation that will spend the money on different priorities.
Community Planning Community Development Equity Credit Regional Connections	SOTU, Treas., HUD	
Better America Bonds	SOTU, Treas., EPA	High priority for Treas., EPA
Lands Legacy Initiative	SOTU, Interior, Agriculture	High priority for Interior, Agriculture NOTE: House Resources Committee Chairman Young plans to reintroduce legislation that he had introduced last Congress with Rep. Dingell to use a greater portion of the OCS revenues for coastal states, infrastructure, conservation, and teaming activities.
Nuclear Waste	House	Speaker Hastert considers this an early action item. Reps. Upton and Towns have introduced essentially the same bill as the House passed last year.
Clean Safe Water	EPA	High priority for EPA
Clean Air Partnership Fund	SOT, EPA	High priority for EPA
AmeriCorps	SOTU	
Bipartisan Campaign Finance Reform	SOTU	NOTE: Senate Democrats have made the Congressional Election Spending Limit and Reform Act a priority for this Congress.
Reinventing Government	SOTU	
English Literacy/Civics	SOTU	
Civil Rights Enforcement	SOTU, Justice	

Employment Non-Discrimination Act	SOTU	
Hate Crimes Prevention Act	SOTU, Justice	
Millennium Communities Program	SOTU, Interior	
Save America's Treasures	SOTU	
Low Income Housing Tax Credit	Treas.	
Brownfields	Treas., HUD, EPA	NOTE: Senate Democrats have made the Brownfields and Environmental Cleanup Act a priority for this Congress.
Tax Credit for Energy Efficient Building Equipment	Treas.	
Electric Vehicle Credit	Treas.	
Tax credit for fuel efficient vehicles	Treas.	
Investment credit for combined heat and power systems	Treas.	
Tax credit for rooftop solar systems	Treas.	
Wind and biomass tax credit and expand eligible biomass sources extension	Treas.	
BIA Education Construction and School Operations	Interior	High priority for Interior
Land Management Operations	Interior	High priority for Interior
Indian Tribal Trust Fund Management	Interior	
California Bay Delta Ecosystem Restoration	Interior	
Improved Wildland Fire Management	Interior	
Science Support for Resource Management	Interior	
BIA Law Enforcement	Interior, Justice	

Indian Tribal Priority Allocations	Interior	
Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation	Interior	
Offshore Royalty Management	Interior	
Historically Black Colleges and Universities	Interior	
Natural Hazards Warning and Response	Interior	
Central Valley Project Improvement Act	Interior	
Food Safety	Agriculture	High Priority for Agriculture NOTE: Senator Daschlehas introduced the SAFER Meat and Poultry Act in the Senate.
Water 2000	Agriculture	
Food Quality Protection Act	Agriculture, EPA	
Civil Rights	SOTU, Agriculture	
Decennial Census	Commerce	High priority for Commerce
Natural Resources and Environment	Commerce	High priority for Commerce
Assisting Distressed Communities	Commerce	
Critical Infrastructure	Commerce	
Senior Housing Plan	HUD	High priority for HUD
New Housing Vouchers	HUD	High priority for HUD
One America: Fighting Housing Discrimination	HUD	
Expanding Continuum of Care for the Homeless	HUD, VA	
Citizen Volunteer Housing Corporation	HUD	

Emphasize energy efficiency and renewable energy	Energy	High priority for Energy
Additional funding to advance nation's scientific capabilities	Energy	High priority for Energy
Spallation Neutron Source	Energy	
Environmental Quality Programs	Energy	High priority for Energy
Fighting Childhood Asthma	EPA	
Focusing on High Risk Urban Air Toxics	EPA	
Improving Citizens-Right-to-Know	EPA	
Developing an annual National Drug Control Strategy	ONDCP	High priority for ONDCP
National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign	ONDCP	High priority for ONDCP
Identifying and managing the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Program	ONDCP	High priority for ONDCP
Operating the Counter-Drug Technology Assessment Center	ONDCP	
New Transit Full Funding Grant Agreements	Transportation	
Transportation Research and Development	Transportation	
Nationwide Differential Global Positioning System	Transportation	
FAA Reauthorization	Senate, House	This will be the first order of business for the Senate Commerce Committee.

DPC - Ricketti family project

▶ Paul J. Weinstein Jr.
02/01/99 03:23:45 PM

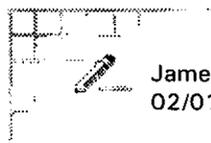
Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message
cc: Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP, Laura Emmett/WHO/EOP, Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP
Subject: Document For Ricketti

Ricketti is putting together this document. Please do the following: 1) identify any missing initiatives; 2) in the notes section, please add important info such as "bill has been introduced on xxx date and by xxx member of Congress; 3) identify if any initiative is a DPC priority.

Please complete by 2:00 pm tomorrow.

----- Forwarded by Paul J. Weinstein Jr./OPD/EOP on 02/01/99 11:53 AM -----



James T. Heimbach
02/01/99 11:50:15 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Paul J. Weinstein Jr./OPD/EOP
cc:
Subject: As Discussed

Paul:

Here are the copies of the legislative strategy memo that we discussed. I appreciate your help with this.



