

**NLWJC - KAGAN**

**EMAILS RECEIVED**

**ARMS - BOX 025 - FOLDER -002**

**[03/08/1998 - 03/10/1998]**

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Richard Socarides ( CN=Richard Socarides/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME: 8-MAR-1998 11:14:54.00

SUBJECT: Vetting of Possible Panelists for Denver Advisory Board Meeting

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN.

TO: Sidney Blumenthal ( CN=Sidney Blumenthal/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Thomas D. Janenda ( CN=Thomas D. Janenda/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Maria Echaveste ( CN=Maria Echaveste/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Amy W. Tobe ( CN=Amy W. Tobe/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Ann F. Lewis ( CN=Ann F. Lewis/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Minyon Moore ( CN=Minyon Moore/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Julie A. Fernandes ( CN=Julie A. Fernandes/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Stacie Spector ( CN=Stacie Spector/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Douglas B. Sosnik ( CN=Douglas B. Sosnik/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jonathan Murchinson ( CN=Jonathan Murchinson/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Beverly J. Barnes ( CN=Beverly J. Barnes/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Andrew J. Mayock ( CN=Andrew J. Mayock/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Sylvia M. Mathews ( CN=Sylvia M. Mathews/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Here is a list of possible panelists for the Denver meeting on March 23-24. Any red flags here? if not, I will vet more widely. It is a racially, ethnically and ideologically diverse mix.

First tier panelists -- Stereotypes

Joann Lee, CUNY or Shanto Iyengar, UCLA

Research shows link between media portrayals and attitudes toward race

Tim Giago, Editor Indian Country Today  
recommended by Laura Harris

Joe Feagin, U of Florida  
unrivaled dean about the sociology of prejudice

Jim Zogby, President, Arab-American Institute

Carmen Rivera from the YWCA or Margot Stern Strom from Facing History and  
Ourselves

Linda Chavez or Richard Estrada, syndicated columnists

Ben Wattenburg, American Enterprise Institute

Claude Steele, Stanford  
studies how stereotypes affect performance

Anna Devere Smith  
Actress

Moderator: Ray Suarez, NPR Talk of the Nation

Overview: Susan Fisk, U Mass, edited recent text on stereotypes and  
prejudice



**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON  
REMARKS AT HOUSATONIC COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT  
MARCH 10, 1998**

**Acknowledgments:** Sen. Chris Dodd, Rep. Chris Shays, Rep. Barbara Kennelly, Rep. Rosa DeLauro -- One of the reasons I came to Connecticut is because this state's leaders and representatives have been some of America's foremost advocates for better child care; Pamela Price, parent.

In last page of the Early Childhood Lab School's parent handbook there's a saying, "A child is like a butterfly in the wind. Some can fly higher than others, but each one flies the best it can ... Each one is special. Each one is different. Each one is beautiful."

After my visit, I could tell that it's a motto every teacher in this school lives by, that every child here is made to feel special every day. Every child in America deserves the same kind of high-quality care given to the children here, whether it's at a school like this one, a church, a neighbor's house, or at home. Today I want to talk about the urgent need to make child care in America better, safer, and more affordable. I want to talk about what we in the federal government will do to improve child care. And I want to talk about what Congress must do over the next 70 days that it is in session to help every working family give their children the care they need to thrive and grow.

These are good times for America. Over the past five years, we have successfully abandoned the false choices of the past and replaced them with a new economic strategy. We proved that we could indeed balance the budget and invest in our people and the future. As a result, our economy is booming. We have 15 million new jobs. Unemployment is the lowest in 24 years. Inflation is the lowest in a generation. Our social problems are bending to our efforts. Last year's historic balanced budget agreement provided working families with a \$500 per child tax credit, made college affordable for every American, and expanded health coverage to five million uninsured children. We are helping parents meet their responsibilities at home and at work through the Family and Medical Leave Act and the Earned Income Tax Credit. The American Dream is in reach for more and more families.

Now, we must knock down a stubborn obstacle to the American Dream -- child care that is often too hard to afford, too hard to find, or too dangerous for our children. With more families relying on two incomes or working longer hours to make ends meet, millions of children must spend time in care away from their parents. For them, child care is not just an option, it's a necessity. No parent should have to choose between the job they need and the child they love.

Since I took office, we have already helped the parents of one million children pay for child care. But it's obvious that we must do more. Today, I am releasing a report that confirms the urgency of our task -- and the overwhelming need that still exists in communities across America. The report shows that though they are coming up with some of the most innovative strategies to improve child care in America, states simply do not have the resources to meet the

needs of their families.

States have been forced to turn away thousands of low-income families. Here in Connecticut, the state child care bureau has to restrict its aid to families on welfare or teen parents in high school. They've stopped taking applications from working poor families altogether. At a time of unprecedented prosperity for America, this simply should not be.

The federal government must do its part to address our child care challenges. I want to make our federal child care centers, which care for some 215,000 children, a model for the nation. So today, I am directing my Cabinet to do four things to improve federally-sponsored child care centers. First, I am requiring that all centers conduct thorough background checks on workers. Often, we don't even check to see if the people we trust to take care of our children are trustworthy in the eyes of law. Connecticut is one of the few states that actually require criminal background checks of child care workers. This is unacceptable. We must make sure that people who have no business taking care of children in the first place never set foot in our child care centers. We require background checks of the bank tellers who guard our valuables. We must also require checks of the people who care for our children -- who are priceless.

Second, I am directing all centers to take steps to become fully-accredited by the year 2000. This way, we can make sure that our centers meet the highest standards of care -- in terms of training for workers, child-to-staff ratios, quality of facilities. Today, 76 percent of military and 35 percent of non-military centers are accredited. We'll make that 100 percent in the next 700 days. Third, we must make sure that all federal workers know about all their child care benefits and options in the first place. And finally, we must work with the private sector to make federal child care better and more affordable.

But Congress must do its part. In my balanced budget for 1999, I have proposed a comprehensive and fiscally-responsible plan to strengthen child care in our country. If Congress acts, we can double the number of children receiving child care subsidies, give tax cuts to businesses who provide child care, and expand child care tax credits to three million working families. These tax credits will mean that a family of four making \$35,000 a year and saddled with high child care bills will no longer pay a penny in federal income tax. If Congress acts, we can make child care safer with better enforcement of licensing requirements, tougher criminal background checks, and scholarships to talented care givers. If Congress acts, we can expand after school programs to keep 500,000 more children off the streets, off drugs and out of trouble.

I call upon Congress to pass this plan right away. Child care is an issue that touches nearly every family in America, one that should rise above politics and partisan interests. With just 70 working days before Congress adjourns, there is no time to lose. Our working families cannot wait. Our children cannot wait. As any parent knows, toddlers become teenagers and teenagers become adults in the blink of an eye. We cannot afford to waste a second when it comes to giving our children the care and education they need to become strong students and good citizens.

One last thing. I urge all of you to press Congress put aside politics and pass comprehensive tobacco legislation -- legislation that would reduce teen smoking by raising the price of cigarettes up to \$1.50 a pack over the next several years, imposing strong penalties on tobacco companies that keep on advertising to children, and giving the FDA full authority to regulate children's access to tobacco products. The revenue we raise from the tobacco companies could also help make my child care plan a reality. For years, the tobacco companies have tried to harm our children, now they can do something to strengthen them. I call on Congress to act now.

1998 could be one of the greatest years for America's children or one of the greatest missed opportunities to improve the lives of our children and our working families. Over the next 70 days, let us all work to shape that answer.

Automated Records Management System  
Hex-Dump Conversion

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Sarah A. Bianchi ( CN=Sarah A. Bianchi/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME: 9-MAR-1998 09:54:56.00

SUBJECT: Press release for AMA speech

TO: Laura Emmett ( CN=Laura Emmett/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Eleanor S. Parker ( CN=Eleanor S. Parker/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Peter D. Greenberger ( CN=Peter D. Greenberger/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Janet Murguia ( CN=Janet Murguia/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Anne E. McGuire ( CN=Anne E. McGuire/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Nanda Chitre ( CN=Nanda Chitre/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Lori L. Anderson ( CN=Lori L. Anderson/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Barbara D. Woolley ( CN=Barbara D. Woolley/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jake Siewert ( CN=Jake Siewert/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jonathan Murchinson ( CN=Jonathan Murchinson/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Stacie Spector ( CN=Stacie Spector/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Gene B. Sperling ( CN=Gene B. Sperling/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Ann F. Lewis ( CN=Ann F. Lewis/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Michelle Crisci ( CN=Michelle Crisci/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Lawrence J. Stein ( CN=Lawrence J. Stein/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Elisa Millsap ( CN=Elisa Millsap/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Peter A. Weissman ( CN=Peter A. Weissman/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )



**PRESIDENT CLINTON RELEASES NEW REPORT AND URGES CONGRESS TO PASS  
PATIENT BILL OF RIGHTS, COMPREHENSIVE TOBACCO LEGISLATION, AND THE  
MEDICARE BUY-IN PROPOSAL**

