

**NLWJC - KAGAN**

**EMAILS RECEIVED**

**ARMS - BOX 033 - FOLDER -002**

**[06/19/1998] [2]**



**PRESIDENT'S CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE OUTREACH  
EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM AND INTERAGENCY REPORT**

**June 22, 1998**

**Today, in an Executive Memorandum, the President ordered eight Federal agencies to enact over 150 initiatives designed to help enroll millions of uninsured children in Medicaid or the new Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). These initiatives are included in a report to the President that is also being released today. This report and the recommendations were produced by the Departments of Health and Human Services, Treasury, Agriculture, Education, Labor, Housing and Urban Development, Interior and the Social Security Administration.**

**Taken together, these actions represent an unprecedented, cross-government commitment to provide affordable insurance to children. The American Academy of Pediatrics characterized these initiatives as "representing the best of creative government and absolutely critical to achieving our common goal of providing health insurance for all eligible children."**

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE REPORT.** As the first step in his public-private children's health outreach campaign, the President directed his own workforce to initiate an historic commitment to enrolling uninsured children in State health insurance programs. In response, eight Federal agencies developed plans in three areas: how to educate their workforce; how this workforce can help educate families about State health insurance programs; and how to coordinate cross-agency and public-private efforts to identify and enroll children in these programs.

**Educating Federal Workers, State Workers, and Grantees about Children's Health**

Many Federal and State workers, contractors or grantees have direct contact with families with uninsured children. For example, the majority of uninsured children probably have participated in a school lunch program, subsidized child care, or Head Start. Recognizing this fact, the President ordered the Federal agencies to, among other actions:

- **Send letters from the Cabinet Secretaries to about 350,000 Federal workers,** describing this children's health outreach initiative, how to access it, and strongly encouraging them to help enroll uninsured children.
- **Train the staff of Federal / State information clearinghouses, technical assistance centers, providers and eligibility workers about children's health.** Targets include:
  - National Health Service Corps and Area Health Education Centers that train about 21,000 students and 50,000 providers
  - Education Department's 40 parent assistance programs and 312 community learning centers serving over 50,000 students and community residents
  - Regional and State coordinators for 1,800 State Employment Security Agencies that provide job placement, counseling, and labor market information to job seekers

**Educating Families.** Many Federal workers and grantees determine eligibility, counsel families and provide services in non-health programs. This gives them an opportunity to educate families and assist them in enrolling children in Medicaid or CHIP. The agencies have proposed to:

- **Distribute information on options and/or applications to families at:**
  - 700 community health centers
  - 1,400 Head Start grantees, State Child Support and TANF sites
  - 400 IRS Walk-In Centers and 8,600 Voluntary Income Tax Assistance sites
  - 1,300 Social Security Administration field offices
  - 3,000 employers, schools, education organizations, and community and religious groups that comprise the Education Department's Partnership for Family Involvement program
  - 185 Federally operated and Tribally contracted schools, 24 reservation-based community colleges, and over 500 Indian Child Welfare programs
  - 15,000 public housing projects and 81 field offices and information sites
  - 113 Job Corps Centers and 700 One-Stop Career Centers

**Coordinating Efforts Across Agencies and with the Private Sector.** Efforts to enroll uninsured children will be more effective if coordinated. To facilitate this, agencies will:

- **Link Internet sites,** to provide both Federal workers and families using these sites with links to children's health insurance outreach site (e.g., America's Job Bank site, used by millions)
- **Coordinate outreach campaign with major national associations, advocacy groups, and other private organizations in outreach.** Each Department has a set of outside organizations that could be partners in this outreach initiative. These include:
  - Elderly groups, to assist in enrolling uninsured grandchildren
  - Historically Black Colleges and Universities, to develop strategies for minority children
  - Earned Income Tax Credit outreach organizations, that target similar families
  - National Education Association, to focus on school-based approaches

**Cross-Cutting Issues.** Two topics were special focuses of the task force.

- **Vulnerable children.** Many children eligible for Medicaid or CHIP are difficult to reach due to sociocultural and linguistic differences, low literacy levels, geographic isolation, homelessness, or transient living situations that make it difficult for them to enroll in health insurance. A number of activities are proposed to address these unique problems, including:
  - Use of mapping to identify all service delivery sites for reservation-based sites that could be used for children's health outreach to Indian families
  - Media campaign for Hispanic children developed through focus groups to identify barriers to enrollment and Spanish language material
  - Use of "distance learning," such as new telemedicine communication capabilities, to educate rural providers about children's health insurance
- **Coordinating program enrollment.** Integration of health and non-health program enrollment can increase the number of children with insurance. Models identified include:
  - Single application for multiple programs: Most States (e.g., Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Ohio) use joint applications for their social services programs
  - "Adjunctive" eligibility (allowing eligibility for one program to fulfil some or all of the eligibility requirements for another): Children are automatically eligible for Florida's Healthy Start program if eligible for the school lunch program

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Joseph C. Fanaroff ( CN=Joseph C. Fanaroff/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:19-JUN-1998 16:55:48.00

SUBJECT: WEEK AHEAD -- JUNE 22 - 28

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

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

TO: Nathan B. Naylor ( CN=Nathan B. Naylor/O=OVP @ OVP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Andrei H. Cherny ( CN=Andrei H. Cherny/O=OVP @ OVP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Kris M Balderston ( CN=Kris M Balderston/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Julie E. Mason ( CN=Julie E. Mason/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: Susan M. Liss ( CN=Susan M. Liss/O=OVP @ OVP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Ellen M. Lovell ( CN=Ellen M. Lovell/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Peter Rundlet ( CN=Peter Rundlet/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: Dan K. Rosenthal ( CN=Dan K. Rosenthal/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Jennifer M. Palmieri ( CN=Jennifer M. Palmieri/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Joseph P. Lockhart ( CN=Joseph P. Lockhart/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Judith A. Winston ( CN=Judith A. Winston/OU=PIR/O=EOP @ EOP [ PIR ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Doris O. Matsui ( CN=Doris O. Matsui/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Jonathan A. Kaplan ( CN=Jonathan A. Kaplan/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: Jeffrey A. Forbes ( CN=Jeffrey A. Forbes/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

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

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

TO: Thurgood Marshall Jr ( CN=Thurgood Marshall Jr/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Roberta W. Greene ( CN=Roberta W. Greene/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Eli G. Attie ( CN=Eli G. Attie/O=OVP @ OVP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Ron Klain ( CN=Ron Klain/O=OVP @ OVP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Robin J. Bachman ( CN=Robin J. Bachman/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: LEAVY\_D ( LEAVY\_D @ A1 @ CD @ LNGTWY [ UNKNOWN ] ) (NSC)  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Lowell A. Weiss ( CN=Lowell A. Weiss/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

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

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

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

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

TO: Charles M. Brain ( CN=Charles M. Brain/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Chandler G. Spaulding ( CN=Chandler G. Spaulding/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Elliot J. Diringer ( CN=Elliot J. Diringer/OU=CEQ/O=EOP @ EOP [ CEQ ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

TO: Nicholas R. Baldick ( CN=Nicholas R. Baldick/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Jennifer N. Devlin ( CN=Jennifer N. Devlin/O=OVP @ OVP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Kathleen A. McGinty ( CN=Kathleen A. McGinty/OU=CEQ/O=EOP @ EOP [ CEQ ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

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

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

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

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

TO: Barry J. Toiv ( CN=Barry J. Toiv/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: Claire Gonzales ( CN=Claire Gonzales/OU=PIR/O=EOP @ EOP [ PIR ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Craig T. Smith ( CN=Craig T. Smith/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Robert B. Johnson ( CN=Robert B. Johnson/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

TO: Cecily C. Williams ( CN=Cecily C. Williams/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Lynn G. Cutler ( CN=Lynn G. Cutler/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

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

TO: Marsha E. Berry ( CN=Marsha E. Berry/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Virginia M. Terzano ( CN=Virginia M. Terzano/O=OVP @ OVP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Sara M. Latham ( CN=Sara M. Latham/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Erskine B. Bowles ( CN=Erskine B. Bowles/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Glen M. Weiner ( CN=Glen M. Weiner/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: SHOWALTER\_V ( SHOWALTER\_V @ A1 @ CD @ VAXGTWY [ UNKNOWN ] ) (NSC)  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Antony J. Blinken ( CN=Antony J. Blinken/OU=NSC/O=EOP @ EOP [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

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

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

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

TEXT:

For Internal Planning Purposes ONLY ... All Items Subject To Change

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

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

TEXT:

Unable to convert ARMS\_EXT:[ATTACH.D35]MAIL44759227S.126 to ASCII,  
The following is a HEX DUMP:

FF5750435A050000010A02010000000205000000821000000002000035072B0EDDE65B6ACF3AEA  
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**THE WEEK AHEAD**  
**June 22 - June 28**  
*(All items are subject to change)*

**Monday (6/22):** The President and First Lady attend the Family Re-Union Conference in Nashville, TN. Message: Health Care.

**VP:** The Vice President and Mrs. Gore hold their annual Family Re-Union Conference in Nashville, TN.

**Tuesday (6/23):** The President signs the Agriculture Research Bill at a Rose Garden event.

**Wednesday (6/24):** The President signs the Deadbeat Parents Punishment Act. The President departs for China.

**VP:** Addresses the Business Roundtable.

**Thursday (6/25):** The President arrives in Xi'An, China and participates in an arrival ceremony with Chinese President Jiang.