COMMUNIT.WP



FAMILIES.WP



ECONOMY.WP



EDUCATIO.WP



HEALTH.WP

Message Sent To: _____

FAMILIES

Issue	Priority Of	Notes
Expanding Child Care Block Grant	DPC	
Expanding After School Opportunities	DPC	
Child and Dependent Tax Credit	Treas., DPC	
Household Maintenance Test for Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit Elimination	Treas., DPC	
Employer-provided Child-Care Tax Credit	Treas., DPC	NOTE: Senate Democrats have made the Child Care ACCESS Act a priority in this Congress.
Stay At Home Parents	Treas., DPC	
FMLA Expansion - prohibiting discrimination against parents	DPC	

ECONOMY

Issue	Priority Of	Notes
Social Security Solvency	SOTU, SSA	<p>High priority for SSA, DPC, NEC</p> <p>NOTE: The Senate Republicans have deemed this a priority, and have put a placeholder in in anticipation of the White House bill.</p> <p>The House Committee on Ways and Means is expected to hold hearings on the subject, but nothing has been scheduled at this point.</p>
Economic opportunities for People with disabilities	SSA, DPC	<p>High priority for SSA, DPC</p> <p>Note: Senators Kennedy and Jeffords are expected to offer a bill in early February.</p>
Maintain service levels for social security beneficiaries	SSA	High priority for SSA
Re-Employment Initiative	SOTU, Labor	High priority for Labor
Helping Adults who lack basic skills	SOTU, Labor	High priority for Labor
Welfare-to-Work Reauth.	SOTU, DPC, Labor	High priority for DPC, Labor
New Markets Investments Initiative Empowerment Zones CDFI Fund Crop Insurance Program		
Information Technology Research	SOTU, Commerce	
Y2K		
Financial Architecture	SOTU, Commerce	<p>NOTE: The House Banking Committee will hold several hearings on financial services modernization in Feb.</p> <p>The Senate GOP has deemed this the biggest piece of unfinished business from the previous Congress, and anticipates action.</p> <p>Additionally, last fall the Senate Banking Committee approved a package of bank regulatory reforms, but Congress adjourned before the bill made it to the floor. Action on this issue is expected.</p>
Child Labor	SOTU, Labor	

Firm Commitment to Free and Fair Trade	SOTU, Commerce, Labor	NOTE: The House Ways and Means Committee intends to move directly to the floor with a miscellaneous tariff bill that was passed by the House last fall, but never saw floor action in the Senate.
Traditional Trade Negotiating Authority	SOTU	
Caribbean Basin Trade Enhancement	SOTU, USTR	
New WTO Round of Global Trade	SOTU, USTR	
International Labor Rights	SOTU, Labor	High priority for Labor
U.S. Manufacturing Exports	SOTU	
Youth Right Track Partnership	Labor	
Job Corps Center Improvements	Labor	
Equal Pay	Labor	Note: As part of the Senate Democratic agenda, Senator Daschle announced the Paycheck Fairness Act as a top priority for Senate Democrats.
Improve Economic Indicators	Labor	
U.I. Enhancements & Reform	Labor	
One Stop services to Workers & Employers (X-Cut)	Labor, SBA	
Innovative Enforcement/Alternative Dispute Res. (X-Cut)	Labor	
Minimum Wage Increase	SOTU	
21st Century Job Creation Initiative	HUD	High priority for HUD
Pensions	Treas.	
Corporate Tax Shelters	Treas.	

Safety Net for Farmers	Agriculture	High priority for Agriculture NOTE: Both the House and the Senate Ag. Committee Chairmen and Rankings have indicated that crop insurance reform is their number one priority. The Agricultural Safety Net and Market Competitiveness Act was introduced in the Senate by Senator Daschle as part of the Senate Democratic agenda. Additionally, Senator Lugar has introduced the U.S. Agricultural Trade Act.
Increase in USDA Research	Agriculture	
Increase Small Business Access to Capital, Credit and Business Development in New Markets	SBA	High priority for SBA
New Markets Venture Capital Program	SBA	High priority for SBA
Increase in SBA investment company equity capital programs	SBA	
Increase in SBA's hallmark program	SBA	
Outreach session to encourage formation on Small Business Investment Companies	SBA	
Establish up to 10 additional lending companies	SBA	
Simplify loan terms for loans less than \$150,000	SBA	
Funding for technical assistance and new direct loans	SBA	
Establish America's Private Investment Company	SBA	
Enhanced technical assistance and executive development training	SBA	
Enhanced business development assistance for Native Americans	SBA	
Enhanced business development assistance for Veterans	SBA	
Develop program under President's BusinessLINC Program	SBA	
Increase small business procurement opportunities	SBA	

HUBZones	SBA	
Targeted business development assistance to women business owners	SBA	
Modernize SBA	SBA	
Income Security Enhancement Act	Senate Democrats	
Tax Cuts for All Americans Act	Senate Republicans	
Regulatory/Risk Reform	House Government Reform and Oversight Committee	The committee expects to mark up a bill on February 2 or 3.
Unfunded Mandates Reform	House GOP	Republicans worked during the last Congress to extend unfunded mandate procedures to bills affecting the private sector. Incoming Chairman Drier has indicated he will act quickly on HR 350, which would allow any member to force debate and a vote on any bill on the House floor that imposes unfunded mandates of \$100 million or more on the private sector.

