

Crime - Prevention

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

07-Sep-1994 12:11pm

TO: Kumiki S. Gibson
TO: Paul J. Weinstein, Jr
TO: Bruce N. Reed
TO: Jose Cerda, III

FROM: Sheryll D. Cashin
National Economic Council

SUBJECT: Prevention Council Memorandum

I agree with Bruce's suggestion that the memorandum emphasize the "reinventing government / anti-pork" message. I have two additional suggestions for reinforcing this message. First, in addition to the numerous new youth development funding streams that are created in the crime bill, we already have no less than 16 existing and overlapping job training/employment development programs that are targeted at youth (and many more additional youth services programs). I think it would be useful to allude to these existing programs and state that the council should help educate communities about how to develop coordinated strategies that link violence prevention efforts with youth employment and job creation strategies. (Perhaps we should even say that the OPC should strive to coordinate the prevention programs with existing federal youth development and employment programs.) Second, and a related point, the memorandum could emphasize that the Community Enterprise Board's primary purpose has been to stimulate comprehensive planning strategies. We know that violence prevention strategies in a distressed community have a better chance of succeeding if they are part of a larger vision that addresses and links crime prevention with economic and human development. To encourage comprehensive, innovative planning and maximize the effectiveness of all federal programs that target distressed communities, it makes sense to have the membership of the OPC and the CEB be one and the same. I would have the memorandum name the additional members of the OPC (that are not named in the statute) and explicitly state that this will be making the membership the same in order to maximize the effectiveness of these efforts. (This would avoid the awkward language of having the OPC "report" to the CEB.) Although we would not have to say it in the memo, in this way the CEB and the OPC would effectively be one in the same. Alternatively, the membership could be made the same without explicitly pointing this fact out in the memo. Either way, I think it would strengthen the work of both the OPC and CEB to eliminate internally any differences between the two bodies.