**VP:** Attends an event TBD in Houston, TX. Message: Juvenile Crime. The Vice President also participates in a roundtable discussion on education in El Paso, TX.

**Friday (6/26):** The President participates in a roundtable discussion with representatives of the Xi'An community.

**VP:** The Vice President attends a welfare-to-work event TBD in San Antonio, TX.

**Saturday (6/27):** The President delivers his weekly radio address. Subject: TBD. The President also participates in an arrival ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, China.

**Sunday (6/28):** No Message Event scheduled

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Michael Waldman ( CN=Michael Waldman/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:19-JUN-1998 09:39:18.00

SUBJECT: revised tobacco remarks

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

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

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

TEXT:

6/19/98 9:40am

Michael Waldman

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON

TALKING POINTS ON TOBACCO

CABINET ROOM

July 19, 1998

I am about to meet with my economic team to discuss the ways we can keep our economy growing steady and strong. Today, America's economy is the strongest in a generation, and is the driving force behind world economic growth. We will be discussing ways to continue this growth: promoting international economic stability, by supporting the IMF and economic reform in Asia (maintaining our fiscal discipline by setting aside the surplus until we save Social Security first) (investing in our people through education and training. We cannot afford to risk our prosperity through gimmicks such as repealing the tax code with nothing in its place. We must seize the opportunity of this moment to build for our long-term prosperity.

I want to briefly comment on another obligation we face at this moment of national progress: the duty to protect our children from tobacco.

After decades of deception by the tobacco industry, there is now undeniable evidence that they have targeted children. We have a chance to save one million lives a year. For six months, we worked hard and in good faith to meet all legitimate objections to this legislation, and to join together the priorities of both parties.

Let me be clear: every Senator who voted to kill the tobacco bill voted against a tax cut for middle income families; against new measures to crack down on drugs; against life-saving research into cancer and other diseases. Every Senator who voted to kill the tobacco bill voted not to save one million American lives. It was a vote against our children and for the tobacco lobby. And that vote will be very difficult to explain to the American people.

Now, some have suggested that the Congress will follow the tobacco lobby's lead and seek to send to me a watered-down tobacco industry bill that will not truly cut youth smoking. America's public health experts agree: we won't be able to reduce youth smoking dramatically unless we

act on a number of fronts at one time: a substantial price increase, strong advertising restrictions, strong access restrictions, strong surcharges on companies that continue to sell to youth. We need a tough tobacco bill -- not a tobacco industry bill. We need to protect our children, not the tobacco industry. Not a "narrow" bill that reflects narrow interests, but a comprehensive bill that cuts down on youth smoking.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

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

CREATION DATE/TIME:19-JUN-1998 19:59:37.00

SUBJECT: additional weekly inserts you wanted

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

READ:UNKNOWN

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

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Here you go...

cj

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Paul J. Weinstein Jr. ( CN=Paul J. Weinstein Jr./OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:19-JUN-1998 12:58:28.00

SUBJECT:

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

READ:UNKNOWN

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

READ:UNKNOWN

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

READ:UNKNOWN

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

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

----- Forwarded by Paul J. Weinstein Jr./OPD/EOP on  
06/19/98 12:58 PM -----

Jonathan Orszag

06/19/98 12:54:04 PM

Record Type: Record

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

cc:

Subject:

'State of Cities' Study Released

PAUL SHEPARD Associated Press Writer

RENO, Nev. (AP) - A new study that checks the pulse of American cities warns that poor urban schools and middle-class flight threaten the strongest economic performance cities have witnessed in a decade.

The second annual ``State of the Cities'' report released by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department at the U.S. Conference of Mayors national convention offers both a soothing and sobering picture of the urban landscape.

Simply put, the patient is doing well but disease, in the form of growing concentrated poverty in the inner city, poses significant risks.

Good news for cities abounds in the 75-page report.

- The economy has produced 16 million new jobs and record low unemployment. And the number of employed people living in central cities increased by almost 3.7

million people in the past five years.

- Unemployment in central cities fell to an average of 5.3 percent early this year from 8.2 percent in 1993.

- Downtowns that just 20 years ago more closely resembled ghost towns in Cleveland, Baltimore, St. Louis and Washington have become tourist meccas thanks to sports arenas and arts centers.

- Even crime, the age-old bane of city dwelling, has been tamed to a degree. Violent crime fell 19 percent in big cities between 1993 and 1997.

But despite the impressive gains, poor city residents are being left behind by growing numbers of middle-class residents.

Since 1970, nearly 6 million middle-income and affluent families left central cities, according to the report.

Poor schools are one of the most frequently cited reasons for the middle-class flight, according to the study. In 1994 and 1996, 60 percent of children in urban school districts failed to achieve basic competency on standardized reading and math tests.

And in the nation's 20 largest urban school districts, more than half of the students never graduate.

``For millions of urban youth, finishing high school and attending college seem an impossible dream - this in an era demanding high skills for high wages'' the report says.

It asks: ``If we are not now ready to take on these challenges when the budget is in surplus, unemployment is at record lows and the stock market is at record highs, when will we be ready?''

Message Sent

To:

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Jake Siewert/OPD/EOP  
Jonathan A. Kaplan/OPD/EOP  
Melissa G. Green/OPD/EOP  
Paul J. Weinstein Jr./OPD/EOP  
Sarah Rosen/OPD/EOP

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Diana Fortuna ( CN=Diana Fortuna/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:19-JUN-1998 17:20:02.00

SUBJECT: Just when you thought this civil rights guidance on welfare reform thing w

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

READ:UNKNOWN

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

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:

HHS had a counter-suggestion to our suggestion. Actually, I'm not sure it's so bad. HHS's concern about our suggested language was that it appeared too much to invite racially neutral criteria with a disproportionate impact. But their new effort is more positive than their old. I think it's OK, although maybe I'm just getting tired. Is this OK with everyone?

Intro:

The Act imposes a 5-year limit on receipt of TANF benefits. However, a state may allow hardship exemptions from the time limit for up to 20% of its caseload.

DPC Suggestion:

A racially neutral criterion that excludes a disproportionately greater number of minorities than non-minorities is permissible, so long as there is a substantial and legitimate justification for this criterion and there is no comparably effective alternative that excludes fewer minorities.

HHS Counter-Suggestion:

States should take care in establishing the criteria for allowing such exemptions particularly where racially neutral criteria exclude a disproportionately greater number of minorities than non-minorities. Neutral criteria that cause a significantly disproportionate exclusion are permissible, only so long as there is a substantial and legitimate justification for these criteria and there is no comparably effective alternative that excludes fewer minorities.

[For those who want to cast their minds back, here is HHS's original version that we didn't like, FYI.]

HHS Original Version:

States and counties may not use a racially neutral criterion that, nevertheless, excludes a disproportionately greater number of minorities than non-minorities to determine who will be granted this exemption, unless there is a substantial and legitimate justification for this criterion. Even if there is such a justification, this criterion cannot be used if there is a comparably effective alternative to identify persons who qualify for this exemption that excludes fewer minorities.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

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

CREATION DATE/TIME:19-JUN-1998 08:04:48.00

SUBJECT: latest draft - one pager

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:

The attached one-pager is intended to demonstrate that we are fighting for our domestic agenda despite the tobacco events this week. It includes an education section listing the initiatives we are fighting for that are fully funded in our balanced budget, without tobacco revenues (e.g., school construction, High Hopes, after-school, charters, etc.) It does not include class size on the list.

I'm uncomfortable about leaving class size off the list, because it will convey the message that we are not fighting for it any longer. On the other hand, adding it to the list at present would undermine the credibility of the entire document. On balance, I think we should leave it off, but wanted you to have a chance to weigh in. What do you think?

----- Forwarded by Michael Cohen/OPD/EOP on 06/19/98  
08:00 AM -----

Charles R. Marr  
06/18/98 05:59:58 PM  
Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message  
cc:  
Subject: latest draft - one pager

Message Sent

To:

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Linda Ricci/OMB/EOP  
Michael Cohen/OPD/EOP  
Thomas A. Kalil/OPD/EOP  
Barbara Chow/OMB/EOP



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## President Clinton: Advancing the Critical Agenda of Fiscal Discipline and Strategic Investments

June 18, 1998

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In 1993, President Clinton put in place a three-part economic strategy of cutting the deficit, making strategic investments in the future, and opening markets abroad. The President's strategy has been remarkably successful, balancing the budget for the first time in a generation, and he is now building on that success:

**SAVING SOCIAL SECURITY FIRST:** With the first surplus in a generation imminent, the President is leading to nation to meet the next major fiscal challenge -- the retirement of the baby boom generation. The President has pledged to reserve every penny of the surplus until Social Security is strengthened. With strong support from the American people, the President will stand firm against any efforts to spend the surplus before comprehensive Social Security reform is enacted.

**ADVANCING STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS:** As he has in the past, the President will hold the line on fiscal discipline, and will continue to push Congress to make smart investments in our future. Every year, our opponents put obstacles in our place, but we manage to prevail. Since taking office, the President has won increases in funding for critical investment priorities: increasing funding for health by 35 percent, for education by 28 percent and for the environment by 10 percent.