EDUCATION

ISSUE	Priority Of	Notes
21st Century Schools	SOTU, Education	<p>High priority for Education</p> <p>NOTE: During late January and early February, the House Committee on Education is expected to consider issues involving state and local control and flexibility over federal education spending. The House is expected to lay the predicate for mark-up of a proposal to extend existing "ed-flex" authority that currently allows 12 states to receive waivers from certain requirements governing federal education programs. Moderate Democrats are working with committee Republicans in the House to move the legislation.</p> <p>The Senate Health Committee approved the Frist-Wyden Ed-Flex bill by a vote of 10-0 on January 27. None of the committee's Democrats was present for the vote. Majority Leader Lott announced yesterday that the bill would receive rapid floor action.</p>
ESEA Reauthorization	DPC	High priority of DPC
School Construction Bonds	Treas., Education	
Work Place Literacy	Treas.	
60 Month Limit on student loan interest deduction elimination	Treas.	
Tax Credit for contributions to qualified zone academies	Treas.	
Americorps	Treas.	
Employer-provided educational assistance and include graduate extension education	Treas.	
Elimination of tax when forgiving student loans	Treas.	
Title I Grants to local Educational Agencies	Education	High priority for Education
Class Size Reduction Program	Education	High priority for Education

Teach Quality Enhancement Grants	Education	
Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs	Education	
Technology Literacy Challenge Fund	Education	
Adult Education State Grants	Education	
Comprehensive School Reform Demonstrations program	Education	
Charter Schools	Education	
Safe and Drug Free Schools Coordinator initiative	Education	
Postsecondary student financial aid	Education	
Work Study funding increase	Education	

HEALTH CARE

ISSUE	Priority Of	Notes
Long Term Care	SOTU, DPC, Treas., HHS	High priority of DPC, Treas., HHS NOTE: The House Commerce Subcom on Health will hold a hearing on Medicare risk adjustment on 2/3.
New Biomedical Research	SOTU, HHS	
Patients' Bill of Rights	SOTU, DPC	High priority of DPC NOTE: Senate Democrats have made this a high priority for this Congress.
Privacy of Medical Records	SOTU	
Small Businesses to Purchase Health Insurance	SOTU, Treas.	
New Options for Americans 55 to 65 to Obtain Health Insurance	SOTU	NOTE: Senate Democrats have made the Health Protection and Assistance for Older Americans Act a priority for this Congress.
Health Care Access for Uninsured Workers	SOTU, HHS	
Critical Mental Health Prevention and Treatment Services	SOTU	
Tobacco Legislation	SOTU, DPC	High Priority for DPC
Family Planning Grants Increase	SOTU	
Tax Credit for disabled workers	Treas.	
Safety and Health; Occupational and Mines	Labor	
Family & Medical Leave Act	Labor	
Health Care Protection	Labor	
Emergency care for service-connected disabled veterans	VA	High priority for VA

Expansion of non-institutional Long Term Care alternatives	VA	High priority for VA
Hepatitis C testing and treatment	VA	
Smoking cessation counseling	VA	
Nutrition Assistance	Agriculture	
Managed Care Reform		Rep. Bilirakis plans on introducing the GOP bill on February 2. Dingell introduced the Democratic bill from the last Congress on January 19.

I, PC - Ruckelshaus priorities project

Barack/Paul -
 The next iteration. Paul -
 Could you get people to add,
 subtract, edit? Thanks.
 Elena

COMMUNITIES

Issue	Priority Of	Notes
AmeriCorps	SOTU, DPC	<p>The Corporation for National Service Reauthorization is up during this Congress.</p> <p>POTUS may do an AmeriCorps Event on Feb. 10</p>
Campaign Finance Reform	SOTU	<p>The Senate Democratic Leadership has introduced the Congressional Election Spending Limit and Reform Act.</p>
<p>Climate Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clean Air Partnership Fund - Tax Credit for Energy Efficient Building Equipment - Wind and Biomass Tax Credit/Expand Eligible Biomass Sources Extension - Tax Incentives for Purchase of Energy Efficient Cars, Homes, Appliances - Cut Greenhouse Gas Emissions - Energy Efficient Goals in Federal Procurement Process - Restructuring of Electric Industry - R & D Funding for Energy Efficiency - Kyoto Protocol 	SOTU, DPC, DOE, EPA, USDA, NEC	
<p>Crime Bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 21st Century Policing Initiative - Zero Tolerance Drug Supervision - Brady Waiting Period - Preventing Violent Juveniles from Buying Guns - Child Safety Locks for Handguns - Assisting Victims of Crime - Safe, Disciplined, Drug-Free Schools - Additional Funding for Prisons 	SOTU, DPC, Justice, ONDCP	<p>The Senate Republican Leadership has introduced the Drug Free Century Act as part of their priority agenda. Additionally, Senator Lott announced in a speech given Jan. 27 that juvenile crime is a legislative priority for Republicans during this Congress.</p> <p>POTUS may do a Drug Control Strategy event on Feb. 8.</p>
Decennial Census	Commerce	