**March 9, 1998**

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Hex-Dump Conversion

In a speech to the American Medical Association (AMA) today, the President renewed his call to Congress to pass a patients' bill of rights, comprehensive tobacco legislation to reduce teen smoking, and his proposal to allow hundreds of thousands of Americans ages 55 to 65 to buy into Medicare. In his speech, which marks the first time a President has spoken to the AMA in fifteen years, President Clinton highlighted that he and the AMA are united on the need for a patients' bill of rights and tobacco legislation, and urged the AMA to lend its strong support to his Medicare buy-in proposal. Underscoring the bipartisan support for a patients' bill of rights, the President released a report showing that 44 states -- including 28 states with Republican Governors -- have enacted the "Consumer Bill of Rights" that the President's Quality Commission recommended and the President endorsed last year. In his speech, the President:

**RELEASED NEW REPORT SHOWING THAT 44 STATES -- INCLUDING 28 STATES WITH REPUBLICAN GOVERNORS -- HAVE ENACTED AT LEAST ONE OF THE PROVISIONS IN THE PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS.** The President released a new report that underscores the bipartisan support for the patients' bill of rights he endorsed last year. Highlights from this report are as follows:

- **Forty-four states have enacted at least one of protections in the patients' bill of rights.**
- **Patient protection laws have been enacted by Democratic and Republican Governors alike.** Twenty-eight of the 32 states with Republican Governors have enacted at least one of these protections.
- **Each of these patient protections has been enacted in at least eight states around the country and some have been enacted in as many as forty-one states.** For example:
  - Twenty-eight states -- including 16 with Republican Governors -- have enacted protections to assure access to emergency room services.
  - Thirty states -- including 15 with Republican Governors -- have enacted protections to give direct access to certain specialists, including access to qualified specialists for women's health services.

**URGED CONGRESS TO PASS FEDERAL LEGISLATION BECAUSE, DESPITE STATE LAWS, STATES HAVE NO JURISDICTION OVER MORE THAN 100 MILLION AMERICANS.** A patchwork of non-comprehensive state laws cannot provide Americans with the protections they need -- especially because state laws do not even have jurisdiction over more than 100 million Americans. For example, they do not cover tens of millions of Americans in self-insured plans covered under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). The only way to ensure that all health plans serving all Americans provide the protections envisioned by the Quality Commission is to pass and enact bipartisan Federal legislation.

**CALLED ON CONGRESS TO PASS COMPREHENSIVE TOBACCO LEGISLATION THIS YEAR.** The President also reiterated his call for Congress to pass comprehensive tobacco legislation this year that includes his five key principles:

- A comprehensive plan to reduce youth smoking, including: significant price increases; tough penalties on tobacco firms that continue to market to youths; public education and counter advertising; and expanded efforts to restrict access and limit appeal.
- Full authority of the Food and Drug Administration to regulate tobacco products.
- Changes in how the tobacco industry does business, including an end to marketing and promotion to children and broad document disclosure.
- Progress towards other public goals, including a reduction of secondhand smoke; promotion of cessation programs; public health research; and the strengthening of international efforts to control tobacco.
- Protection for tobacco farmers and their communities.

**REITERATED THAT THIS TOBACCO PROPOSAL COULD PREVENT UP TO ONE MILLION PREMATURE DEATHS OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.** The recent Treasury Department's study, based on conservative estimates from well-respected analytical models, concluded that the Administration's proposal to increase the price of cigarettes by \$1.50 per pack -- coupled with proposed sales and advertising restrictions -- would:

- Keep up to 1.9 million Americans from smoking in 2003 -- a 39 to 46 percent reduction in youth smoking. Over the next five years, the cumulative number of young people kept from smoking would be up to 2.8 million.
- The direct result of these policies over the next five years is that as many as 1 million of today's young people will be spared from premature deaths resulting from smoking-related diseases.

**URGED CONGRESS TO ACT NOW TO PASS HIS TARGETED PROPOSAL TO GIVE AMERICANS AGES 55 TO 65 ACCESS TO HEALTH INSURANCE.**

- **Americans ages 55 to 65 are one of the most difficult to insure populations:** they have less access to and a greater risk of losing employer-based health insurance; and they are twice as likely to have health problems.
- **The President has a carefully-targeted, fiscally-responsible proposal that would allow hundreds of thousands of vulnerable Americans to gain access to more affordable health care coverage by:** allowing Americans ages 62 to 65 to buy into the Medicare program; allowing displaced workers age 55 and over a similar buy-in option; and allowing Americans 55 and over who have lost their retiree health benefits to buy into their former employers' health plan.
- **The Congressional Budget Office just confirmed that this proposal will help hundreds of thousands of Americans without burdening the Medicare Trust Fund or the budget.**

**PRESIDENT CLINTON RELEASES WHITE HOUSE REPORT REVEALING THAT  
STATES HAVE ENACTED EACH OF THE PATIENT PROTECTIONS HE HAS ENDORSED  
-- INCLUDING MANY STATES WITH REPUBLICAN GOVERNORS  
March 9, 1998**

- **Thirty-four states -- including 21 states with Republican Governors -- have enacted information disclosure provisions.** At least 34 states have enacted provisions that require health plans to disclose information to help consumers make informed decisions about their health plans, health professionals, and health facilities.
- **Ten states have enacted provider network adequacy provisions -- including four states with Republican Governors.** At least ten states have enacted provisions to help ensure that health plan networks provide access to sufficient numbers and types of providers without unreasonable delay.
- **Thirty states -- including 15 states with Republican Governors -- have enacted protections to give direct access to certain specialists, including qualified specialists for women's health services.** At least 30 states have enacted provisions to give patients greater access to needed specialists, including giving women greater access to qualified specialists for women's health services.
- **Seventeen states have enacted continuity of care protections -- including ten states with Republican Governors.** At least 17 states have enacted protections to help ensure continuity of care for enrollees who are involuntarily forced to change providers.
- **Twenty-eight states have enacted protections to assure access to emergency room services -- including 16 states with Republican Governors.** At least 28 states have enacted legislation to help ensure that patients have access to emergency room services when and where the need arises. These provisions require health plans to pay for the initial screening examination and stabilization care -- regardless of whether the emergency room is in the plan's network -- when an enrolled person needs emergency services. Twenty of these states require the use of a prudent layperson standard to determine whether an emergency exists, to ensure that any person who reasonably thought they were having an emergency is covered by their health plan.
- **Forty-one states have enacted anti-gag clauses -- including 26 states with Republican Governors.** At least 41 states have enacted "anti-gag" clauses prohibiting health plans from using contract clauses that restrict providers' communications with their patients.
- **Eighteen states have enacted provisions that require health plans to disclose financial incentives -- including 12 states with Republican Governors.** At least 18 states have passed protections requiring health plans to disclose any financial arrangements with their physicians.
- **Nineteen states have enacted provisions to protect confidentiality of health information -- including ten states with Republican Governors.** At least 19 states have enacted some type of provision to help protect the confidentiality of health information for health plan enrollees

- **Eight states have enacted anti-discrimination provisions, including six states with Republican Governors.**
- **Twelve states now require that health plan enrollees have access to an external appeal process, including eight states with a Republican Governor.** At least 12 states now require that health plan enrollees have access to specially designated and independent external appeals entities, which are funded and empowered to hear and act upon such appeals.

Last November the President endorsed the “Consumer Bill of Rights” recommended by his Advisory Commission on Quality and Consumer Protection. These rights included: information disclosure; a choice of providers including provider network adequacy provisions, access to specialists (including qualified specialists for women’s health services), and transitional care provisions; access to emergency room services; participation in treatment decisions including prohibiting anti-gag clauses and requiring disclosure of financial incentives; protection of the confidentiality of health information; anti-discrimination provisions; and access to an appeals process.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Audrey T. Haynes ( CN=Audrey T. Haynes/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME: 9-MAR-1998 10:38:28.00

SUBJECT: Re: HCFAs Interpretation of Medicare Coverage for Abortions

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Christopher C. Jennings ( CN=Christopher C. Jennings/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Barbara D. Woolley ( CN=Barbara D. Woolley/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

I have not received calls on this, so CH has kept this under wraps! As soon as you all hear something, please let me know. I can certainly see the major problem we'd have over this. thanks

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Julie A. Fernandes ( CN=Julie A. Fernandes/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME: 9-MAR-1998 18:22:05.00

SUBJECT: INS -- Presidential Statement?

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Laura Emmett ( CN=Laura Emmett/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Elena,  
Tomorrow morning (9:30am) Commissioner Meissner is holding a press conference to announce Congress's final approval of the INS's FY98 budget. INS wants the President to release a short statement of support prior to the press conference. According to INS, the President has issued such a statement (related to final budget release) in each of the last two years.

Attached is a draft. I am also faxing you a copy of the statement that was released last year. Thanks.

