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**FG006-21      246635SS**

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FG006-21

Dec. 19, 97 - DPC Weekly Report

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 19, 1997

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12-29-97

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Bruce Reed  
Elena Kagan

SUBJECT: DPC Weekly Report

**1. Welfare -- Welfare-to-Work Competitive Grants:** The Department of Labor will release a notice in early January seeking welfare-to-work competitive grant applications. DOL will award a total of \$711 million in five rounds of competition, two in FY 1998 and three in FY 1999. Projects will be funded for up to three years. Both public and private entities may apply, including state and local governments and community and faith-based organizations. We worked with DOL to ensure that the notice seeks projects designed to place welfare recipients into jobs quickly and to provide the support services and skills training they will need to succeed in the work force. Like the activities supported by formula funds (the rest of the \$3 billion welfare-to-work program), these projects must serve long-term welfare recipients with multiple barriers to employment. DOL intends to award about 70 percent of competitive funds to projects in cities with high concentrations of poverty and about 30 percent to projects in rural areas. The first round of applications will be due in March.

**2. Crime -- COPS:** The Justice Department last week announced \$47 million in grants to fund an additional 800 police officers under the COPS Program. The grants went to law enforcement agencies in 32 states, and included a grant to New York City to fund 300 officers. The announcement brings the total number of officers funded under the COPS Program to 66,000.

**3. Crime -- 3-1-1 Community Policing Number:** Dallas launched a new citywide 3-1-1 non-emergency response system last week. Dallas residents will be able to call 3-1-1 and request any city service 24-hours a day, seven days a week. Baltimore celebrated its one-year anniversary as the nation's first 3-1-1 project on October 1. The 3-1-1 initiative in Baltimore has helped to reduce the volume of calls to 9-1-1 by 25 percent and to cut the average response time to emergency calls by two-thirds.

**4. Crime -- Brady Handgun Checks:** Ohio signed an agreement with the Justice and Treasury Departments last week to conduct background checks for all handgun sales. Arkansas is now the only state not conducting background checks. Despite an opinion issued by Arkansas Attorney General Winston Bryant that the state has the necessary authority, the Governor continues to refuse to allow the checks. As a result, Attorney General Bryant has asked the Treasury and Justice Departments to name him the designated chief law enforcement officer authorized to conduct background checks statewide. The proposal is currently under consideration by both Departments.

*Handwritten notes:*  
COP  
first  
Bally  
on schedule  
now on 10/20/97  
6/97

12-29-97

5. **Tobacco -- Document Disclosure:** Chairman Bliley released last week 834 tobacco industry documents that his committee had subpoenaed. The documents do not seem to contain any smoking guns, but reveal the industry's persistent efforts to conduct and support "scientific" research to support its litigation positions. More documents may come to light over the next month, as a result of either judicial rulings or additional congressional subpoenas. Chairman Bliley worked very closely with Rep. Dingell in demanding and releasing the documents; this cooperation may bode well for the progress of tobacco legislation in the House when Congress returns in January.

6. **Tobacco -- Smoking Cessation:** You recently asked about the possibility of funding smoking cessation efforts through national tobacco legislation. As the CEA informed you, a recent study in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* found that intensive smoking cessation programs can be among the most cost-effective of preventive intervention programs -- more cost-effective, for example, than mammography screening. Because of the proven success of these programs, you have stated that expansion of smoking cessation activities is a critical element of comprehensive tobacco legislation. The settlement itself proposed that \$1 billion annually for the first 4 years and \$1.5 billion annually thereafter would go to smoking cessation efforts. We have protected this level of funding in the budget process, rejecting proposals to use this projected revenue for non-smoking-related programs. This level of funding would be insufficient to allow the exact method of providing cessation services studied by *JAMA*, but neither HHS nor OMB thinks this method the most efficient. HHS is now preparing options for allocating smoking cessation funds, with estimates of how many quitters each option will produce. One potentially effective approach is to provide incentives to managed-care plans to encourage participation in smoking cessation programs.