<p>Lands Legacy/Better America Bonds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Saving America's Treasures - Land Acquisition Grants - Planning Grants and Loans - Farmland Protection - Urban Parks and Forests - Forest and Wildlife Protection - Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund - Forest Legacy Program - Smart Growth Partnership - National Marine Sanctuaries - Coastal Zone Management Act - National Estuarine Research Reserves System - Coral Reef Restoration - Coastal Dredge Area Restoration - Fisheries Habitat Restoration 	<p>SOTU, Interior, Treas., EPA, Agriculture, DPC, Commerce/NOAA</p>	<p>POTUS has met with Senators Breaux and Landrieu about their bill to fully fund LWCF and to allocate OCS revenues heavily toward coastal states. The White House is working with these Senators to move their position closer to our Land Legacy approach.</p> <p>House Resources Committee Chairman Young plans to reintroduce legislation that he had introduced last Congress with Rep. Dingell to use a greater portion of the OCS revenues for coastal states, infrastructure, conservation, and teaming activities.</p>
<p>Millenium Project</p>	<p>FLOTUS</p>	
<p>Race Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased funding for EEOC - Increased funding for DOJ's Civil Rights Division - Funding for Civil Rights Enforcement Partnerships - Increased Funding for Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs - Increased funding for HUD's Fair Housing Initiatives - Increased funding for USDA's Office of Civil Rights - Increased funding for Education's Office for Civil Rights 	<p>SOTU, DOJ, Labor, HUD, USDA, Education</p>	
<p>New Resources to guard against illegal immigration</p>	<p>Justice</p>	
<p>Program enhancements for DoJ's litigation efforts</p>	<p>Justice</p>	
<p>Public Safety Initiatives in Indian Lands</p>	<p>Justice</p>	

<p>Livability Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Better America Bonds -- Easing Traffic Congestion -- Community Planning -- Community Development Equity Credit -- Regional Connections -- Community Centered Schools -- Regional Crime Data Sharing 	SOTU, Treas., HUD, Transportation, Justice	The Transportation Equity Act (TEA-21) set anticipated levels of revenue from the gas tax for the out-years for spending from the Highway Trust Fund. There will be about \$1.4 billion over the planned level in 2000. The Administration's budget assumes that we will spend this for activities related to transit that are part of the Livability initiative. Because the highway money and the transit money are distributed by different formulas, this will be viewed by critics as taking money from certain states and giving it to others. Chairman Shuster will be interested in doing authorizing legislation that will spend the money on different priorities.
Nuclear Waste	House	Speaker Hastert considers this an early action item. Reps. Upton and Towns have introduced essentially the same bill as the House passed last year.
Clean Safe Water	EPA	High priority for EPA
Reinventing Government	SOTU, NPR-REGO	
-- Civil Service Reform		
English Literacy/Civics	SOTU	
Employment Non-Discrimination Act	SOTU	
Hate Crimes Prevention Act	SOTU, Justice	
Save America's Treasures	SOTU	
Low Income Housing Tax Credit	Treas.	
Brownfields	Treas., HUD, EPA	Senate Democrats have made the Brownfields and Environmental Cleanup Act a priority for this Congress.
BIA Education Construction and School Operations	Interior	High priority for Interior
Land Management Operations	Interior	High priority for Interior
Indian Tribal Trust Fund Management	Interior	

California Bay Delta Ecosystem Restoration	Interior	
Improved Wildland Fire Management	Interior	
Science Support for Resource Management	Interior	
BIA Law Enforcement	Interior, Justice	
Indian Tribal Priority Allocations	Interior	
Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation	Interior	
Historically Black Colleges and Universities	Interior	
Natural Hazards Warning and Response	Interior	
Central Valley Project Improvement Act	Interior	
Food Safety	Agriculture	High Priority for Agriculture Senator Daschlehas introduced the SAFER Meat and Poultry Act in the Senate.
Water 2000	Agriculture	
Food Quality Protection Act	Agriculture, EPA	
Assisting Distressed Communities	Commerce	
Critical Infrastructure	Commerce	
Senior Housing Plan	HUD	High priority for HUD
New Housing Vouchers	HUD	High priority for HUD
Expanding Continuum of Care for the Homeless	HUD, VA	
Citizen Volunteer Housing Corporation	HUD	

Additional funding to advance nation's scientific capabilities	Energy	High priority for Energy
Spallation Neutron Source	Energy	
Environmental Quality Programs	Energy	High priority for Energy
Fighting Childhood Asthma	EPA	
Focusing on High Risk Urban Air Toxics	EPA	
Improving Citizens-Right-to-Know	EPA	
Developing an annual National Drug Control Strategy	ONDCP	High priority for ONDCP
National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign	ONDCP	High priority for ONDCP
Identifying and managing the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Program	ONDCP	High priority for ONDCP
Operating the Counter-Drug Technology Assessment Center	ONDCP	
New Transit Full Funding Grant Agreements	Transportation	
Transportation Research and Development	Transportation	
Nationwide Differential Global Positioning System	Transportation	
FAA Reauthorization	Senate, House	This will be the first order of business for the Senate Commerce Committee.