Julie

=====  
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

Unable to convert ARMS\_EXT:[ATTACH.D58]MAIL461107766.026 to ASCII,  
The following is a HEX DUMP:

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**DRAFT -- INS Statement**

**STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT ON 1998 APPROPRIATIONS**

Five years ago, we began an effort to revitalize the INS by providing the resources and commitment to fulfill our responsibilities. Since then, INS funding has increased 153 percent. This increase has allowed our borders to be greatly strengthened through the use of added personnel and better technology. In addition, workplace enforcement has gotten tougher, and criminal and other illegal aliens have been deported in record numbers. By year's end, INS will surpass my goal of employing 7,000 border patrol agents -- more than double the number employed in FY93. Also, the INS has made needed reforms to our asylum system for refugees fleeing persecution and is working to guarantee integrity and provide improved customer service within the naturalization process for all qualified applicants.

Today's announcement represents continuing wise management of the additional resources requested by me and provided by the Congress. And it represents my Administration's continuing commitment to an immigration policy that recognizes the value of legal immigration while strengthening our efforts to restrict illegal immigration.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Mary L. Smith ( CN=Mary L. Smith/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME: 9-MAR-1998 17:59:32.00

SUBJECT: Conrad and Minorities

TO: Jerold R. Mande ( CN=Jerold R. Mande/OU=OSTP/O=EOP @ EOP [ OSTP ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jeanne Lambrew ( CN=Jeanne Lambrew/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Christopher C. Jennings ( CN=Christopher C. Jennings/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Toby Donenfeld ( CN=Toby Donenfeld/O=OVP @ OVP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Cynthia A. Rice ( CN=Cynthia A. Rice/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Sarah A. Bianchi ( CN=Sarah A. Bianchi/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Thomas L. Freedman ( CN=Thomas L. Freedman/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Bruce N. Reed ( CN=Bruce N. Reed/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

A quick search through Conrad's bill reveals the following provisions related to minorities

1. Section 101(d)(5), p.18 -- \$200 million to Indian Health Service.
2. Section 121(c)(1)(A)(i), p. 39 -- 2% of 21% (sec. 101(d)(6)) at the discretion of Director of NIH to, among other things, the Office of Research on Minority Health.
3. Section 601(a)(7), p.2 -- Research on "the relationship between the use of tobacco products and cancer, particularly among minorities."
4. Section 601(e), p.3 -- The tobacco-related research program "shall be conducted in a manner that ensures that research will be conducted to investigate the different effects of tobacco use on minorities and women."
5. Section 602(e), p.4 -- The research program related to patterns of smoking "shall be conducted in a manner that ensures that research will be conducted to investigate the different factors affecting tobacco use among minorities and women in proportion to their prevalence in the smoking population."
6. Section 611(a), p.6 - Awards grants to carry out community-based prevention programs, including in predominantly minority communities.
7. Section 621(a), p.8 - Counter-advertising targeting, among other groups, women and minorities.
8. Section 901, p.9 -The provisions of the Act shall apply to the manufacture, distribution, and sale of tobacco products in any area within

the jurisdiction of an Indian tribe or tribal organization.  
Other areas where minorities could be included: farmers, child care,  
education, class size, and more in the health services.



**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON  
REMARKS AT HOUSATONIC COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT  
MARCH 10, 1998**

**Acknowledgments:** Sen. Chris Dodd, Rep. Chris Shays, Rep. Barbara Kennelly, Rep. Rosa DeLauro -- One of the reasons I came to Connecticut is because this state's leaders and representatives have been some of America's foremost advocates for better child care; Pamela Price, parent.

In last page of the Early Childhood Lab School's parent handbook there's a saying, "A child is like a butterfly in the wind. Some can fly higher than others, but each one flies the best it can ... Each one is special. Each one is different. Each one is beautiful."

After my visit, I could tell that it's a motto every teacher in this school lives by, that every child feel here is made to feel special every day. Every child in America deserves the same kind of high-quality care that the children here have, whether it's at a school like this one, a church, a neighbor's house, or at home. Today I want to talk about the urgent need to make child care in America better, safer, and more affordable. I want to talk about what we in the federal government will do to improve child care. And I want to talk about what Congress must do over the next 70 days that it is in session to help every working family in America provide their children with the care they need to thrive and grow.

These are good times for America. Over the past five years, we have successfully abandoned the false choices of the past and replaced them with a new economic strategy. We proved that we could indeed balance the budget and invest in our people and the future. As a result, our economy is booming. We have 15 million new jobs. Unemployment is the lowest in 24 years. Inflation is the lowest in a generation. Our social problems are bending to our efforts. Last year's historic balanced budget agreement provided working families with a \$500 per child tax credit, made college affordable for every American, and expanded health coverage to five million uninsured children. We are helping parents meet their responsibilities at home and at work through the Family and Medical Leave Act and the Earned Income Tax Credit. The American Dream is in reach for more and more families.

Now, we must knock down a stubborn obstacle to the American Dream -- child care that is often too hard to afford, too hard to find, or too dangerous for our children. With more families relying on two incomes or working longer hours to make ends meet, millions of children must spend time in care away from their parents. For them, child care is not just an option, it's a necessity. No parent should have to choose between the job they need and the child they love.

Since I took office, we have already helped the parents of one million children pay for child care. But it's obvious that we must do more. Today, I am releasing a report that confirms the urgency of our task -- and the overwhelming need that still exists in communities across America. The report shows that though they are coming up with some of the most innovative strategies to improve child care in America, states simply do not have the resources to meet the

needs of their families.

States have been forced to turn away thousands of low-income families. Even in Connecticut -- a national leader in its commitment to children and child care -- the state child care bureau has been forced to restrict their aid to families on welfare or teen parents in high school. They've stopped taking applications from working poor families altogether. At this time of unprecedented prosperity for America, this simply should not be.

Our child care challenges go beyond affordability alone. Caregivers are often poorly-trained and poorly-paid for the very important jobs they do. In too many states, we don't even check to see if our caregivers are trustworthy in the eyes of law. Though criminal background checks are required in Connecticut, not every state requires child care centers to look into their employees' pasts. This is unacceptable. Something is wrong when you need more training to cut hair than you need to care for children, when the bank tellers who guard our valuables require more background checks than the people who care for our children -- whose worth is priceless.

The federal government must do its part to change this situation. I want to make our federal child care centers, which care for some 215,000 children, a model for the nation. So today, I am directing my Cabinet to do four things to improve federally-sponsored child care centers. First, I am requiring that all centers conduct thorough background checks on workers. We must make sure that people who have no business taking care of children in the first place never set foot in our child care centers. Second, I am directing all centers to take steps to become fully-accredited by the year 2000. This way, we can make sure that our centers meet the highest standards of care -- in terms of training for workers, child-to-staff ratios, quality of facilities. Today, just 50 percent of federal centers are accredited. We'll make that 100 percent in the next 700 days. Third, we must make sure that all federal workers know about all their child care benefits and options in the first place. And finally, we must work with the private sector to make federal child care better and more affordable.

But Congress must do its part. In my balanced budget for 1999, I have proposed a comprehensive and fiscally-responsible plan to strengthen child care in our country. If Congress acts, we can double the number of children receiving child care subsidies, give tax cuts to businesses who provide child care, and expand child care tax credits to three million working families. These tax credits will mean that a family of four making \$35,000 a year and saddled with high child care bills will no longer pay a penny in federal income tax. If Congress acts, we can make child care safer with stronger licensing requirements, tougher criminal background checks, and scholarships to talented care givers. If Congress acts, we can expand after school programs to keep 500,000 more children off the streets, off drugs and out of trouble.

I call upon Congress to pass this plan right away. Child care is an issue that touches nearly every family in America, one that should rise above politics and partisan interests. With just 70 working days before Congress adjourns, there is no time to lose. Our working families

cannot wait. Our children cannot wait. As any parent knows, toddlers become teenagers and then adults in the blink of an eye. We cannot afford to waste a second when it comes to giving our children the care and education they need to become strong students and good citizens.

One last thing. I urge all of you to press Congress put aside politics and pass comprehensive tobacco legislation -- legislation that would not only protect our children from the deadly threat of tobacco, but could also help make my child care plan a reality. The legislation would reduce teen smoking by raising the price of cigarettes by up to \$1.50 a pack over the next decade, imposing strong penalties if the tobacco industry keeps selling cigarettes to our children, affirming the FDA's full authority to regulate tobacco. I call on Congress to act now.

1998 could be one of the greatest years for America's children or one of the greatest missed opportunities to improve the lives of our children and our working families. Over the next 70 days, let us all work to shape that answer.

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Christa Robinson ( CN=Christa Robinson/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME: 9-MAR-1998 18:53:50.00

SUBJECT: TIMSS ROUNDTABLE

TO: Bruce N. Reed ( CN=Bruce N. Reed/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Michael Cohen ( CN=Michael Cohen/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Laura Emmett ( CN=Laura Emmett/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

As you all know, the President likes the idea of going to a high school for the TIMSS Roundtable. I think this will change the format of the event, so if you all have any opinions please let me know. If we go off campus it pushes us towards some open press event. Right now here are the options:

1. Do a pool spray at top of the roundtable, then have POTUS give remarks to an auditorium of students (open press). Downside: it will be hard for it to be anything but a rally; and I'm not sure an upbeat crowd is the ideal opportunity for him to be serious about the TIMSS results.
2. Do the roundtable entirely open press. It may help give the press more to write about. What do you think?