This year, we will fight through the budget process for:

- **Investments in the American people through education and training.** The President will continue his effort to make our schools the best in the world --by raising standards, raising expectations and raising accountability. He will fight critical education investments, including the following, all of which are fully paid for outside of any tobacco bill:
  - **School Construction Tax Credits** to help rebuild, modernize, and build over 5,000 public schools.
  - **A new mentoring program** to encourage young people to go to college.
  - **Expanding Head Start** -- fighting to increase Head Start funding.
  - **After-School Learning Centers** -- a \$1 billion, five-year investment to provide after-school care for up to an additional 500,000 children each year.
  - **Expanding Choice and Accountability in Public Schools** -- increasing Federal funds for starting up public charter schools, continuing toward the goal of 3,000 charter schools by 2001.
  - **Preparing for the 21st Century with Greater Education Technology** -- continuing to invest to help connect every classroom to the Internet, train teachers, and promote high-quality educational software.
- **A health care consumer bill of rights.** The President will push Congress to pass federally enforceable consumer health care protections before it adjourns this year. This Health Care

Bill of Rights should contain a range of protections, including guaranteed access to needed health care specialists to ensure that patients are provided appropriate high quality care and access to emergency room services when and where they need it.

- **More Affordable and Improved Child Care.** To improve child care for America's working families the President has proposed investing \$20 billion over five years for child care, including initiatives to help working families pay for child care, build a good supply of after-school programs, improve the safety and quality of care, and promote early learning. Only one-third of that funding was provided for by tobacco receipts.
- **A major effort against juvenile crime and drugs.** President Clinton has called for a special focus on addressing juvenile crime --providing more resources to crack down on gangs, guns, and drugs. When coordinated with the support provided by the largest anti-drug budget in history and with the leadership General McCaffery brings to our national drug policy, these new efforts are sure to keep drug use on decline.
- **Further investments in our environment and public health, protecting our natural treasures and ensuring our children clean air and water.** The President's plan invests:
  - An additional \$600 million next year, a 40 percent increase, to accelerate cleanups of toxic Superfund sites, to help meet the President's goal of doubling the cleanup pace.
  - An additional \$568 million in FY 99 to carry out a comprehensive new Clean Water Action Plan that will control polluted runoff.
  - An additional \$92 million dollars in FY 99 repair deteriorating infrastructure at national parks and other public lands.
- **Community Empowerment Investments:**
  - Funding for a Second Round of Empowerment Zones.
  - Increasing the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit By \$1.6 billion
  - Expanding the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund
  - Funding 50,000 incremental housing vouchers for families moving from welfare-to-work.
  - Establishing a Community Empowerment Fund, which will help create an estimated 280,000 private sector jobs for low and moderate-income individuals.



Draft 6/19/98 11:30am  
Jordan Tamagni

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON  
RADIO ADDRESS ON PROSTATE CANCER  
JUNE 20, 1998**

Good morning. Tomorrow is Fathers Day, the day we pay tribute to the lasting role fathers play in the lives of their children.

I want to talk to you today what we are doing to protect our fathers, our grandfathers, and all men from one of the greatest health threats they face: prostate cancer. This year, nearly 200,000 people will be diagnosed with prostate cancer -- and 40,000 will die from it. In fact, every year, as many men die from prostate cancer as women die from breast cancer.

For far too long, too little was known about prostate cancer. Too little was said about it, out of embarrassment and fear. And because of this, too little was done about it, as precious research dollars were spent on other problems.

For five years now, we have worked hard to increase public awareness about prostate cancer -- and to find a cure. Since I first took office, we have increased funding for prostate cancer research at the National Institutes of Health by 100%. This year alone, we are funding more than 450 critically important research projects on prostate cancer, ranging from prevention to detection to treatment. Last year, scientists at the Human Genome Project and Johns Hopkins University located the first gene known to predispose men to prostate cancer. And prostate cancer is the first disease being studied by the Cancer Genome Anatomy Project, a very exciting new program we recently launched at the NCI. We are closing in on this silent killer.

As far as we have come, we know that many questions about prostate cancer remain unanswered. We do not fully understand the role of environmental and dietary factors in prostate cancer. We do not fully understand why the disease progresses at such varying rates in different men. We do not yet know why prostate cancer disproportionately affects African American men. And we do not yet know how to eliminate the risks of treatment for prostate cancer that discourage too many men from seeing their doctors.

The only way we will ever answer these questions -- and the only way we will ever beat prostate cancer -- is by continuing to invest in research. Today, on Fathers Day, I am pleased to announce that the Department of Defense is awarding \$60 Million in grants to some of the most promising research projects in the country. These grants will fund innovative new studies to determine the causes of prostate cancer, new methods of prevention and detection, and most of all, ground breaking new treatments that will save lives.

These grants are an important step in our fight against prostate cancer. But we must press on. This year, as part of historic legislation to protect our children from tobacco, I proposed to make the largest commitment in history to fund cutting edge cancer research. My

proposal would also allow people on Medicare to participate in cancer clinical trials. This will be especially important for prostate cancer, which overwhelmingly affects men over 65. The more older men are able to participate in these trials, the more we will learn about this disease, and the faster we will be able to find a cure.

But three days ago, the Republican minority voted against my proposal to increase cancer research when it voted against protecting our children from tobacco. [TOBACCO INSERT TK]

Thanks for listening.



June 19, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Bruce Reed  
Elena Kagan

RE: DPC Weekly Report

**Health Care -- Gore's Family Conference:** Next week, the Gores' will be hosting their annual family conference on the subject of health. You and the Vice President will be announcing a new Executive Directive on children's outreach and a multi-faceted national health initiative for older Americans, which includes: new preventive benefits for Medicare beneficiaries; a national Internet site for Medicare beneficiaries; and a new nationwide public/private Medicare council with over 80 organizations to ensure older Americans have the information they need to select health plans and to encourage prevention and wellness. To highlight the new Medicare preventive benefits, the First Lady will also announce a new public service announcement on osteoporosis, featuring her and Mrs. Gore. You will also renew your call to pass a patients' bill of rights and reiterate your commitment to continue to push Congress to pass comprehensive, anti-tobacco legislation.

**Drugs -- Drug Courts:** In response to your interest in drug courts, we are working with Rahm Emanuel on preparing to time the release of Justice Department drug court grants for an event the week of July 6. Approximately 150 jurisdictions will receive \$27 million in grants to help plan, implement, enhance, or evaluate drug courts. Some of the cities receiving grants include San Francisco, Omaha, Little Rock, Washington, D.C., and Atlanta. The drug court grants could be announced at the event to launch the national roll out of the youth anti-drug media campaign tentatively scheduled for July 9.

**Drugs -- PRIDE Survey:** On Thursday, the National Parents' Resource Institute for Drug Education (PRIDE) released the findings of its survey on teen drug use for the 1997-98 school year. The annual PRIDE report is a survey of 154,350 students grades 6-12. Overall, drug, alcohol, and tobacco use by teens dropped -- the first across-the-board declines since the 1990-91 school year. The key exception to the declines were students in the 12th grade, who reported slight increases in their use of cigarettes, cocaine, uppers, and downers. However, for the first time in the 11 years of the PRIDE survey, cigarette use by junior high students fell (from 32% in 1996-97 to 29% in 1997-98). Marijuana use among both junior and senior high students also fell from last year's levels (from 15% to 13%, and from 36% to 33%, respectively).

**Drugs -- Pulse Check:** On June 25, ONDCP will release Pulse Check, its biannual report on the use and distribution of illicit drugs in 30 cities. The information contained in Pulse Check is gathered from ethnographers, law enforcement officials, and drug treatment providers. Some of the report's key findings include: (1) methamphetamine has continued its spread eastward and is now considered an emerging drug in Baltimore, and Columbia, MD; (2) heroin use is stable or rising, with young users who snort or smoke the drug increasing across the country; (3) crack is failing to attract new users, although powder cocaine use is rising among the affluent in a few areas; and (4) marijuana use is widespread, crossing economic and social groups. Director McCaffrey is planning to unveil Pulse Check with DEA Administrator Tom Constantine and NIDA Director Alan Leshner.

**Crime -- Modified Assault Weapons:** This week in the Senate Treasury-Postal FY 99 appropriations markup, we successfully fought off an attempt to undermine the Administration's recent decision to bar the importation modified assault weapons. Opponents of the Administration's decision had previously attempted to offer an amendment -- which was later withdrawn -- to grandfather more than a hundred thousand of these weapons into the country. To prevent such a broad-based amendment from passing, the Administration helped craft an amendment that passed to reimburse importers for a limited number firearms that were already in or en route to bonded warehouses (roughly 2,000-3,000 weapons). The weapons will then be destroyed.

**Crime -- Drunk Driving/Zero Tolerance:** As you know, the zero tolerance for underage drinking and driving provision you signed into law in 1995 required states to adopt this tough standard by October 1, 1998. On June 29, South Carolina will become the 50th state to enact a zero tolerance law. We would note, however, that Delaware's zero tolerance law does not fully comply with the federal standard and needs to be amended.