GOP INITIATIVES

ISSUES	PRIORITY OF	NOTES
Juvenile Crime	Lott	Lott stated that this would be part of the GOP crime agenda.

ECONOMY

Issue	Priority Of	Notes
<p>Social Security Solvency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- 62% of Projected Budget Surplus -- Investment of Portions of Surplus -- Eliminate the Earnings Test 	<p>SOTU, SSA, NEC, DPC</p>	<p>The Senate Republicans have deemed this a priority, and have put a placeholder in in anticipation of the White House bill.</p> <p>The House Committee on Ways and Means is expected to hold hearings on the subject, but nothing has been scheduled at this point.</p>
<p>New Markets Investment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- New Markets Tax Credit -- America's Private Investment Companies (APICs) -- SBICs Targeted to New Markets -- New Markets Venture Capital Firms (NMVCs) -- New Markets Lending Companies (NMLC) -- Continued Growth for CDFIs -- BusinessLINC -- Specialized Small Business Investment Companies (SSBICs) 	<p>NEC, SBA</p>	<p>Authorizing legislation will be required.</p>
<p>Worker Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Re-Employment Initiative 	<p>SOTU, Labor, NEC</p>	
<p>Safety Net For Farmers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Crop Insurance Program Reforms -- Farm Income Assistance 	<p>Agriculture</p>	<p>The Agricultural Safety Net and Market Competitiveness Act was introduced in the Senate by Senator Daschle as part of the Senate Democratic agenda.</p> <p>Senator Lugar has introduced the U.S. Agricultural Trade Act</p>
<p>Welfare-to-Work Reauthorization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Increase Assistance -- Responsible Fathers Initiative -- Long-Term Welfare Recipients -- Housing Vouchers -- Transportation Funds -- Tax Credits 	<p>SOTU, DPC, Labor</p>	

Disability-- Economic Opportunities for People with Disabilities -- Technology for Americans with Disabilities	SSA, DPC, Labor, NEC	Senators Kennedy and Jeffords are expected to offer a bill in early February. This initiative will require authorizing legislation.
Minimum Wage Increase -- \$5.15 to \$6.15 Over Two Years	SOTU	
Pensions	Treas., NEC	
Equal Pay	SOTU	As part of the Senate Democratic agenda, Senator Daschle announced the Paycheck Fairness Act as a top priority for Senate Democrats.
Information Technology -- Increase in Technology Research	NEC	
Helping Adults who lack basic skills	SOTU, Labor, NEC	High priority for Labor
Y2K		
Financial Architecture	SOTU, Commerce	NOTE: The House Banking Committee will hold several hearings on financial services modernization in Feb. The Senate GOP has deemed this the biggest piece of unfinished business from the previous Congress, and anticipates action. Additionally, last fall the Senate Banking Committee approved a package of bank regulatory reforms, but Congress adjourned before the bill made it to the floor. Action on this issue is expected.
Child Labor	SOTU, Labor	
Youth Right Track Partnership	Labor	
Job Corps Center Improvements	Labor	
Improve Economic Indicators	Labor	

U.I. Enhancements & Reform	Labor	
One Stop services to Workers & Employers (X-Cut)	Labor, SBA	
Innovative Enforcement/Alternative Dispute Res. (X-Cut)	Labor	
21st Century Job Creation Initiative	HUD	High priority for HUD
Corporate Tax Shelters	Treas.	
Increase in USDA Research	Agriculture	
HUBZones	SBA	
Targeted business development assistance to women business owners	SBA	
Modernize SBA	SBA	
Income Security Enhancement Act	Senate Democrats	

GOP INITIATIVES

ISSUE	PRIORITY OF	NOTES
Tax Cuts for All Americans Act	Senate, House	Cornerstone of the GOP's Congressional agenda.
Regulatory/Risk Reform	Lott, House Government Reform and Oversight Committee	The committee expects to mark up a bill on February 2 or 3. Lott listed this priority in a speech on Jan. 27
Unfunded Mandates Reform	House GOP	Republicans worked during the last Congress to extend unfunded mandate procedures to bills affecting the private sector. Incoming Chairman Drier has indicated he will act quickly on HR 350, which would allow any member to force debate and a vote on any bill on the House floor that imposes unfunded mandates of \$100 million or more on the private sector.
Bankruptcy Reform	Lott	Lott listed this priority in a speech on Jan. 27
Biennial Budgeting	Lott	Lott listed this priority in a speech on Jan. 27
Financial Services Reform	Lott	Lott listed this priority in a speech on Jan. 27
Electricity Restructuring	House, Senate	While comprehensive restructuring will be a challenge, there is momentum in both houses to accomplish some reform.
Grazing Reform Rollback		Republicans may attempt to rollback Department of Interior grazing regulations.
Multilateral Development Banks		The Asian, African, Inter-American and other regional development banks are scheduled for reauthorization. As usual, they will be considered by the Banking Committees collectively.
Community Development Block Grants		Key issue here is whether this reauthorization gets merged with certain federal housing programs. Such a coupling could complicate an otherwise straightforward reauthorization.