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Julie A. Fernandes ( CN=Julie A. Fernandes/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME: 9-MAR-1998 17:39:27.00

SUBJECT: INS reform

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Leanne A. Shimabukuro ( CN=Leanne A. Shimabukuro/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Laura Emmett ( CN=Laura Emmett/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Elena,

I just got off the phone with James Costello from the Justice Dept. They would like to get something from us that describes our process and conclusions to prepare the Commissioner for her March 31st oversight hearing.

Justice is also contemplating putting together a report from the AG to Congress, pursuant to the 1998 appropriations language that required the AG to report back by April 1st on the CIR recommendations, and may want to use this communication to assist in writing this report. I had understood that the Commissioner's testimony would serve as the required "report" to Congress, but Costello thinks that the AG may be contemplating something more.

We have not yet decided what form our communication to the AG re: conclusions from our review should take. Is it a memo from Bruce to the AG? Or something more informal? How should we proceed with this?  
Thanks.

julie

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Karen A. Popp ( CN=Karen A. Popp/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME: 9-MAR-1998 10:26:43.00

SUBJECT: Re: assault rifles

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ: UNKNOWN

TEXT:

We are having a conference call today at 3:00pm to learn the answer. On Friday, DOJ asked for more time to consider the question. (Treasury & ATF will also be on the call today.) I'll let you know the results. Karen



March 9, 1998

**CHILD CARE EVENT: TOUR OF CENTER AND SPEECH**

**DATE:** Tuesday, March 10, 1998  
**LOCATION:** Housatonic Community-Technical  
College  
Bridgeport, Connecticut  
**TIME:** 10:50 to 11:40 am  
**FROM:** Bruce Reed

**I. PURPOSE**

To underscore your commitment to making child care better, safer, and more affordable for America's working families by: (1) **issuing an executive memorandum to improve federally-sponsored child care, and (2) releasing a new HHS report that reveals a pressing need for greater child care investment.**

**II. BACKGROUND**

In Bridgeport, Connecticut, you will tour a model child care center at Housatonic Community-Technical College and then give a speech to a group of child care advocates, community leaders, elected officials, and students. Connecticut is the home of many congressional sponsors of child care legislation, including Senator Chris Dodd, and Reps. Barbara Kennelly, Nancy Johnson, and Rosa DeLauro. In addition, Connecticut recently passed bipartisan state legislation to promote early learning and improve child care quality.

**Executive Memorandum to Improve Federally-Sponsored Child Care**

You will direct executive agencies to take the following new steps to improve the quality of federally-sponsored child care:

- (1) Ensure proper thorough and timely background checks on child care workers in federally-sponsored child care.**
- (2) Achieve 100 percent national accreditation of federally-sponsored child care by the year 2000. Accreditation is done by nonprofit, non-governmental professional organizations to validate safety and quality. Currently, 76 percent of military child care**

centers are accredited and 35 percent of non-military federal child care are accredited, as compared to an estimated 7 percent nationally.

**(3) Explore opportunities for collaboration both within government and with the private sector to improve the quality and affordability of federally sponsored child care.**

**(4) Ensure that all federal workers have full information on child care benefits and options available to them.**

### **Release of New HHS Report on Child Care**

**HHS' new report, *The Child Care and Development Block Grant - A Report of State Plans*, outlines the strategies that states have developed to administer the Child Care and Development Block Grant. The report contains two key findings:**

- States need more resources to help working families afford child care. The welfare law allows states to use the Child Care and Development Block Grant to provide child care subsidies to lower-income working families -- defined as families with less than 85 percent of state median income. This new report shows that because of resource constraints, some states set eligibility levels far below what is allowed by federal law. For example, in 10 states, a family of three with as little as \$20,000 of income is not eligible for any help with child care costs. In as many as 37 states, a family of three with \$28,000 of income is not eligible for any help with child care subsidy. Further, most states have insufficient funds even to subsidize all families meeting their eligibility requirements.
- States have innovative strategies to improve child care quality, such as scholarships and basic training for child care providers, tax credits for businesses that offer child care services, initiatives to link the child care and health care communities, support for resource and referral services, and initiatives to expand school-age care.

### **New Report by the Children's Defense Fund**

On Tuesday morning, the Children's Defense Fund will issue a report of state expenditures of the child care block grant. The report, titled *Locked Doors: States Struggling to meet the Child Care Needs of Low-Income Working Families*, makes the following findings, which are generally consistent with those of the HHS report:

- State child care subsidy programs are so underfunded that they cut off eligibility at family income levels far below what is allowed by federal law and what is needed by families.
- Even those low-income working families that do meet state income guidelines frequently

cannot get the help they need. As of January 1998, about half the states had to turn away eligible low-income working families or put them on lengthy waiting lists for help.

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### Congressional Legislation on the Hill

Several Congressional leaders on child care are from Connecticut, including Senator Dodd, and Reps. Kennelly, Johnson, and DeLauro. All of their bills contain several elements included in your initiative, but most also include an initiative targeted to stay-at-home parents as well. In particular, Senator Dodd's bill, which is co-sponsored by 25 Senate Democrats, includes many of the elements of your initiative, such as a significant expansion of the Child Care and Development Block Grant, an expansion of the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, a tax credit for businesses that provide child care, an increase in the investment in after-school programs, and a fund targeted to early learning and quality improvements; it also includes a provision to assist stay-at-home parents.

### Recent Action on Child Care in Connecticut

Connecticut passed landmark child care/school readiness legislation in the 1997 session, on a bipartisan basis. The legislation provides full access to child care for three and four years olds, with emphasis on quality, parent involvement, family literacy, transition to school, and health linkages. Programs must be accredited to receive state dollars. Health care is linked to the legislation by requiring child care providers to ensure that children have had necessary and timely health screens. The legislation invested \$60 million in this area.

### Housatonic Community-Technical College's Early Childhood Laboratory School

Housatonic Community-Technical College enrolls 3,300 students and offers generalized two-year degree programs. The student body is 66% female and the average age is 29. The college's Early Childhood Laboratory School is a nationally-accredited center serving 40 children, in two classes of twenty. The ratio of teachers to children is roughly one to six. The staff ranges from those with Masters in Early Childhood Education to two former welfare recipients. Also, community college students serve as externs in the center to gain experience towards their degrees in early childhood education.

## **III. PARTICIPANTS**

### Speech Participants:

Mayor Joseph Ganim  
Representative Chris Shays.  
Senator Chris Dodd

Pamela Price, who is a parent of a five-year old daughter enrolled at the School. She is a former welfare recipient who is now attending the Technical College assisted by Pell Grants, and she is studying Early Childhood Education. She recently started working in an after-school program at a nearby elementary school.

**You**

**Members of Congress Confirmed to Attend**

- Senator Chris Dodd (D-CT)**
- Rep. Chris Shays (R-CT)**
- Rep. Barbara Kennelly (D-CT)**
- Rep. Sam Gejdenson (D-CT)**
- Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)

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\* The audience is made up of 150 leaders in child care policy in the state, including child care providers, business leaders, and parents.

**VI. PRESS PLAN**

Open Press.

**V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS**

- Upon arrival, *you* will be greeted by elected officials and Dr. Janis Wurtz, President, Housatonic Community - Technical College and Marie Nulty, Director, Early Childhood Laboratory School.
- **You**, accompanied by Marie Nulty, Mayor Ganim, Representative Chris Shays and Representative Chris Dodd, will tour the classroom of the Early Childhood Laboratory School at Housatonic Community-Technical College.
- **You**, accompanied by Mayor Joseph Ganim, Representative Chris Shays, Senator Chris Dodd and Pamela Price, are announced onto stage to “Hail to the Chief” and “Ruffles and Flourishes.”
- Mayor Joseph Ganim gives welcoming remarks and introduces Representative Chris Shays.
- Representative Chris Shays gives remarks and introduces Senator Chris Dodd.
- Senator Chris Dodd will make remarks and introduces Pamela Price.
- Pamela Price will make remarks and introduce **You**.
- **You** give remarks, work a ropeline, and depart.

*VI. REMARKS*

To be provided by June Shih.

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Christa Robinson ( CN=Christa Robinson/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-MAR-1998 11:31:16.00

SUBJECT: TIMSS Roundtable

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Michelle Crisci ( CN=Michelle Crisci/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Bruce N. Reed ( CN=Bruce N. Reed/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Michael Cohen ( CN=Michael Cohen/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

The current consensus on the TIMSS Roundtable is as follows:

Roundtable at Montgomery County Highschool with a pool spray at the top, then closed to all press except 1 print reporter.

POTUS (only) makes remarks to student body about the importance of taking tough classes and doing better in math and science. The thought was that this speech was only to justify going to the school and have some interaction with students, but not to make news. That means anything newsworthy would be said in his pooled remarks at the top of the roundtable. (I can certainly see this changing, but for now...)