**Education -- Teacher Education:** Sen. Bingaman has proposed an amendment to the Higher Education Bill to be taken up by the Senate next week, that would impose new accountability requirements on teacher education programs. The bill would require teacher education programs to publish the pass rate for students on state teacher certification tests and would ultimately cut off student financial aid to students in programs with less than a 70% pass rate. The amendment has the strong support of the NEA, is opposed by the higher education community, and by Sens. Jeffords, Kennedy, Coats and Dodd. We have been working with Bingaman and Kennedy to try to find an approach that retains the strong accountability emphasis without penalizing students for the low quality of their program.

**Education -- Charter Schools:** The Senate Human Resources Committee will mark-up a bill to expand the charter schools program when the Senate returns from the July 4th recess. The House passed a similar bipartisan bill last summer, which you supported. We are working with Sen. Kennedy to bolster his support for this bill, and to ensure that it provides incentives both for the more rapid expansion of charter schools and for strong accountability measures.

**Welfare Reform -- U.S. Conference of Mayors Report:** At its meeting in Reno on Friday, the USCM is releasing a report called "The Welfare Challenge Facing America's Cities." The report presents the results of a 125-city survey of mayor's views on welfare reform. The tone of the report is more positive than the report they released last June. They take a pragmatic view: while many mayors are concerned about the impact of welfare reform, they are working hard to facilitate the transition from welfare to work for their residents. They see some cause for optimism after the first 18 months, but also see the challenge of creating enough jobs and connecting people to those jobs. They cite concerns about adequate child care, transportation, skills training, and affordable housing near employment.

The report also estimates low-skills job gaps in many urban counties, based on projections by Regional Financial Associates, an economic consulting firm. RFA compared the number of low-skilled job seekers with the projected growth in low-skill jobs over the next five years, and concluded that there could be two job seekers for every low-skilled job. Specifically, the number of welfare recipients needing jobs over this period could exceed the number of jobs available by 353,000.

Projecting job gaps is difficult, and it appears that this study, like most similar studies, ignores the fact that some welfare recipients are already working and that they can take advantage of turnover in the labor market--not just new jobs. While the magnitude of the gap is hard to validate, the study does underscore important regional variations. In areas such as Fort Worth, Las Vegas, Little Rock, Miami, Phoenix, and San Francisco, projected job growth exceeds the expected number of job seekers; in areas including Detroit, Providence, Newark and Cleveland, the projected ratio of low skill jobs seekers to jobs is at least 10 to 1.

Nevertheless, the implication is that we need to work hard to ensure that welfare recipients can access employment opportunities created by our growing economy. We are already spurring economic development in urban areas, through our Community Empowerment Fund, Community Development Financial Institutions, and a second round of Empowerment Zones. Our welfare-to-work transportation initiative and welfare-to-work housing vouchers will both go a long way to address this issue, as will the \$3 billion in welfare to work grants we secured in the Balanced Budget Act and the Welfare to Work Partnership's successful welfare to work hiring efforts.

**Welfare Reform -- Federal Agencies to Issue Guidance to States on Civil Rights and Welfare Reform:** After meeting with civil rights leaders several months ago, Secretary Shalala agreed to issue guidance to states on how civil rights laws apply to welfare reform, particularly the new parts of the welfare law relating to work and the time limit. As a result, HHS, DOJ, EEOC, DOL, and other agencies have finished draft guidance that they will share in the coming weeks with civil rights groups, states, and advocates. We share HHS's view that a user-friendly

guide for states and caseworkers would be useful at this time. However, we want to ensure that states understand that these requirements are not new, and not misinterpret the guidance as imposing new requirements.

The guidance does include our first interpretation of how states may run afoul of the law in issuing exemptions to the five-year time limit. Our civil rights experts are in agreement that our guidance should say that **a racially neutral criterion that excludes a disproportionately greater number of minorities than non-minorities is permissible, so long as there is a substantial and legitimate justification for this criterion and there is no comparably effective alternative that excludes fewer minorities.** We are working with HHS to ensure a smooth roll-out of this draft with the states.

**Immigration -- Agricultural Guestworkers:** On March 12th, the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration approved legislation sponsored by Rep. Bob Smith (R-OR) that provides for a new pilot program for the employment of temporary foreign agricultural workers. The bill includes provisions that would weaken or eliminate many of the worker protections provided for in the existing program (the H2A program). In a letter to the subcommittee, the Secretary of Labor stated that if the bill were presented to you, she would recommend a veto. However, in response to concerns expressed by growers and members of Congress (including Sens. Wyden and Graham and Rep. Bishop) about inefficiencies in the current H2A program, we initiated an inter-agency process to develop a streamlined proposal. We anticipate that several of the regulatory reforms contained in this proposal will be in place by the next growing season. Also, we intend to explore what substantive reforms we could effect to address the longstanding concerns by domestic farm workers that the H2A program does not adequately protect their interests.

**Food Safety Initiative -- Senate Update:** Of the Administration's proposed \$96 million food safety initiative for USDA and FDA, we received only \$16.8 million in the House Appropriations Committee and only \$2.6 million in the Senate. On Monday, the Senate is expected to begin voting on the Agriculture bill. Sens. Leahy, Harkin, and Daschle are willing to work with us to offer amendments, but have indicated that they will only do so if we present an offset. On Thursday, we suggested an offset involving user fees which was rejected by Harkin's staff. OMB is working to develop some other possible offsets. In order to highlight the problem of food safety and to shine light on some non-legislative solutions that the Administration has already undertaken, the DPC is working on a possible event for Wednesday. Because summer is the most dangerous time of year for food safety, we believe that the July 4th radio address may be an appropriate time to raise the budget and other food safety issues that are currently pending in Congress. In addition to your FY1999 budget, there are other legislative proposals involving food safety currently pending. These proposals include mandatory recall for meat and poultry, civil fines for violations, and increased FDA inspection authority for imported foods.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Melissa N. Benton ( CN=Melissa N. Benton/OU=OMB/O=EOP [ OMB ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:19-JUN-1998 16:39:36.00

SUBJECT: Amendment(s) on S1023 Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government App

TO: James J. Jukes ( CN=James J. Jukes/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )

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TEXT:

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04:37 PM -----  
Total Pages: \_\_\_\_\_

LRM ID: MNB190  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
Washington, D.C. 20503-0001

Friday, June 19, 1998

LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative Liaison Officer - See Distribution below

FROM: Janet R. Forsgren/OMB/EOP (for) Assistant Director for  
Legislative Reference

OMB CONTACT: Melissa N. Benton

PHONE: (202)395-7887 FAX: (202)395-6148

SUBJECT: Amendment(s) on S1023 Treasury, Postal Service, and  
General Government Appropriations, FY 1998

DEADLINE: Noon Monday, June 22, 1998

In accordance with OMB Circular A-19, OMB requests the views of your agency on the above subject before advising on its relationship to the program of the President. Please advise us if this item will affect direct spending or receipts for purposes of the "Pay-As-You-Go" provisions of Title XIII of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990.

COMMENTS: The Administration intends to try to have this bill language incorporated into the Chairman's mark of S. 1023 on Tuesday, June 23d.

THE DEADLINE IS FIRM.

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James J. Jukes  
Annette E. Rooney

LRM ID: MNB190 SUBJECT: Amendment(s) on S1023 Treasury, Postal Service,  
and General Government Appropriations, FY 1998

RESPONSE TO  
LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL  
MEMORANDUM

If your response to this request for views is short (e.g., concur/no comment), we prefer that you respond by e-mail or by faxing us this response sheet. If the response is short and you prefer to call, please call the branch-wide line shown below (NOT the analyst's line) to leave a message with a legislative assistant.

You may also respond by:

(1) calling the analyst/attorney's direct line (you will be connected to voice mail if the analyst does not answer); or  
(2) sending us a memo or letter  
Please include the LRM number shown above, and the subject shown below.

TO: Melissa N. Benton Phone: 395-7887 Fax: 395-6148  
Office of Management and Budget  
Branch-Wide Line (to reach legislative assistant): 395-7362

FROM: \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Name)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Agency)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Telephone)

The following is the response of our agency to your request for views on the above-captioned subject:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Concur
- \_\_\_\_\_ No Objection
- \_\_\_\_\_ No Comment
- \_\_\_\_\_ See proposed edits on pages \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ FAX RETURN of \_\_\_\_\_ pages, attached to this response sheet

DRAFT      DRAFT      DRAFT      DRAFT      DRAFT      DRAFT  
DRAFT      DRAFT

June 19, 1998 (12:02pm)

Sec. \_\_\_\_\_. Pilot to Prohibit the Acquisition of Products Produced by Forced or Indentured Child Labor.

(a) In General. --Pursuant to this section, executive agencies shall conduct a pilot program to prohibit the procurement of certain products mined, produced, or manufactured by forced or indentured child labor.

(b) Scope of the Pilot Program. --(1) Within 120 days after the enactment of this Act, the Department of Labor, in consultation with the Department of Treasury and the Department of State, shall publish in the Federal Register a notice that identifies certain products that may have been mined, produced, or manufactured by forced or indentured child labor.

(2) For the period specified in subsection (g), an executive agency shall not acquire a product that has been identified pursuant to subsection (b)(1) unless the contractor offering the product certifies to the executive agency that forced or indentured child labor was not used in its production.