EDUCATION

ISSUE	Priority Of	Note
<p>Elementary and Secondary Education Act Reauthorization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- End Social Promotion -- Qualified Teachers Initiative -- Turn Around Low Performing Schools -- Effective Discipline Policies 	DPC	The major education reauthorization of this Congress. Likely to be fights over such issues as vouchers and changes to bilingual education.
<p>School Construction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- School Modernization Bonds -- Qualified Zone Academy Bonds -- Native American School Component 	Treas., Education	
<p>Class Size Reduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Funding for Local Schools to Hire 100 Thousand New Teachers 		
<p>21st Century Schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- 21st Century Community Learning Center Program -- After School Programs 	SOTU, Education	<p>Senate Democrats have made the Public Schools Excellence Act a priority for this Congress.</p> <p>During late January and early February, the House Committee on Education is expected to consider issues involving state and local control and flexibility over federal education spending. The House is expected to lay the predicate for mark-up of a proposal to extend existing "ed-flex" authority that currently allows 12 states to receive waivers from certain requirements governing federal education programs. Moderate Democrats are working with committee Republicans in the House to move the legislation.</p> <p>The Senate Health Committee approved the Frist-Wyden Ed-Flex bill by a vote of 10-0 on January 27. None of the committee's Democrats was present for the vote. Majority Leader Lott announced yesterday that the bill would receive rapid floor action.</p>
Work Place Literacy	Treas., NEC	

Digital Libraries	NEC	
60 Month Limit on student loan interest deduction elimination	Treas., NEC	
Employer-provided educational assistance and include graduate extension education	Treas.	
Elimination of tax when forgiving student loans	Treas.	
Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs	Education	
Technology Literacy Challenge Fund	Education	
Adult Education State Grants	Education	
Comprehensive School Reform Demonstrations program	Education	
Charter Schools	Education	
Safe and Drug Free Schools Coordinator initiative	Education	
Postsecondary student financial aid	Education	
Work Study funding increase	Education	

GOP INITIATIVES

ISSUE	PRIORITY OF	NOTES
Educational Opportunities Act -- Returning Control to Parents -- Supporting Exceptional Teachers -- Safe and Secure Schools -- Dollars to the Classroom -- Basic Academies	Senate	

HEALTH CARE

ISSUE	Priority Of	Notes
<p>Long Term Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Tax Credit to Compensate for Cost of Long Term Care Services -- National Family Caregiver Program -- Educate Medicare Beneficiaries Initiative -- Long Term Care Insurance to Federal Employees 	<p>SOTU, DPC, Treas., HHS</p>	<p>The House Commerce Subcom on Health will hold a hearing on Medicare risk adjustment on 2/3.</p>
<p>Tobacco Legislation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Justice Department Litigation -- Tax to Reimburse Government for non-Medicare costs of tobacco-related disease in future -- Raise Price of Cigarettes -- FDA Authority -- Funding for Critical Public Health Efforts to Prevent Youth Smoking -- Protect Farmers and Farming Communities 	<p>SOTU, DPC, Justice</p>	<p>Lott strongly opposes the Administration's proposal to raise tobacco taxes.</p>
<p>Patients' Bill of Rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Access to Needed Specialists -- Access to Emergency Room Services -- Independent and External Appeals Process -- Right to Compensation 	<p>SOTU, DPC</p>	<p>Senate Democrats have made this a high priority in Congress.</p> <p>Will require authorizing legislation.</p> <p>Lott listed Consumer Rights from Health Care Abuses as a priority in a speech given on Jan. 27.</p>
<p>New Biomedical Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Diabetes -- Combating Diseases Associated with Aging -- Development of Vaccines for TB, malaria, and AIDS 	<p>SOTU, HHS</p>	
<p>Privacy of Medical Records</p>	<p>SOTU</p>	

Small Businesses to Purchase Health Insurance	SOTU, Treas.	
New Options for Americans 55 to 65 to Obtain Health Insurance	SOTU	Senate Democrats have made the Health Protection and Assistance for Older Americans Act a priority for this Congress.
Health Care Access for Uninsured Workers -- Community Networks	SOTU, HHS	
Critical Mental Health Prevention and Treatment Services -- Targets hard-to-reach adults and children with severe mental illness -- Improve School Violence Abatement Programs -- New Effective Medications -- Services for Older Americans	SOTU	
Family Planning Grants Increase	SOTU	
Tax Credit for disabled workers	Treas.	
Safety and Health: Occupational and Mines	Labor	
Family & Medical Leave Act	Labor	
Health Care Protection	Labor	
Emergency care for service-connected disabled veterans	VA	High priority for VA
Expansion of non-institutional Long Term Care alternatives	VA	High priority for VA
Hepatitis C testing and treatment	VA	
Smoking cessation counseling	VA	
Nutrition Assistance	Agriculture	