Per Ann and Paul's suggestions, we're going to invite the female astronaut to attend as well.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jose Cerda III ( CN=Jose Cerda III/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-MAR-1998 14:41:49.00

SUBJECT: Checking for comments on ONDCP Letter on HRes 372, Opposition to Legalizin

TO: Christopher C. Jennings ( CN=Christopher C. Jennings/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Sarah A. Bianchi ( CN=Sarah A. Bianchi/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Leanne A. Shimabukuro ( CN=Leanne A. Shimabukuro/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:  
EK/Chris:

After my earlier e-mail to you on the marijuana resolution, I received the attached e-mail from OMB looking for our input to help get an Administration letter out. In brief:

ONDCP doesn't want the resolution to be taken up w/out comment from the Administration;

HHS wants the resolution to make clear that we're open to medical marijuana; and

I agree with ONDCP that we should send up a letter, but feel it should "tweek" the Rs by saying we appreciate and support the resolution, but -- more importantly -- prefer that Congress pass our drug strategy/budget. Also, I certainly don't think we need to add any language to our letter to make it more favorable to medical marijuana. The current draft already says we're studying the matter.

As for tobacco, I leave that decision to you, EK, and Bruce. I've got mixed feelings about injecting it into this debate, though it's worth thinking about. Let me know what you think, and I'll speak w/OMB about it.

Jose'

----- Forwarded by Jose Cerda III/OPD/EOP on 03/10/98  
02:30 PM -----

Ronald E. Jones  
03/10/98 12:04:47 PM  
Record Type: Record

To: Jose Cerda III/OPD/EOP, Leanne A. Shimabukuro/OPD/EOP, Christopher C. Jennings/OPD/EOP  
cc: James J. Jukes/OMB/EOP  
Subject: Checking for comments on ONDCP Letter on HRes 372, Opposition to Legalizing Marijuana for Medicinal Use -- due at 10:00 AM this morning

I need an affirmative response from DPC before I can clear the ONDCP draft letter on HRes 372 (circulated yesterday, Monday, March 9th as LRM REJ388). At one point the Resolution was scheduled for floor action tomorrow, subject to a rule. However, the Rules Committee has not yet scheduled a hearing on the Resolution, although it could be added to today's meeting on short notice.

FYI -- HHS has conditioned its clearance of a letter on ONDCP expressing support for the general intent of the Resolution but not endorsing HRes 372. HHS believes the Resolution strongly suggests that legalization of marijuana, even for medical use, is permanently insupportable. They agree that opposing legalization is appropriate at this time but want to keep options open if future research presents evidence that legalization is warranted.

If you need another copy of the Resolution and the ONDCP letter, please let me know.

Thanks,  
Ron Jones  
(53386)

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Brian A. Barreto ( CN=Brian A. Barreto/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-MAR-1998 15:13:13.00

SUBJECT: Supreme and Circuit Court Cases....

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Laura Emmett ( CN=Laura Emmett/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Gene last night asked me to look up five cases for him to review. He is speaking at the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, specifically on Higher Education and Higher Education Finance.

Gene suggested that I check with you to see if you have the cases he is specifically looking for.

1. Aderand (96?) Supreme Court
2. Croson (89?) Supreme Court
3. Hopwood (96-97?) 5th Circuit Court
4. Wygant vs. Jackson Board of Education (86) Supreme Court
5. MI Affirmative Action

If you have any of these please let me know and I will stop by, make copies and pick them up.

Thanks.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Julie A. Fernandes ( CN=Julie A. Fernandes/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-MAR-1998 10:41:59.00

SUBJECT: Immigration -- H1B

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Laura Emmett ( CN=Laura Emmett/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Elena,

I got a draft of the Kennedy bill last night. This is what it does:

1. Increase of cap to 90K for FY98, FY99 and FY2000, then reducing to 80K in FY2001 and back to 65K in FY2002. This increase is completely off-set by lowering the cap for H2B visas. H2B visas are general temporary workers (not necessarily "skilled") that require a labor certification for use.
2. Requires the Comptroller General to conduct a study (by Oct. 1, 2000) that assesses labor market needs for high tech workers. Study would project needs in 2001 to 2006.
3. Creates a Labor Dpt. loan program for training high tech workers. Secy of Labor to set criteria for which programs would qualify. Secy of Labor to set a fee for application for H1B visa (not to exceed \$500). Money would go toward endowing the loan program.
4. Provides for stiffer enforcement of misrepresentations on the labor application. Up the penalty to \$10K (from \$1K). Also, provides for regular, random audits by the Dept. of Labor (to determine whether what was attested to in the labor application is true).
5. Recruitment and no lay-off requirements prior to issuance of H1B visa.

julie

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Christa Robinson ( CN=Christa Robinson/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-MAR-1998 11:11:27.00

SUBJECT: Re: School Safety

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Bruce N. Reed ( CN=Bruce N. Reed/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Should we submit a scheduling proposal for the school safety event that is updated to include the newest report? If so, do you want to specifically push for either: event on the 19th, the top of POTUS press conference on the 20th, or the radio address on the 21st. (Ann's note attached argues against the 21st, so I think we need to come up with a specific proposal.) What do you think?

----- Forwarded by Christa Robinson/OPD/EOP on 03/10/98  
11:10 AM -----

Ann F. Lewis

03/10/98 08:42:22 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Christa Robinson/OPD/EOP

cc: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

Subject: Re: School Safety

Sounds like a very good event --the problem may be time because that week is so crowded. Is the 19th a possibility ??

As for the radio address: Because the 21st is the first Pew Conference on Americans Discuss Social Security and the President will do a live satellite address to them -- essentially kicking off the dialogue about social security -- we have been assuming that this should be the theme of the radio address .Otherwise we would really be competing with ourselves to make news.

Another option: We will also be looking for ways to make news during the Africa trip. If the timing does not work out ,is this something that could be released the last week of March -- with the VP ?

Message Copied

To:

Jennifer M. Palmieri/WHO/EOP

Michelle Crisci/WHO/EOP

Leanne A. Shimabukuro/OPD/EOP

Jose Cerda III/OPD/EOP

Stacie Spector/WHO/EOP



March 10, 1998

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: BRUCE REED  
GENE SPERLING

SUBJECT: Auto Choice

*Overview:*

The purpose of the memorandum is to provide you information on auto-insurance reform and reach closure on our position on the "Auto Choice" legislation introduced last April by a bipartisan coalition of Members of Congress. Over the last several months, an NEC-DPC inter-agency working group has spent considerable time analyzing the Auto Choice proposal and reviewing other auto-insurance reform options. It is the strong view of the working group that the benefits of the Auto Choice proposal does not justify the costs.

Although proponents of Auto Choice claim that it will reduce insurance premiums by approximately \$250 per year for the average driver, the working group found little evidence that this proposal or any other no-fault insurance plan will lead to lower rates. In the three states that currently mandate insurance companies to offer drivers choice between no-fault and pre-existing insurance plans (New Jersey, Kentucky, and Pennsylvania), there was no evidence that insurance rates fell when choice was implemented. In addition, our analysis suggests that under Auto Choice, bad drivers will benefit more than good drivers.

*Background:*

"No-fault" insurance plans allow policyholders to recover financial losses from their own insurance companies, regardless of fault, while restricting their right to sue.

Under current state no-fault laws, motorists may sue for damages beyond what their insurance company pays (i.e., economic damages above the policy limit and non-economic damages such as pain and suffering) only if the case meets certain conditions. These conditions, known as a "threshold," relate to the severity of injury. They may be expressed in verbal terms (a descriptive or verbal threshold) or in dollar amounts of medical bills (a monetary threshold). Some laws also include the days of disability incurred as a result of the accident. The academic evidence shows that verbal thresholds can lower insurance premiums but that monetary thresholds can actually lead to higher premiums because people have an incentive to exaggerate their medical bills so that they can sue for additional damages.

*Proposals:*

The working group has considered two options. The first is the Auto Choice legislation introduced by Senators McConnell and Moynihan and Representative Arney. Under this proposal, drivers in states that accept the new federal legislation have a choice between the existing system in their state and a no-fault plan called 'personal protection insurance' (PPI). A driver who chooses the PPI option gets first-party coverage for economic damages (mostly medical and lost wages), without regard to fault. The driver can sue or be sued for economic damages above policy limits, but cannot sue or be sued for non-economic damages ('pain and suffering') except in cases involving drug or alcohol abuse. A driver who opts to stay in the state's current tort system must purchase tort maintenance coverage (TMC) to cover accidents with PPI drivers.

Because of some of the problems associated with the Auto Choice proposal, CEA developed an alternative proposal, which achieves the same ends -- lower premiums -- but at less cost. This proposal would require insurance companies to offer premiums on a per-mile basis for those drivers who opted for no-fault coverage. Per-mile premiums would be charged based on an estimate of miles, with a rebate or surcharge issued every year after an odometer reading. Odometers could be read at regular inspections or by firms under contract with insurance companies. Insurance companies would compete in their per-mile premium, subject to current regulations; premiums would vary with region, driving record, type of car, and safety features, much as premiums vary now. While CEA supports this proposal over Auto Choice, they agree that the current political environment does not allow us to propose per-mile premiums. They would like us, however, to work to facilitate the voluntary adoption of per-mile premiums by states, insurance companies, and individuals.