(A) Each contract for the supply of an article, material, or item of supply subject to subsection (b)(1) that is entered into by an

executive agency shall contain a clause requiring the contractor to certify that:

(i) a responsible official, after having made an inquiry, is unaware that forced or indentured child labor was used to mine, produce, or manufacture the article, material, or item of supply; and,

(ii) the contractor will cooperate fully with all requests for access to records, documents, persons, or premises made by any agency or official of the United States to determine whether forced or indentured child labor was used.

(3) This section shall apply to acquisitions for an amount in excess of the micro-purchase threshold (as that term is defined in section 32(f) of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 428(f))). This includes acquisitions for commercial items, notwithstanding section 34 of the Office of Federal Procurement Act (41 U.S.C. 430).

(c) Investigation and Penalties. --(1) An executive agency that has reason to believe that a false certification may have been submitted to the agency pursuant to subsection (b)(2) shall refer the matter to the agency's Inspector General, in conjunction with the Department of Justice and Department of Treasury as appropriate, for investigation.

(2) The use of forced or indentured child labor, or the failure to comply with the clause required by subsection (b)(2), may be grounds for termination of a contract by the head of the executive agency in its sole discretion.

(d) Debarment. -- (1) The head of an executive agency shall consider debarment in the manner prescribed in the Federal Acquisition Regulation in instances where the contractor has used forced or indentured child labor in providing products to the executive agency.

(2) The Administrator of General Services shall include, as part of its List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs (as described in the Federal Acquisition Regulation) a list of all parties debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or declared ineligible by agencies or by the General Accounting Office for using forced or indentured child labor under a contract with an executive agency.

(e) Report. --Within 90 days after termination of the pilot, the Administrator of General Services, with the assistance of other executive agencies, shall submit to Congress a report on the actions taken pursuant to this pilot.

(f) Amendments to the Federal Acquisition Regulation. --(1) The Federal Acquisition Regulation shall be revised to implement this section not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) The Federal Acquisition Regulation shall be further amended within 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act to identify in its lists of causes for debarment from contracting with executive agencies the use of forced or indentured child labor.

(3) Amendments made pursuant to paragraph (2) shall remain effective notwithstanding the termination of the pilot authorized by this section.

(g) Effective Date. --(1) The requirements of this section shall take

effect on the date described in paragraph (2) and shall apply to any solicitation that is issued, any unsolicited proposal that is received, and any contract entered into pursuant to such a solicitation or proposal on or after this date.

(2) The date referred to in paragraph (1) is the date that is 30 days after the day revisions to the Federal Acquisition Regulation are published in the Federal Register pursuant to subsection (f) (1).

(3) The requirements of this section shall terminate two years after the date specified in paragraph (2).

(h) Exception. --This section shall not apply to the acquisition of any article, material, or item of supply of any foreign country or instrumentality designated under section 301(b) (1) of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2511(b)).

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Michael Waldman ( CN=Michael Waldman/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:19-JUN-1998 09:21:52.00

SUBJECT:

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

READ:UNKNOWN

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

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

----- Forwarded by Michael Waldman/WHO/EOP on 06/19/98  
09:20 AM -----

Michael Waldman  
06/19/98 09:14:20 AM  
Record Type: Record

To: Kevin S. Moran/WHO/EOP, Michelle Crisci/WHO/EOP  
cc:  
Subject:

6/19/98 9:30am  
PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON  
TALKING POINTS ON TOBACCO  
CABINET ROOM  
July 19, 1998

I am about to meet with my economic team to discuss the ways we can keep our economy growing steady and strong. Today, America's economy is the strongest in a generation, and is the driving force behind world economic growth. We will be discussing ways to continue this growth: promoting international economic stability, by supporting the IMF and economic reform in Asia (maintaining our fiscal discipline by setting aside the surplus until we save Social Security first ( investing in our people through education and training. We cannot afford to risk our prosperity through gimmicks such as repealing the tax code with nothing in its place. We must seize the opportunity of this moment to build for our long-term prosperity.

I want to briefly comment on another obligation we face at this moment of national progress: the duty to protect our children from tobacco.

This remains a rare moment for progress in a comprehensive effort to change the way the tobacco industry works. After decades of deception by the tobacco industry, there is now undeniable evidence that they have targeted children. We have a chance to save one million lives a year. For six months, we worked hard and in good faith to meet all legitimate objections to this legislation, and to join together the priorities of both parties.

Let me be clear: every Senator who voted to kill the tobacco bill voted against a tax cut for middle income families; against new measures to crack down on drugs; against life-saving research into cancer and other

diseases. Every Senator who voted to kill the tobacco bill voted not to save one million American lives. It was a vote against our children and for the tobacco lobby. And that vote will be very difficult to explain to the American people.

Now, some have suggested that the Congress will follow the tobacco lobby's lead and seek to send to me an ineffective "narrow" bill that does not effectively address youth smoking. We know what is needed to fight youth smoking: a comprehensive approach. A "narrow" bill reflects narrow interests--not the national interest and the health of our children.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

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

CREATION DATE/TIME:19-JUN-1998 16:33:58.00

SUBJECT: GOOD NEWS!

TO: Jonathan H. Schnur ( CN=Jonathan H. Schnur/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Neera Tanden ( CN=Neera Tanden/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: Tanya E. Martin ( CN=Tanya E. Martin/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jose Cerda III ( CN=Jose Cerda III/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

TO: Essence P. Washington ( CN=Essence P. Washington/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Paul J. Weinstein Jr. ( CN=Paul J. Weinstein Jr./OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Nicole R. Rabner ( CN=Nicole R. Rabner/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
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: Diana Fortuna ( CN=Diana Fortuna/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: Elena Kagan ( CN=Elena Kagan/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

----- Forwarded by Laura Emmett/WHO/EOP on 06/19/98 04:33  
PM -----

Brooks E. Scoville 06/19/98 03:55:57 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message  
cc:  
Subject: GOOD NEWS!

The Social Office has authorized each staff member to now bring 2 guests to tomorrow's Staff Picnic. You do not need to RSVP the second guest's name. However, guests must accompany the passholder/ticket holder. Also, staff do not need to bring the enclosure card in the invitation -- all they need is their pass or their ticket. An alpha roster will be at the gate as a back-up.

Thanks for all your help with this event. Hope to see you there!

Brooks

Message Sent

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Fibich/CEA/EOP  
Kathryn M. McKeown/WHO/EOP  
Carolyn D. Mosley/CEQ/EOP  
DIMEL\_M @ A1 @ CD @ VAXGTWY  
COSTIC\_M @ A1 @ CD @ VAXGTWY  
WRIGHT\_A @ A1 @ CD @ VAXGTWY

Sterling A. Washington/OA/EOP  
Signe L. Girgus/OA/EOP  
Denise M. Vines/OA/EOP  
Patricia A. Bradley/OA/EOP  
Mary C. Beck/OA/EOP  
Susan P. Powell/OA/EOP  
Mary A. Nowell/OA/EOP  
Sharon A. Warner/OMB/EOP  
Linn M. Ligon/OMB/EOP  
Rhodia D. Ewell/OMB/EOP  
John B. Moore/OMB/EOP  
Clarence C. Crawford/OMB/EOP  
Areletha L. Venson/OMB/EOP  
Patricia S. Haney/OMB/EOP  
Wanda J. Foster/OMB/EOP  
Iratha H. Waters/OMB/EOP  
Dianne M. Wells/OMB/EOP  
Katherine M. Tyer/OMB/EOP  
Mary Jo Siclari/OMB/EOP  
Brenda F. Harper/OMB/EOP  
Doris J. Wingard/OMB/EOP  
Lisa M. Jones/OMB/EOP  
Tilman Dean/ONDCP/EOP  
Laura Emmett/WHO/EOP  
Gay L. Joshlyn/OPD/EOP  
Barbara A. Ferguson/OSTP/EOP  
Mary M. Overbey/OVP @ OVP  
Randy D. Ayers/PIR/EOP  
Carrie A. Street/WHO/EOP  
Janice H. Vranich/WHO/EOP  
green\_lorraine @ ustr.gov @ INET @ VAXGTWY  
Courtland L. Willman/WHO/EOP  
Lisa J. Levin/WHO/EOP  
Edward F. Hughes/WHO/EOP  
Jonathan E. Smith/WHO/EOP  
Carolyn T. Wu/WHO/EOP  
G. Timothy Saunders/WHO/EOP  
Jaime E. Uzeta/WHO/EOP  
Mindy E. Myers/WHO/EOP  
Huma M. Abedin/WHO/EOP  
Betty W. Currie/WHO/EOP  
Ilia V. Velez/WHO/EOP  
Nelson W. Cunningham/WHO/EOP  
Cynthia M. Jasso-Rotunno/WHO/EOP  
BAKER\_JE @ A1 @ CD @ VAXGTWY  
Marilyn R. Jacanin/WHO/EOP  
Bethany T. Przeworski/WHO/EOP  
Lori L. Anderson/WHO/EOP  
Lee R. Johnson/WHO/EOP  
Mary Morrison/WHO/EOP  
Jonathan H. Adashek/WHO/EOP  
Carolyn E. Cleveland/WHO/EOP  
Theresa F. Granger/WHO/EOP  
Tracy Pakulniewicz/WHO/EOP