GOP INITIATIVES

ISSUE	PRIORITY OF	NOTES
HMO Reform	Senate, House	<p>Lott listed this as a priority in a speech given on Jan. 27.</p> <p>Rep. Bilirakis plans on introducing the GOP bill on February 2. Dingell introduced the Democratic bill from the last Congress on January 19.</p>
Consumer Rights from Health Care Abuses		

NATIONAL SECURITY

ISSUE	Priority of	Notes
Enforcement of Wye Agreement -- Bolster Israeli Security -- Strengthen Palestinian Economy -- Jordanian Assistance	SOTU	
Payment of UN Arrears	SOTU	
Military Readiness -- Strengthen Recruitment and Retention Programs -- Enhance Training Unit Operations and Flight Hour Programs -- Additional Spare Parts -- Modernizing Weapons Program -- Replacement of Aging Equipment -- Update Computer Technology -- Development of Missile Defense Systems -- Improve Pay and Benefits for Military Personnel	SOTU, Defense	The House Armed Services Committee has a hearing on Missile Defense Systems scheduled for 2/24. Lott has stated that military readiness is a priority.
Counter Terrorism Initiatives -- Vaccine Research and Development against Biological Weapons -- Public Health Surveillance -- Metropolitan Medical Response Systems -- Strengthen Biological Weapons Convention -- Expand Efforts to Reduce Proliferation Threat of Biological Weapons -- Establish National Domestic Preparedness Office -- Monitor Computer Intrusions		

<p>Central America Initiatives</p> <p>-- Hurricane Mitch Response</p>		
<p>Northern Ireland</p> <p>-- Support the International Fund for Ireland</p>	SOTU	
<p>Peace in the Balkans</p>	SOTU	
<p>Cooperative Threat Reduction Initiative</p> <p>-- 70% Expansion of Threat Reduction Programs Over 5 Years</p> <p>-- Weapons Scientists into Civilian Research</p> <p>-- Dismantling and Destroying Warheads</p> <p>-- Tightening Export Controls</p> <p>-- Accelerating Russian Efforts to Withdraw Troops Outside Russia</p> <p>-- Restrain North Korean Missile Programs</p> <p>-- Biological Weapons Convention Monitoring</p>	SOTU	
<p>Containing/Opposing Saddam Hussein</p> <p>-- Increase Availability of Food and Medicine</p> <p>-- Support Opposition Groups</p>	SOTU	
<p>Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty</p>	SOTU	<p>Senator Biden has indicated that this is his highest priority. Helms does not plan to hold hearings on the treat until the Administration submits the ABM Treaty for Senate consideration.</p>
<p>Strengthening Alliances and Promoting Freedom</p> <p>-- NATO Summit</p>	SOTU, Defense	
<p>Expand foreign exchanges</p>	USIA	
<p>Upgrade information technology for public diplomacy programs</p>	USIA	

TRADE

ISSUE	PRIORITY OF	NOTES
U.S. - Africa Partnership for Economic Growth	SOTU	The House International Relations Committee will hold a hearing on the Africa Trade bill on Feb. 11. Floor action on the bill is expected in February.
Child Labor	SOTU, Labor, NEC	
Firm Commitment to Free and Fair Trade	SOTU, Commerce, Labor	The House Ways and Means Committee intends to move directly to the floor with a miscellaneous tariff bill that was passed by the House last fall but never saw action in the Senate.
Traditional Trade Negotiating Authority	SOTU	
Caribbean Basin Trade Enhancement	SOTU, USTR	
New WTO Round of Global Trade	SOTU, USTR	
International Labor Rights -- Establish New Multilateral Program at the ILO to Provide Technical Assistance to Developing Nations -- Encourage International Financial Institutions to Build Commitment to Core Labor Standards	SOTU, Labor, NEC	

<p>U.S. Manufacturing Exports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Additional Funding for Ex-Im Bank -- Expand Trade Development Agency -- Increase Resources for Export Advocacy and Service Delivery to Small Business Exporters -- Expand U.S. Efforts to Establish a Commercial Infrastructure in Developing Countries 	<p>SOTU, NEC</p>	
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GOP INITIATIVES

ISSUE	PRIORITY OF	NOTES
Fast Track Trade Authority	Lott	Lott listed this priority in a speech on Jan. 27
FTC Reauthorization		

MEDICARE

ISSUE	PRIORITY OF	NOTES
New Options for Americans 55 to 65 to Obtain Health Insurance	SOTU	Senate Democrats have made the Health Protection and Assistance for Older Americans Act a priority for this Congress.
Medicare Buy-In Option for Displaced Workers	Labor	
Work Incentives Improvement Act (see also Disabilities on Economy Chart)	Labor, Treas.	