*Analysis:*

There are a number of problems with these proposals. Perhaps most important, neither of the proposals guarantees that insurance companies will pass on savings to consumers. There is little evidence that over the long-term consumers saved money in states that have implemented no-fault systems compared to the period when no-fault was not mandated. In addition, it is not clear why the Federal government should enter into a field that traditionally has been the responsibility of state governments, and which there seem to active, on-going efforts of state innovation and experimentation. Such involvement might also appear to conflict with our long-standing skepticism of other Federal tort reform efforts.

The McConnell-Arney Auto Choice legislation has additional adverse consequences. The PPI plan initially will attract more bad drivers than good ones, because they will no longer have to be covered for non-economic damages. As bad drivers enter the PPI system, the premiums of safe drivers maintaining their current coverage will increase because of the need to cover losses incurred as a result of other drivers' fault. Then, as the premiums of drivers in the non-PPI system rise, more and more people will switch to PPI, thus further raising premiums for those left in the system -- the very safest drivers. The end result is the progressive penalization of

safe driving -- and perhaps, in the end, the virtual collapse of the non-PPI option.

As noted above, proponents of the Auto Choice legislation claim that premiums for the average driver will be reduced by \$250 per year. While it is unclear whether this benefit will ever materialize, their estimates reflect the fact that motorists will no longer be covered for pain and suffering, which accounts for about one-third of auto-insurance premium rates. Any reduction in auto insurance premiums, though, would have the unintended consequence of increasing the number of miles driven, which would lead to more accidents, highway deaths, congestion, and environmental degradation.

The Per-mile premium option addresses this problem, but we believe that we could not sustain support for it. While we would argue that the average premium for drivers would fall under CEA's proposal, opponents would counter that we are "taxing" each mile that middle-income families drive. They would also argue that monitoring miles is an example of "big government" intrusion into people's lives.

Although Auto Choice has wide bipartisan support -- from Senator McConnell to Senator Moynihan and from Grover Nyquist to Mike Dukakis -- consumer groups, auto safety groups, environmentalists, and attorneys representing automobile accident victims will oppose this legislation.

**Recommendation:**

There is unanimous agreement among the NEC-DPC interagency working group -- including the Office of White House Counsel, the Office of the Vice President, CEA, OMB, Transportation, and Treasury -- that you should oppose the McConnell-Arney Auto Choice bill.

Assuming you agree, the remaining issue is when to announce your position. If we announce our opposition now, we may encourage supporters to bring the legislation up so as to define their disagreement with us. By contrast, if we remain quiet, the legislation may die on its own. We therefore believe that it would be best to hold off any statement on the bill for now. If Auto Choice comes to the floor, you could oppose it in a speech or we could issue a Statement of Administration Policy.

**Decision:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Oppose Auto Choice, But Do Not Announce Position Unless And Until Bill Comes To Floor (RECOMMENDED)

\_\_\_\_\_ Oppose Auto Choice, But Announce Position Now

\_\_\_\_\_ Discuss Further

Automated Records Management System  
Hex-Dump Conversion

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jose Cerda III ( CN=Jose Cerda III/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-MAR-1998 19:26:13.00

SUBJECT: Events Update

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Bruce N. Reed ( CN=Bruce N. Reed/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Leanne A. Shimabukuro ( CN=Leanne A. Shimabukuro/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Christa Robinson ( CN=Christa Robinson/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Michael Cohen ( CN=Michael Cohen/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

BR/EK:

In case this comes up at tomorrow morn's senior staff:

Assaults -- Last I heard from EK, Treasury would not be ready Friday and wanted two more weeks to work the process. EK was going to visit again w/Rahm and talk to Ray Kelly.

Crime/Tobacco -- BR seems to have put the focus back on tobacco.

School Violence -- Education/DOJ is saying that they can't be ready earlier than Monday, so they're out as a radio address back-up for this Saturday, but they can definitely do the 19th and should be able to do the 21st radio address if that works. They aren't willing to hold one of their data sets past next week, however. Rahm suggested to me that even doing a Reno/Riley meeting w/POTUS followed by a WH brief would be good. I agree.

Jose'



**Crime Meeting Agenda  
March 11, 1998**

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**Pending Events**

- \* 3/14 assault weapons radio address (tentative)
  - CA assault weapons decision
  
- \* 3/19 school violence indicators (tentative)
  - Violence and Discipline Problems in US Schools '96-'97
  - School Crime Supplement '89/'95
  - Outline of proposed School Violence Indicators Report
  - COPS funding availability -- \$12 million for schools

**Legislative Update**

- \* Juvenile crime
  
- \* Drugs
  - Crack cocaine: draft Lott/Hatch/Abraham letter
  - Proposed marijuana resolution
  
- \* Prison drug testing/treatment legislation
  - March 23 to 25 conference; possible announcements
  
- \* Justice authorization

**Other Potential Events**

- \* Big picture crime speech

**Miscellaneous/ Pending Items**

- \* Any other pending events/releases--DOJ Reports
  
- \* DOL/OSHA report on workplace violence
  
- \* COPS update -- Daley waiver, other options
  
- \* Curios/relics report

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Julie A. Fernandes ( CN=Julie A. Fernandes/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-MAR-1998 18:33:41.00

SUBJECT: Leadership Conference Mtg. w/Erskine

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Bruce N. Reed ( CN=Bruce N. Reed/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Laura Emmett ( CN=Laura Emmett/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Cathy R. Mays ( CN=Cathy R. Mays/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Bruce/Elena:

The Race Initiative has scheduled a meeting between Erskine and the Leadership Conference for Civil Rights for Friday from 1 to 3:00pm in the Roosevelt Room. The purpose of the meeting is to update Wade Henderson and his Executive Committee on what the Initiative (including the White House) has been up to since last summer. According to the PIR, they had originally intended to have Frank Raines do an overview of the budget items related to the Initiative, but now would also like both Gene and Bruce to do short (5 min.) discussions of Initiative-related policy. Are either of you available to do this?

I have spoken with NEC and OMB folks about coordinating the outlines for these updates. Judy Winston would like to have these by COB tomorrow (for Erskine's briefing book).

Thanks.

Julie

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jerold R. Mande ( CN=Jerold R. Mande/OU=OSTP/O=EOP [ OSTP ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-MAR-1998 20:14:39.00

SUBJECT: Re: Cloning update.

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

We are trying to schedule the groups meeting. I told Barbara Woolley you would chair it. Barbara is waiting to get a time on your schedule. We are trying for next week.

Kennedy's staff see no movement in the Senate at this time. They are standing firm with their bill and waiting for the Rs to come to them.

In the House there are rumors of an Army bill, but no details. House D staff also don't expect movement soon.

I am working with my contacts among bioethicists to find religious leaders who would be willing to speak up on our side.

Elena Kagan  
03/08/98 01:37:30 PM  
Record Type: Record

To: Jerold R. Mande/OSTP/EOP  
cc:  
Subject: Re: Cloning update.

what happened to this meeting?  
anything else I should know about?  
what's the most recent legislative gossip?



**TOBACCO FARMERS**  
March 9, 1998

Automated Records Management System  
Hex-Dump Conversion

**Background:**

Since the 1930s, tobacco prices have been supported and stabilized by the federal government's commodity support program. The tobacco program operates through a combination of marketing quotas, which limit supply, and no-net-cost tobacco loans, which help to balance supply with demand. There are two main types of tobacco, Flue-cured and Burley. Flue-cured is common in North Carolina, Burley is more popular in Kentucky.

The settlement agreement with the Attorneys General did not outline a plan to compensate farmers for the negative effects of diminished domestic tobacco sales that might result from comprehensive legislation. The President, however, made protecting tobacco farmers and their communities one of the five key elements of his plan for comprehensive tobacco legislation.

**Status in Congress:**

Thus far, three types of legislative approaches have been discussed. First, Senator Lugar has proposed legislation that would quickly "buy-out" quota owners from the governmental system at approximately \$8 a pound. In Senator Lugar's plan, tobacco prices would then be subject to the free market. Second, Senator Ford has proposed legislation that would maintain the current quota system. However, if prices decline Senator Ford would require the government to compensate farmers for the difference between the prices farmers would have enjoyed without legislation and the diminished prices they may experience -- up to a total of up to \$8 per pound. Senator Ford's bill also includes approximately a \$500 million a year transition fund for communities. Finally, Senator Robb has legislation that would combine elements of both pieces of legislation. Senator Robb plans on buying-out farmers, but replacing the quota system with a production control system based on licenses. Unlike quotas, licenses would be given only to those who actually grew tobacco and could not be bought or rented.

No consensus has yet emerged in the tobacco growing community as to which legislation is preferred. Senator Ford's proposal, the LEAF Act, appeals most to Burley growers like those in Kentucky who have small farms and want to continue the quota program. Senator Robb's approach has gained some support from Flue-cured farmers (based mainly in North Carolina and Virginia) who believe the buy-out and license system better fits more capital-intensive Flue-cured production. Senator Lugar's approach has some appeal to conservative farmers but has not attracted widespread support, and even those tobacco-state senators like McConnell who may philosophically favor this approach likely would not come out for it publicly.