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Kevin S. Moran ( CN=Kevin S. Moran/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:19-JUN-1998 18:32:47.00

SUBJECT: Re: ENACT letter

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

READ:UNKNOWN

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

READ:UNKNOWN

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

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Thanks a lot for the letter, guys.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Constance J. Bowers ( CN=Constance J. Bowers/OU=OMB/O=EOP [ OMB ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:19-JUN-1998 11:40:56.00

SUBJECT: LRM CJB 221 -- ED Report on HR 3248 (Dollars for the Classroom Act)

TO: Constance J. Bowers ( CN=Constance J. Bowers/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Janet R. Forsgren ( CN=Janet R. Forsgren/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Daniel J. Chenok ( CN=Daniel J. Chenok/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Winifred Y. Chang ( CN=Winifred Y. Chang/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Pamula L. Simms ( CN=Pamula L. Simms/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Rosalyn J. Rettman ( CN=Rosalyn J. Rettman/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Elizabeth Gore ( CN=Elizabeth Gore/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: William P. Marshall ( CN=William P. Marshall/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Jonathan H. Schnur ( CN=Jonathan H. Schnur/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Mary I. Cassell ( CN=Mary I. Cassell/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Sandra Yamin ( CN=Sandra Yamin/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Leslie S. Mustain ( CN=Leslie S. Mustain/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: James C. Murr ( CN=James C. Murr/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Daniel I. Werfel ( CN=Daniel I. Werfel/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jennifer E. Brown ( CN=Jennifer E. Brown/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Justin D. Sullivan ( CN=Justin D. Sullivan/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Edward M. Rea ( CN=Edward M. Rea/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Robert G. Damus ( CN=Robert G. Damus/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Kate P. Donovan ( CN=Kate P. Donovan/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Edward W. Correia ( CN=Edward W. Correia/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Robert M. Shireman ( CN=Robert M. Shireman/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Tanya E. Martin ( CN=Tanya E. Martin/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Barry White ( CN=Barry White/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Barbara Chow ( CN=Barbara Chow/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

The letter below -- containing a veto threat on this block grant bill -- was never cleared prior to subcommittee markup. The bill is now scheduled to be marked up in full Committee Wed., 6/24/98. Therefore, please direct your attention to it once again and respond by 11:00 a.m., Monday, June 19, 1998.

----- Forwarded by Constance J. Bowers/OMB/EOP on  
06/19/98 11:33 AM -----

Constance J. Bowers  
05/18/98 06:01:35 PM  
Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message  
cc:  
Subject: LRM CJB 221 -- ED Report on HR 3248 (Dollars for the Classroom Act)

URGENT: CLEARANCE REQUESTED BY 3:00 P.M. TUESDAY

In the attached letter, Sec. Riley states he would recommend that the

President veto HR 3248 if it is presented to him. HR 3248, which would convert ED programs to a block grant, is scheduled to be marked up by the House Subcommittee on Early Childhood Education on Thursday, May 21st. Please review and provide any comments by 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 19th.

Click on ED draft letter:

Click here to access a list of ED programs that would go into the block grant under HR 3248:

Total Pages: \_\_\_\_\_

LRM ID: CJB221  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
Washington, D.C. 20503-0001

Monday, May 18, 1998

LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative Liaison Officer - See Distribution below

FROM: Janet R. Forsgren (for) Assistant Director for Legislative Reference

OMB CONTACT: Constance J. Bowers  
PHONE: (202)395-3803 FAX: (202)395-6148

SUBJECT: EDUCATION Report on HR3248 Dollars to the Classroom Act

DEADLINE: 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 19, 1998

In accordance with OMB Circular A-19, OMB requests the views of your agency on the above subject before advising on its relationship to the program of the President. Please advise us if this item will affect direct spending or receipts for purposes of the "Pay-As-You-Go" provisions of Title XIII of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990.

COMMENTS: HR 3248 is scheduled to be marked up by the House Subcommittee on Early Education on Thursday, May 21st. In this letter, Secretary Riley states that he would recommend that the President veto HR 3248 if it is presented to him.

DISTRIBUTION LIST

AGENCIES:

EOP:  
Barbara Chow  
Sandra Yamin  
Barry White  
Wayne Upshaw  
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Michael Cohen  
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Tanya E. Martin  
Elena Kagan  
Robert M. Shireman

William P. Marshall  
Edward W. Correia  
Broderick Johnson  
Kate P. Donovan  
Lisa M. Kountoupes  
Robert G. Damus  
Rosalyn J. Rettman  
Edward M. Rea  
Pamula L. Simms  
Justin D. Sullivan  
Winifred Y. Chang  
Jennifer Brown  
Daniel J. Chenok  
Daniel I. Werfel  
Diana Fortuna  
Thomas A. Kalil  
Sanders D. Korenman  
Janet R. Forsgren  
James C. Murr

LRM ID: CJB221 SUBJECT: EDUCATION Report on HR3248 Dollars to the Classroom Act

RESPONSE TO  
LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL  
MEMORANDUM

If your response to this request for views is short (e.g., concur/no comment), we prefer that you respond by e-mail or by faxing us this response sheet. If the response is short and you prefer to call, please call the branch-wide line shown below (NOT the analyst's line) to leave a message with a legislative assistant.

You may also respond by:

- (1) calling the analyst/attorney's direct line (you will be connected to voice mail if the analyst does not answer); or
- (2) sending us a memo or letter

Please include the LRM number shown above, and the subject shown below.

TO: Constance J. Bowers Phone: 395-3803 Fax: 395-6148  
Office of Management and Budget  
Branch-Wide Line (to reach legislative assistant): 395-7362

FROM: \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Agency)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Telephone)

The following is the response of our agency to your request for views on the above-captioned subject:

\_\_\_\_\_ Concur  
\_\_\_\_\_ No Objection

\_\_\_\_\_ No Comment

\_\_\_\_\_ See proposed edits on pages \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ FAX RETURN of \_\_\_\_\_ pages, attached to this response sheet

Message Sent

To: \_\_\_\_\_

- Barbara Chow/OMB/EOP@EOP
- Sandra Yamin/OMB/EOP@EOP
- Barry White/OMB/EOP@EOP
- Wayne Upshaw/OMB/EOP@EOP
- Mary I. Cassell/OMB/EOP@EOP
- Michael Cohen/OPD/EOP@EOP
- Jonathan H. Schnur/OPD/EOP@EOP
- Tanya E. Martin/OPD/EOP@EOP
- Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP@EOP
- Robert M. Shireman/OPD/EOP@EOP
- William P. Marshall/WHO/EOP@EOP
- Edward W. Correia/WHO/EOP@EOP
- Broderick Johnson/WHO/EOP@EOP
- Kate P. Donovan/OMB/EOP@EOP
- Lisa M. Kountoupes/OMB/EOP@EOP
- Robert G. Damus/OMB/EOP@EOP
- Rosalyn J. Rettman/OMB/EOP@EOP
- Edward M. Rea/OMB/EOP@EOP
- Pamula L. Simms/OMB/EOP@EOP
- Justin D. Sullivan/OMB/EOP@EOP
- Winifred Y. Chang/OMB/EOP@EOP
- Jennifer Brown/ONDCP/EOP@EOP
- Daniel J. Chenok/OMB/EOP@EOP
- Daniel I. Werfel/OMB/EOP@EOP
- Diana Fortuna/OPD/EOP@EOP
- Thomas A. Kalil/OPD/EOP@EOP
- Sanders D. Korenman/CEA/EOP@EOP
- Janet R. Forsgren/OMB/EOP@EOP
- James C. Murr/OMB/EOP@EOP
- Constance J. Bowers/OMB/EOP@EOP

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

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

TEXT:

Unable to convert ARMS\_EXT: [ATTACH.D45]MAIL48136717D.126 to ASCII,  
The following is a HEX DUMP:

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FF5750439D2F0000010A000100000000FBFF05003200CC000000060010000000420000000C005A
00000052000000030000B0000000AC000000070015000000B700000000237C007800000001000000
000000004850204C617365724A6574203553690000000000000000000000000000000000000000
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69657220426F6C6400FBFF05003200A70300000F0058010000FE00000001017600000056020000
020170000000CC02000003016B0000003C0300003C08FFFFF89003F007800780078002C01010000
0001BE03F4017800FE1536105807000000041140C900B9603712FB01580240FEFEFEFEFEFEFEFF
FEFFFFFFF01FFFFFFEFFFFFFF015807000000041140C900B9603712FB01580240FEFEFEFEFEFEFEFF

```

DRAFT  
MAY 18, 1998  
1:20 PM

Honorable Frank Riggs  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Early Childhood,  
Youth, and Families  
Committee on Education and the Workforce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to express my strong objections to H.R. 3248, the "Dollars to the Classroom Act," which would convert a wide array of Federal education programs to block grants. The President stated last fall that such a step is unacceptable, and that he would use his veto power to prevent this approach from becoming law. If H.R. 3248 were presented to the President, I would recommend that he veto it.

Block grants would halt many of our most successful efforts to improve education, including our efforts to raise educational standards, make computers available in every classroom, and keep our schools safe and free of drugs. H.R. 3248 could also seriously harm the ESEA, Title I program, which provides extra help to low-income students so that they can master the basic skills of reading and math, paving the way for them to reach high academic standards.

The American people rightly look to the Federal Government to focus its efforts not on general aid to school districts, but on national priorities, such as improving educational opportunities for poor children and other children with special needs, combating youth drug abuse and school violence, and researching and disseminating information on what works. This Administration has worked diligently to eliminate unnecessary regulations and take other steps to promote State and local flexibility in carrying out these targeted efforts, while supporting strong accountability mechanisms, such as the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, that ensure program effectiveness and results and that justify continued support by the taxpayers. Block grants would replace these worthy efforts with general aid, providing no focus, no accountability for results, and no rationale for ongoing support.

The issue here is not about who controls public education -- we all agree that that responsibility rests at the local and State levels.

The question, rather, is whether the Federal Government will maintain its long-standing, bipartisan commitment to helping local communities strengthen accountability, raise standards, and improve student achievement, by providing assistance that focuses on our

neediest children and schools and on activities in which national leadership can play a critical role.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that there is no objection to the submission of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program and that enactment of H.R. 3248 would not be in accord with the President's program.

Yours sincerely,

Richard W. Riley

# **Clinton Presidential Records Automated Records Management System [EMAIL]**

This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

---

**Hex Dump file is not in a recognizable format, has been incorrectly decoded or is damaged.**

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**File Name:** p\_c7176316\_opd\_html\_2.xls

**Attachment Number:** [ATTACH.D45]MAIL49136717E.126 to ASCII

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

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

CREATION DATE/TIME:19-JUN-1998 09:17:17.00

SUBJECT: Another change . . .

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

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

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

TO: Emil E. Parker ( CN=Emil E. Parker/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: William P. Marshall ( CN=William P. Marshall/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

CC: Donna L. Geisbert ( CN=Donna L. Geisbert/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Jason M. Dunn ( CN=Jason M. Dunn/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TEXT:

Today's meeting to discuss strategy on the FICA/Workfare ruling is rescheduled for

2:30 p.m. in Bruce Reed's office.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

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

CREATION DATE/TIME:19-JUN-1998 12:49:55.00

SUBJECT: Bilingual memo again

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:

Attached is the latest version of the memo, incorporating the additional legislative information and the additional option we discussed last night. I'll call you to discuss how to proceed===== ATTACHMENT 1 =  
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

Unable to convert ARMS\_EXT:[ATTACH.D30]MAIL474628177.126 to ASCII,  
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DRAFT

June 18, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: BRUCE REED  
LARRY STEIN (**DO YOU WANT TO INCLUDE HIM ON THIS MEMO AS REQUESTED BY JANET?**)

SUBJECT: Bilingual Education

On June 4, the House Education and Workforce Committee reported H.R. 3982, the English Fluency Act, introduced by Rep. Frank Riggs. This bill raises many of the same programmatic issues and political dynamics as the Unz Initiative in California. The purpose of this memo is to update you on this proposal and the development of an Administration alternative, and to present you with options for how to proceed.

**I. Overview of Riggs Bill**

The bill would eliminate the existing Bilingual Education and Emergency Immigrant Education programs and would (1) distribute funds through a block grant that is not targeted toward school districts with the highest quality programs and greatest funding need; (2) require states to withdraw funding from local programs in cases where students do not master English within two years and set a 3-year limit for serving any individual student, though it would not provide any extra help for students or corrective action for programs that need it; (3) not require States to maintain their own efforts; and (4) eliminate professional development programs designed to prepared qualified ESL and bilingual education teachers. The bill also seeks to sharply curtail the enforcement powers of the Education Department's Office of Civil Rights by voiding existing voluntary compliance agreements between OCR and local school districts with regard to educating LEP students and by requiring OCR to publish -- and the Congress to ratify -- new guidelines and compliance standards for Title VI enforcement. These provisions would weaken enforcement of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and result in increased litigation.

**II. Development of Administration Alternative**

We are on track to have an alternative bill based on the principles you approved and Secretary Riley articulated in his statement of opposition to the Unz Initiative completed and ready for transmittal to Congress by the end of this week. This bill would amend (rather than replace entirely) the existing bilingual education program. Specifically, it would require participating school districts to (1) establish a goal of preparing LEP students to enter

successfully regular English classrooms in not more than three years, (2) conduct annual assessments of student's English proficiency; (3) provide additional help for students not on track to English proficiency; (4) develop a corrective action plan, to be approved by the Secretary, if a significant percentage of students do not meet the 3-year goal. If student performance does not improve after a year, no additional funding would be provided. The bill would also provide incentives for districts that make outstanding progress toward the three year goal, by providing them with an additional 2-4 years of funding. In addition, the bill would guarantee local flexibility by removing the existing cap on funding for programs that do not use the students native language, and would remove the competitive priority currently given to programs designed to maintain native language while helping students learn English.

This bill would be a solid first step to reform federal programs to help students become proficient in English. The Education Department is working on a more thorough approach as part of its planning for the reauthorization of ESEA. This approach would include a more thorough overall of the bilingual education program, as well as an effort to make Title 1 a more effective tool for helping LEP students learn English.

### **III. Congressional Dynamic**

H.R. 3892 was reported out of committee on a straight party line vote (22-17). While the bill will certainly move in the House, there is no hint of movement on the Riggs bill in the Senate. Barring unforeseen developments, we do not expect either the Senate authorizing or appropriations committees to take up this issue.

The Republicans will include the Riggs bill as a rider to the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill when it is marked up in subcommittee on June 2x. Subcommittee Democrats view this bill as so fundamentally flawed that they do not plan on offering any amendments to try and improve it. The bill will provide approximately \$2 [CK] billion less than you have requested for overall education spending; it will make significant cuts in Administration priorities such as Goals 2000, and will contain a number of unacceptable riders including a prohibition on national testing and the creation of one or more block grants out of existing programs.

House Democrats have not yet finalized a strategy for this bill at the full committee and when it comes to the floor. They presume that you will issue a veto threat as the bill moves forward. It appears likely that any amendments offered will be designed to promote a unified Democratic message rather than to materially improve a bill will be still be fundamentally flawed. We do not expect the Hispanic Caucus to mount an effort to strip Riggs from the bill. Consequently, it is entirely possible that there will not be a vote or significant debate on bilingual education on the House floor.

It seems unlikely that the Republicans will completely pass up the opportunity to push a debate on this popular issue, and we cannot rule out the possibility that Riggs will come to the

floor as a free-standing measure. Notwithstanding the success of the Unz Initiative, Committee Democrats did not feel compelled to offer an alternative to Riggs's bill during committee markup. Moderate Committee Democrats (e.g., Reps. Roemer and Kind) as well as the four Members of the Hispanic Caucus on the Committee (Reps. Martinez, Romero-Barcelo, Hinojosa and Sanchez) decided to vote against the Riggs bill even without a Democratic alternative.

However, it is quite possible that House Democrats will feel compelled to offer an alternative if and when the bill hits the floor so that they can vote for reform of bilingual education. Leaders of the Hispanic Caucus, including Caucus Chairman Becerra and Education Committee Member Hinojosa, have quietly acknowledged that, for the greater good of the Democratic Caucus, such a floor alternative might become necessary. However, up until now they have been adamantly opposed to a floor alternative, and remain to be convinced that one is necessary for a successful floor strategy. In addition to their own apprehensions, Hispanic Caucus members are under substantial political pressure from bilingual advocates to steer clear of an alternative. While moderate Democrats themselves were not clear at the time of committee mark-up if they would need an alternative, there are now growing signs of interest in one among moderates, and ongoing discussions about this with the Hispanic Caucus members.

#### **IV. Options for Leadership**

Regardless of how the Riggs bill moves forward over the coming weeks and months, the national debate over bilingual education will continue. We believe that you must be an active player in that debate, in order to shape Congressional action on the federal program, as well as the broader debate that will affect state and local actions throughout the nation.

We see three options for how you can proceed. Any of these options could be carried out shortly after you return from China.

##### **Option 1. Transmit An Administration Bill**

Sending up a bill in the near future would demonstrate your clear commitment to reforming bilingual education, and would position you in the reasonable center of the emerging national debate, between those such as Unz and Riggs who are proposing extreme and punitive approaches on the one hand, and those who are defending the status quo that was rejected by a large margin of the public, at least in California. From this point of view, it will be important to transmit the bill as soon as possible in the event that the Riggs bill captures press attention as it moves forward. It will provide House Democrats with a ready-made alternative to Riggs if they feel the need for one. Even if this bill is not introduced or does not garner much support among Democrats, by staking out a clear and independent Administration position now, you can have a significant impact on next year's debate, when legislation to reform bilingual education is more likely to reach your desk.