GOP INITIATIVES

ISSUE	PRIORITY OF	NOTES
Medicare Reform	Lott	Lott listed this as a priority in a speech given on Jan. 27.
Opposition to Spending Surplus on Medicare	Lott	

FAMILIES

Issue	Priority Of	Notes
Child Care Block Grant -- Increase Funding for Child Care Subsidies -- Promote Early Learning -- Improve Child Care Quality	DPC	
Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit -- Increase Credit for Families Earning Under \$60 thousand -- New Tax Credit to Businesses that Provide Child Care Services for Employees -- Stay At Home Parents Initiative	Treas., DPC, NEC	Senate Democrats have made the Child Care ACCESS Act a priority in this Congress.
FMLA Expansion - prohibiting discrimination against parents	DPC	

GOP INITIATIVES

ISSUE	PRIORITY OF	NOTES

IV. COMMITTEE OUTLOOK

Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry

Commodities and Futures Trade Commission (the CFTC) Reauthorization
Crop Insurance/The Farmer Safety Net
Competition in the Agriculture Marketplace
Environmental/Animal Waste Issues
Food Safety

Appropriations

Patent implications of human stem cell research
Research for causes, prevention and treatment of cancer in minority communities

Armed Services

Increasing spending for military readiness
National missile defense
Pay raise for military personnel

Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs

Community Reinvestment Act (CRA)
Financial Derivatives
Financial Institutions Regulatory Reform
Financial Modernization
General Oversight
HUD Oversight
IMF Reform
Protection of Financial Privacy
Public Utility Holding Company Act
Reauthorization of Export Administration Act
Securities Regulatory Reform

Budget

Budget Process Reform
CBO Economic and Budget Outlook
Long-Term Fiscal Outlook
Mandatory Spending in FY 2000 Budget
National Defense Budget
Social Security in the 21st Century Part 2
The President's FY 2000 Budget Proposal [witness: Jack Lew, Director, OMB]

The President's FY 2000 Budget Proposal [witness: Robert Rubin, Secretary, Department of the Treasury (tentative)]

The President's FY 2000 Budget Proposal [witness: Madeleine Albright, Secretary of State (tentative)]

The President's FY 2000 Budget Proposal [witness: William Cohen, Secretary of Defense; General Henry H. Shelton, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff (tentative)]

Commerce, Science and Transportation

FAA Reauthorization
FTC Reauthorization
Internet Filtering
Review of the 1996 Telecommunications Act
The Effect of the Internet on Our Lives
The International Space Station
The Satellite Home Viewer Act

Energy and Natural Resources

Electricity restructuring
Lands and forest issues
Nuclear waste policy
S. 25, the offshore drilling and coastal assistance legislation

Environment and Public Works

Action on Open Spaces / Livability issues (depending on jurisdiction)
Credit for early action / Climate Change
EPA Oversight hearings
Report out Superfund bill (similar to S. 8, the Superfund Overhaul bill from last Congress)
RICRA (Remediating Waste)
Water Resources Bill
** No mention of Clean Water legislation

Finance

Across the board Tax Cuts
Alternative Minimum Tax
HCFA oversight
HCFA management of Medicare+Choice
Medicaid outreach to welfare recipients
Medicare Reform Commission
Patient's Bill of Rights
Pensions

Tax Credit for disabled workers (Jeffords/Kennedy)

Trade

-trade adjustment assistance

-shipbuilding

-CBI

-agriculture

Tax Credit Extenders .

Welfare to Work Reauthorization

Worker Disability Act, (Jeffords/Kennedy)

Foreign Relations

ABM treaty

Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)

Governmental Affairs

Budget Reform Process

Independent Counsel Statute

Health, Education, Labor and Pensions

Child labor [harmonizing ag child labor provisions with FLSA child labor provisions]

Comp Time

Corporation for National Service reauthorization

Early childhood education

Ed-Flex

ENDA

FMLA expansion

Global health issues

Medical privacy

Minimum wage

OSHA/MSHA Reform

Oversight on implementation of the FDA Modernization Act

Patients' Bill of Rights

Pensions

Public Health Service reauthorizations

Senior services and Older American Act reauthorization

Stem cell research

Tobacco (FDA) [Jeffords]

TEAM Act

Worker Disability Act, (Jeffords/Kennedy)

Judiciary

Assisted Suicide
Bankruptcy Reform
Child Custody Protection Act
Class Action Reform
Crime
Database protection
Encryption
Flag Amendment
Hate Crimes
H2A Visas (guestworkers)
INS restructuring
Medical Privacy
Patent Reform
Partial Birth
Republican Juvenile crime bill (S. 254)
Tobacco (liability & fees)
Victims' Rights Amendment

Rules and Administration

Campaign finance
Motor voter

Small Business

8(a) program regulations
H.R. 68, the Small Business Investment Company Technical Act
S. 314, the Small Business Year 2000 Readiness Act
Y2K problem

Veterans' Affairs

Health care for veterans with disabilities and aging veterans