Senators Ford and Robb have discussed a compromise bill which would treat Flue-cured and Burley tobacco differently. Under this approach, Flue-cured growers would be bought-out

and remaining growers would use a license system like that supported by Senator Robb, Burley growers would remain subject to the quota system as favored by Senator Ford in the LEAF Act. The Administration has encouraged their efforts at compromise. Many members of the House are looking to Ford and Robb for a workable compromise which could then be introduced by a tobacco state coalition in the House. The major issue separating Ford and Robb at this point is Robb's belief that there should be a decrease in the legislatively-set price of Flue-cured tobacco so it can be more competitive internationally. Senator Ford has opposed this, and the Administration has expressed concern to Robb's staff that decreasing the price of tobacco, no matter how small its effect on the price of cigarettes, is likely not compatible with comprehensive tobacco legislation. Senators Helms and Faircloth originally saw Senator Ford's bill as a useful block in place of Senator Lugar's bill, and Ford attracted their initial support along with that of 4 other Republican co-sponsors. Senator Ford continues to work with Helms and Faircloth in crafting a bill that can obtain bipartisan support.

Automated Records Management System  
Hex-Dump Conversion

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Bruce N. Reed ( CN=Bruce N. Reed/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-MAR-1998 12:45:31.00

SUBJECT: Re: Needles

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

hope this is ok

----- Forwarded by Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP on 03/10/98  
12:45 PM -----

Bruce N. Reed

03/10/98 11:15:48 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Phillip Caplan/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: Re: Needles

Elena is drafting a needles memo, which should be ready by tomorrow. You could send them in together. Sorry for the holdup -- we have a real bureaucratic fight on our hands on this one.



**Talking Points for Senate Democratic Caucus**  
**March 10, 1998**

- The President wants comprehensive, bipartisan legislation this year. Every day we delay, 3,000 kids become regular smokers and 1,000 of them will die prematurely from this addiction.
- The President has made his priorities clear. He has called on Congress to enact comprehensive, bipartisan legislation that:
  - Raises the price of cigarettes by up to \$1.50 a pack over the next ten years and imposes tough penalties on companies that continue to sell to kids;
  - Expressly confirms the FDA authority to regulate tobacco products;
  - Gets tobacco companies out of the business of marketing to children;
  - Furthers public health research and goals;
  - Protects tobacco farmers and their communities.
- We will hold out for a high standard, and that we will not do anything that undermines our public health goal of dramatically reducing teen smoking. A piecemeal approach will not meet our overriding goal of dramatically reducing teen smoking.
- We can't just play politics -- we need to move ahead to enact comprehensive legislation. That's why we need to engage Republicans at every step of the process to improve their legislation so it meets our priorities.
- We would prefer not to have liability limits either, but we have said they are not a dealbreaker because we think the most important thing is to get a comprehensive bill that raises the costs of cigarettes substantially, imposes tough penalties on companies that sell to kids, and reaffirms the FDA's authority to regulate tobacco products.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Michael Cohen ( CN=Michael Cohen/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-MAR-1998 11:22:41.00

SUBJECT: NEXT TWO WEEKS

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
 READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Bruce N. Reed ( CN=Bruce N. Reed/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
 READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

I thought you might find this summary of upcoming education-related activity on the hill useful. Please note that, near the end of the message, they are asking for some guidance on tobacco-related issues. In particular, what should they know--and what should they do with respect to class size--for the tobacco legislation Jeffords will be taking up later this week?

----- Forwarded by Michael Cohen/OPD/EOP on 03/10/98  
 11:19 AM -----

Susan\_Frost @ ed.gov (Susan Frost)  
 03/09/98 11:29:15 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Michael Cohen/OPD/EOP, Robert M. Shireman/OPD/EOP  
 cc:  
 Subject: NEXT TWO WEEKS

fyi.....susan

----- Forward Header

Subject: NEXT TWO WEEKS  
 Author: Susan Frost at Wdcb04  
 Date: 3/9/98 11:25 PM

FOR INTERNAL DISCUSSION ONLY!!!

Just to recap what we were told today at our hill meetings ---issues that are coming up on the hill in the next two weeks that will need immediate and ongoing attention.....and initial efforts to address those issues...

SENATE WILL TAKE UP COVERDELL WEEK OF MARCH 16TH ----- DEMOCRATS WILL OFFER SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION AS SUBSTITUTE

Secretary Riley met with Senator Daschle last week and agreed that the best way to defeat proposals like Coverdell is to offer an alternative that really forces a choice between our education agenda and theirs. Senator Mosely-Braun will offer the Administration's School Construction legislation as a substitute for the Coverdell IRA

expansion for private school tuition and other educational expenses. The Senate will take up Coverdell next week and the vote on the substitute will probably be Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. This is the first big floor vote on the President's education initiatives this year and we are putting maximum effort behind it.

Daschle's whip count today told us that almost all Democrats will vote for the substitute (Lieberman and Toricelli may be the exceptions). But we have only begun to work this vote!!! We are urging the entire Senate to vote for this proposal --- recent bipartisan polls found solid support for school construction from Democrats and Republicans across the country. If the substitute fails, however, we are strongly urging Members to vote against cloture on Coverdell. AND we expect school construction to be offered on other moving bills until we have the votes to pass it.

There are currently 43 organizations that have endorsed the President's school construction bill..... and more are coming in. (We have the list if you need it.) The Secretary met with the major k-12 education groups on Thursday on this issue. At least three of those groups have conferences in town next week --- Elementary and Secondary School Principals, Chief State School Officers (Secretary speaks to them Sunday) and TRIO directors. Please let me know if any of you or your staff are speaking at these conferences.

We expect this week and next to be very important in getting our message out. We have summaries of our school construction proposal including state and city-by-city allocations and other information if you need it. We are also working on a comparison of the two proposals --- Coverdell VS School Construction --- showing how many more children and families would benefit from modernized schools vs another IRA expansion.

We expect the President to highlight this issue at the education TIMSS event he is doing at the White House on Monday morning. The Vice President is doing a School Construction event on Friday the 20th in Congresswoman Sanchez's district in CA. The Secretary or the VP may be speaking to the principals conference. Other events are in the works. There are plans for a tentative press conference by the Secretary and others on Tuesday. Any ideas you have, please let us know.

We are beginning to plan the school construction regional forums the VP announced a few weeks ago. May take place April 6th or 8th. These would be followed by a major event in September on the Schools of the 21st Century. We meet this week with the groups that are interested in helping to set up these events.

#### HOUSE MARK-UP OF HEA REAUTHORIZATION

The House Subcommittee marked up the HEA reauthorization bill last week and expects to go to full committee March 18th. Two of the main titles ----Title IV Student Aid and Title V Teacher Professional Development were not included and will be added at full committee. We are working with the Democrats on the committee to get two of our new initiatives --- Lighthouse Partnerships/Teacher Recruitment and High Hopes added at full committee. We have much work to do on both including getting High Hope legislation to the hill before they will consider it! We have set up a meeting on Friday with the Secretary and key CEOs of groups to discuss our Title V and High Hopes

proposals.

A major controversial issue is the student loan interest rates --- the Administration has made a proposal that would protect students and maintain the program. We are waiting to see what the committee's proposal will be. It is not clear where the higher ed institutions and/or the students will be on competing proposals or if they will come up with their own. Democrats are urging them to do the later. If committee comes in "too high", Clay and Kildee will offer an amendment to drive the rate down (undefined amount).

At this moment, the committee expects to keep the interest rate issue tied to the reauthorization bill rather than moving it separately. The Senate wants to do the same. This will all depend on how fast they can move these bills since the interest rate deadline is July 1. Both the Senate and House committees have a promise of floor time from their leaderships if they can move their bills this spring. Conference would be in June.

WORKFORCE BILL ---- it may happen!!! Senate is close to agreement from all sides on moving their bill to the floor next week (could bring it up right before Coverdell). Trish/Jon --- news on this?

THE FY 1999 BUDGET RESOLUTION ---- TAX, TOBACCO and Education Funds

The

Senate will move the Congressional Budget Resolution for FY1999 in the Budget Committee Wednesday and Thursday. We expect a Freeze at last year's level for Function 500 (education and training) in the Chairman's mark. Senator Murray is planning to offer an amendment to increase the mark to the President's level for education plus a substantial amount for IDEA. Good message amendment and can be offere

d

again on the Senate floor.

The Chairman's mark is expected to include a reserve fund for future tax legislation that may be broad enough to accommodate school construction (although they will list specifics). Chairman Domenici will also offer a Tobacco reserve fund for future legislation but will probably designate the proceeds for Medicare. Senator Murray is talking about offering an amendment for childcare and class size. However, Democrats are not unified on this one. Several Democrats have said they only want health related issues to be paid for with Tobacco legislation. Others are concerned that Class Size and Childcare will have to compete for funding. Doesn't look like a clear message developing here.

Meanwhile, we understand that more than one committee will move tobacco legislation this week and next. Senator Jeffords plans to move legislation in Labor Committee on Wednesday. Senator Conrad already has a proposal out there. Others are in the offing. This is all getting very confusing --- we have asked Mike Cohen for White House guidance on all of this. (DPC is in charge of Tobacco and Class Size!!)