There are significant legislative downsides to introducing an Administration bill now, if

House Democrats have otherwise concluded that they neither want nor need an alternative bill. In particular, introducing an alternative at this time would be perceived by the Hispanic Caucus as jumping the gun strategically, and preempting meaningful consultation regarding the substance of an alternative. It would generate a hostile reaction from the Caucus, and is likely to recreate the same divisions among House Democrats we saw last year on national testing. The prospects that the Black Caucus would ally itself with the Hispanic Caucus and Republicans in opposition to your bill are high. Under these circumstances, there is a good chance that your proposal would not find a Democratic sponsor, or if introduced and allowed to come up on the floor as an alternative to Riggs, would be defeated by a large, bipartisan margin. Opposition by the Hispanic and Black Caucus would almost certainly spill over into renewed opposition to continued funding for the national test (though the prospects of support from the two caucuses is slim at best in any event), and perhaps to other legislative battles as well.

Further, there is the outside chance that sending up an Administration alternative that lacks support from Democrats could push Riggs to seek to narrow the differences between his approach and yours. He has indicated privately that he does not see large differences between his approach and the principles outlined in the Administration's opposition to Unz, and that he is ultimately prepared to drop the civil rights enforcement provisions in his bill. If Riggs were to modify his bill in order to more closely reflect the principles in ours, we would have a difficult time opposing his bill and would risk infuriating Democrats if we cut a deal with him.

#### **Option 2. Defer to the Congressional Democrats on the Timing of Transmittal**

An alternative course of action would be to proceed immediately to consult with members of the Hispanic Caucus and other Democrats on the shape of an alternative bill, using the Administration bill as the starting point, and making our 3-year goal and strengthened accountability as nonnegotiable principles which must be incorporated into any legislation we would support. While there is no guarantee that Democrats in general and the Members of the Hispanic Caucus in particular will endorse our approach, we can gain leverage in these negotiations by making clear that a veto threat to Riggs remains dependent upon the introduction of an alternative consistent with our principles. We can also make clear that we will transmit a reauthorization bill next year that is fully consistent with these principles.

If we determine together with House Democrats that an alternative is strategically necessary when the bill comes to the floor or is taken up by the appropriations committee, we could then introduce a bill consistent with our principles that would unite, rather than divide Democrats. Alternatively, if House Democrats either do not want an alternative when the Riggs bill or the Appropriations bill reaches the floor, or will not support an approach based on our principles, we can reassess our position at that time and either send up our own alternative or choose to wait until next year's reauthorization.

This approach is more likely to unite the Democrats over a potentially divisive issue, keep them united for the larger education and other battles over the coming months, and enable those

of us in the Administration to focus our time and energy on fights with Republicans rather than on infighting within the Democratic Caucus.

There are clear downsides to this approach as well. It places a large measure of control over the timing and, to some extent the content, of your own proposal in the hands of Members who do not share your views about the need or way to reform bilingual education. Consequently, the chances are high that you would not transmit legislation at all this year, and you would therefore be unable to position yourself or to effectively define the debate.

**Option 3. Announce a Comprehensive Plan to Help Students Learn English, with Legislation to be Sent up Next Year**

A third alternative would be to announce a package of steps, designed to advance a comprehensive approach to helping LEP students receive a world-class education and become proficient in English. The idea is to broaden the debate beyond the design of the bilingual education program, and focus instead on a range of steps that would support the goal of helping students learn English within three years. This package is still under development and may not be ready until several weeks after you return from China. It would include:

- **A Proposal to Overhaul the Federal Bilingual Education Program and Related Programs.** You would announce that next year you will send Congress legislation that would complete overhaul federal efforts to help LEP kids learn English. The overhaul would set a 3 year goal for students to become proficient in English, hold schools accountable for results, provide communities with the flexibility to determine how best to meet the goal, and give parents greater choice. Legislation sent to Congress next year would be more sweeping than the package of amendments available at present. It would also address how the Title 1 program--which serves far more students than the bilingual education program--will also be redesigned to help LEP students become proficient in English, according to the same principles outlined above.
- **A Directive to Identify National and International Models of Best Practice.** You would direct the Secretary of Education to produce a report by next Fall that would identify places in the U.S. and in other countries with sizeable immigrant populations (e.g., Canada and Israel) that help students become proficient in English (or another 2nd language as appropriate) within 3 years. The purpose of the directive would be to inform the development of our legislative proposal and to focus the attention of the public and educators on effective ways to help students more rapidly become proficient in English.
- **An Initiative to Strengthen Teaching for LEP Students.** The existing bilingual education program provides strong support for the recruitment, preparation and continued training of bilingual and ESL teachers. We are exploring ways to better highlight and strengthen this component. In addition to further expanding our investments in this area,

options under discussion include creating mentoring programs to help beginning teachers, providing additional incentives to recruit well prepared teachers, and strengthening the provisions in Title 1.

- **An Initiative to Promote School/College Partnerships, Tutoring, and Other Community-Based Support for Helping Students Learn English.** We are exploring how best to use existing programs, including America Reads, the 21st Century Learning Program, and High Hopes as the foundation for promoting grass roots efforts to mobilize extra help for LEP students to learn English through after-school tutoring, Saturday programs, and other mechanisms to recruit adults, particularly bilingual adults, to help students learn English.
- **An R&D and Technology Initiative.** We can strengthen efforts to help students learn English with an R&D initiative targeted to areas that have the potential for high impact. These might include continued studies and demonstrations of best practices, the development of technology-based assessments of language proficiency, and the development of programming to promote English language acquisition, for use as digital TV comes into widespread use. It might also include demonstration programs focused on the best ways of helping young adult (18-24) recent immigrants, who have not completed high school in their country of origin, do not enroll in high school in the U.S., learn English.
- **A Proposal to Help English Speaking Students Learn Foreign Languages.** This package provides an important opportunity to broaden the debate about bilingual education by recognizing the value of bilingualism in a global economy. In particular, we could propose an initiative to expand the existing \$5 million program that promotes foreign language instruction, and focus it on encouraging more schools to provide foreign language instruction in the early grades, when students are best equipped to learn a second language.

This more comprehensive approach would give you a strong basis for leading the national debate about bilingual education, while providing the time to fully develop a comprehensive Administration package as part of the FY 2000 budget process. By not transmitting legislation now, it avoids the prospect of creating a rift with and among Congressional Democrats. However, if there was agreement among Congressional Democrats that an alternative to Riggs was necessary in the short run, the package of amendments we have already drafted could be used.

The primary downside to this approach is that it could be seen by the press as an effort to delay changing the bilingual education program, because legislation would not be sent until next year, while Riggs is in play right now.

**Recommendation:** *Elena—we'd need to circulate this, though I suspect that most of those involved in the deliberations to date would favor option 3.*

<input type="checkbox"/> Option 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Option 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Option 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Discuss
Send Now	Defer to House	Announce a	
	Democrats on Timing Comprehensive		
	Plan		

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Kate P. Donovan ( CN=Kate P. Donovan/OU=OMB/O=EOP [ OMB ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:19-JUN-1998 19:44:20.00

SUBJECT: POTUS hate crimes letter

TO: Elizabeth Gore ( CN=Elizabeth Gore/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Ronald E. Jones ( CN=Ronald E. Jones/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Linda Ricci ( CN=Linda Ricci/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

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

TO: James J. Jukes ( CN=James J. Jukes/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Theodore Wartell ( CN=Theodore Wartell/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

WHLA would like to send the attached POTUS hate crimes letter on Monday, June 22. Please provide comments/clearance to me (5-4790) by 10:00am. Thank you.

----- Forwarded by Kate P. Donovan/OMB/EOP on 06/19/98  
07:41 PM -----

Tracey E. Thornton  
06/19/98 07:25:18 PM  
Record Type: Record

To: Kate P. Donovan/OMB/EOP@EOP  
cc: Richard Socarides/WHO/EOP@EOP, Kevin S. Moran/WHO/EOP@EOP  
Subject: hate crimes letter

I incorporated the changes Ann Lewis wanted and made a few more. I think we need to recirculate internally even though there were no substantive



**Draft: June 19, 1998**

Honorable Trent Lott

Honorable Tom Daschle

Honorable Newt Gingrich

Honorable Richard Gephardt

Dear:

As you know, there have been a number of recent tragedies across the country that involve hate crimes. Last week, for example, a man in Jasper, Texas was killed after being dragged behind a truck. While this shocking event serves to focus America's attention on the problem of hate crimes, too many of our fellow citizens are subjected to some kind of violence on account of **their race, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender, or disability.**

Whether it is the gay American murdered as he walked home from work or the Jewish American whose house of worship was desecrated by swastikas, these acts are not acts of bias and bigotry -- they are crimes. They strike at the heart of what it means to be an American. They are the antithesis of the values that define us as a Nation and I know that most Americans find these acts abhorrent. That is why I believe now is the time for us to take strong and decisive action to fight these hate crimes and to put a stop to this intolerance.

I am writing you today to restate my deeply-held belief that the Congress must act quickly this year to pass the Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 1998. This crucial legislation would expand the ability of the Justice Department to prosecute hate crimes by removing needless jurisdictional requirements for existing crimes and by giving federal prosecutors the power to prosecute hate crimes committed because of bias against a person's sexual orientation, gender, or disability.

**There is nothing more important to the future of this country than attacking the divisive issue of intolerance, prejudice, and violent bigotry. This legislation will lead the way in making sure people feel more safe and secure in our country, whatever their race, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender, or disability. I implore you to move this vital piece of legislation through Congress without delay.**

Sincerely,

cc: Hatch, Leahy, Hyde, Conyers