THESE ARE THE ISSUES WE KNOW WILL NEED FOCUS BY ALL OF US IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS --- Comments, questions, additional information, corrections are all welcome!!!



RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Andrea Kane ( CN=Andrea Kane/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-MAR-1998 11:46:45.00

SUBJECT: Welfare Reform Q&As for quick review

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Laura Emmett ( CN=Laura Emmett/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Cynthia A. Rice ( CN=Cynthia A. Rice/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====  
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

Unable to convert ARMS\_EXT: [ATTACH.D93]MAIL44179486H.026 to ASCII,  
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**Questions and Answers on Welfare Reform  
March 10, 1998**

**Q: Recent state studies, such as those cited today in USA Today, show that about half of former welfare recipients are finding jobs. Do you consider that a success?**

**A:** Not enough time has passed for full scale research studies to be completed to tell us why welfare recipients leave the rolls or how they are doing when they do. However, early research from a number of states provides a helpful snapshot. These preliminary studies are generally encouraging. More people are going to work. On average, most states are finding that slightly over half of their former welfare recipients are working after leaving the rolls--combined with record caseload declines, this means that a higher absolute number of recipients are going to work than in the past. Historically, people have left the rolls for a variety of reasons other than work, such as change in family circumstances, and these factors also continue to play a part.

To help the growing number of people leaving welfare for work, the President's FY 99 budget contains expanded funding for child care, as well as continued tax credits for employers, and welfare-to-work housing vouchers. That is also why we are pushing for a \$100 million a year welfare-to-work transportation initiative as part of ISTEA reauthorization. Finally, the Department of Labor is beginning to award the \$3 billion Welfare-to-Work grants included in the 1997 Balanced Budget Act to states and communities to help move long term welfare recipients into lasting, unsubsidized jobs.

**Q: Are welfare caseload declines still the best indicator of success?**

**A:** Welfare caseloads continue to be a key measure of the success of welfare reform, and the only nationally available measure. **As I announced in the State of the Union, we've met -- two years ahead of schedule -- the challenge I made in last year's State of the Union to move two million more Americans off of welfare by the year 2000. The most recent caseload numbers show that welfare caseloads fell by 4.3 million since I took office -- a drop of 30 percent.**

I asked my Council of Economic Advisors to look at the role of the economy in reducing the welfare rolls, and last May they attributed about 40 percent of the decline to the strong economic growth, about one-third to the welfare reform waivers we granted, and the rest to other factors -- such as our decisions to increase the Earned Income Tax Credit, strengthen child support enforcement, and increase funding for child care.

The new high performance bonus will focus on other important measures of success by rewarding states who do the best job of placing welfare recipients into jobs and helping them succeed in the work place. HHS will shortly release formal guidelines to the states that defines how this \$200 million a year bonus will be awarded.

**Q: There have recently been some reports of growing lines at food pantries. Do you think this is due to welfare reform?**

**A:** We are always concerned about any report that hunger may be increasing, and we will continue to monitor the situation closely. I do believe that this Administration's economic policies -- which produced an unemployment rate at its lowest level in a generation and reduced the poverty rate from 15.1 percent in 1993 to 13.7 percent in 1996 -- have gone a long way to help American families make ends meet.

One reason for a possible increase in hunger is the fact that the welfare reform law contained cuts to legal immigrants that had nothing to do with the real goal of welfare reform, which is to move people from welfare to work. Last year in the Balanced Budget Act we were able to restore SSI and Medicaid for legal immigrants, and we should finish the job this year. That's why the President's FY 99 budget provides \$2.5 billion to restore food stamps to all legal immigrant families with children, elderly and disabled immigrants who entered the U.S. before August 1996, and certain refugees, asylees, and special immigrant groups like the Hmong who fought alongside our soldiers in Vietnam.

**Q: Even with the good economy, some people are concerned that there won't be enough jobs for all the welfare recipients who need work. Are you concerned about this issue?**

**A:** Right now, the nation's jobless rate is at its lowest level in a generation. We've created more than 14 million jobs since the President took office. Nationally, we are creating enough jobs for individuals leaving welfare -- for example, the economy created 310,000 new jobs in February, far more than the number of adults who leave welfare each month.

But to make sure there will be enough jobs in every area of the country, the President fought for and won a \$3 billion welfare-to-work fund in the Balanced Budget Act targeted specifically to high unemployment and high poverty areas where jobs may be scarce. He has also challenged companies all across the nation to hire welfare recipients -- more than 3,000 have agreed so far -- and has committed the federal government to hire its fair share of workers from the welfare rolls.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jose Cerda III ( CN=Jose Cerda III/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-MAR-1998 11:32:31.00

SUBJECT: Marijuana Resolution

TO: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Bruce N. Reed ( CN=Bruce N. Reed/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Leanne A. Shimabukuro ( CN=Leanne A. Shimabukuro/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:  
BR/EK:

I understand that the House will consider a resolution tomorrow condemning marijuana use, and that we -- by way of ONDCP -- will send up a supportive letter. Two questions:

1. Should we be making a tobacco point here? For instance, we could say that more kids use/die from tobacco; that kids who don't smoke cigarettes are less likely to use marijuana and other more serious drugs; that Congress should be acting on both issues at the same time.

2. Assuming that the resolution will be used to criticize us, shouldn't we be saying -- as in the crack letter -- that although we support and appreciate the resolution, Congress should focus on passing our drug strategy, juvenile crime bill and tobacco legislation. I admit, however, that I have little hope of getting ONDCP to change their letter. But perhaps this plays into tobacco politics for Thursday or into the President's public comments tomorrow.

Just a thought...let me know if you have any feedback.  
Jose'

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Mary L. Smith ( CN=Mary L. Smith/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-MAR-1998 09:18:47.00

SUBJECT: Updated Tobacco Hearing Schedule

TO: Joshua Gotbaum ( CN=Joshua Gotbaum/OU=OMB/O=EOP @ EOP [ OMB ] )  
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TO: Bruce N. Reed ( CN=Bruce N. Reed/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
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CC: Jill M. Pizzuto ( CN=Jill M. Pizzuto/OU=OMB/O=EOP @ EOP [ OMB ] )  
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CC: Laura Emmett ( CN=Laura Emmett/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
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CC: Donna L. Geisbert ( CN=Donna L. Geisbert/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Cathy R. Mays ( CN=Cathy R. Mays/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Below is an updated tobacco hearing schedule:

TOBACCO HEARING SCHEDULE

Wednesday, March 11

FDA Authority  
The Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee (Chairman Jeffords (R-VT))

will hold a full committee markup on tobacco legislation.

Agenda:

S1648-Amend the Public Health Service Act and the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for reductions in youth smoking, for advancements in tobacco-related research, and the development of safer tobacco products.

Comprehensive Tobacco Legislation

The Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee (Chairman McCain (R-AZ)) will hold a hearing on proposed comprehensive tobacco-control legislation.

Witnesses

-A panel of chairman and ranking members of committees with jurisdiction over tobacco issues.

Thursday, March 12

Public Health Implications

The Senate Judiciary Committee (Chairman Hatch (R-UT)) will hold a hearing on the public health implications of the tobacco settlement.

Witnesses:

-Dr. David Satcher has been scheduled.

Agenda:

S1530 A bill to resolve ongoing tobacco litigation, to reform the civil justice system responsible for adjudicating tort claims against companies that manufacture tobacco products, and establish a national tobacco policy for the United States that will decrease youth tobacco use and reduce the marketing of tobacco products to young Americans.

Tuesday, March 17

Comprehensive Tobacco Legislation

The Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee (Chairman McCain (R-AZ)) will hold a hearing on proposed comprehensive tobacco-control legislation.

Wednesday, March 18

Indian Provisions of Tobacco Legislation

The Senate Indian Affairs Committee (Chairman Campbell (R-CO)) will hold a full committee markup on the provisions of comprehensive tobacco-control legislation that affect Native American populations.

Agenda:

S1279 A bill to amend the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Demonstration Act of 1992 to provide for the transfer of services and personnel from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the Office of Self-Governance, to emphasize the need for job creation on Indian reservations, and for other purposes.

S1414 A bill to reform and restructure the processes by which tobacco products are manufactured, marketed, and distributed, to prevent the use of tobacco products by minors, to redress the adverse health effects of tobacco use, and for other purposes.

S1415 A bill to reform and restructure the processes by which tobacco products are manufactured, marketed, and distributed, to prevent the use of tobacco products by minors, to redress the adverse health effects of tobacco use, and for other purposes.

S1530 A bill to resolve ongoing tobacco litigation, to reform the civil justice system responsible for adjudicating tort claims against companies that manufacture tobacco products, and establish a national tobacco policy for the United States that will decrease youth tobacco use

and reduce the marketing of tobacco products to young Americans.

Thursday, March 19

Public Health

The Health and Environment Subcommittee (Chairman Bilirakis (R-FL)) of the House Commerce Committee will hold a hearing on the minority issues related to the global tobacco settlement.