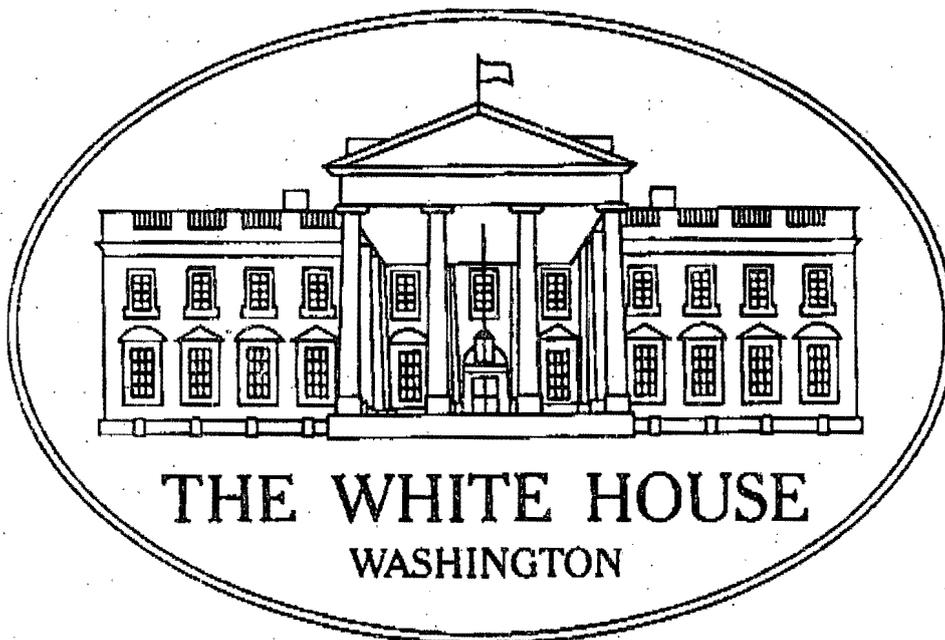


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Message: Here are a few things on lengthening the school year

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The Associated Press, April 6, 1992
April 6, 1992, Monday, PM cycle

SECTION: Political News

LENGTH: 147 words

HEADLINE: The Issue: Lengthening the School Year

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

Here are the views of the major presidential candidates on the question: "Would you favor lengthening the school year to help American students become more competitive with students in other nations?"

DEMOCRATS

-Jerry Brown: "No. Instead, we need to improve the quality of both the teachers and the resources available to them."

* -Bill Clinton: "Although I would not rule out longer school years, I believe we need to take steps to ensure that our children spend more time learning while they are in school and less time in activities which do not further their education."

REPUBLICANS

-George Bush: Education Secretary Lamar Alexander has said that he favors extending the school day and school year by making it optional and charging parents for the extra instruction.

-Patrick Buchanan: A spokesman said Buchanan has not taken a stand on the issue.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

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The Record
October 2, 1994; SUNDAY; ALL EDITIONS

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. A13

LENGTH: 490 words

HEADLINE: FUNDING FOR LONGER SCHOOL DAY; YEAR OK'D

BYLINE: CHRISTOPHER MUMMA, Staff Writer

BODY:

One of U.S. Rep. Robert G. Torricelli's pet projects, lengthening the school day and year, got a boost Friday when the House of Representatives passed an \$ 11 billion federal education bill that included a \$ 90 million provision for that purpose.

The bill, which primarily provides aid for elementary and secondary schools, now goes to the Senate for final congressional approval. If it's passed by the Senate and President * Clinton signs it into law, the \$ 90 million will be used for demonstration grants for secondary schools that opt to extend the school year.

Torricelli, D-Englewood, has been trying with little success to gain support for a longer school day since 1991. But the congressman's bid to extend the school year well into the summer was bolstered by a May report from the National Education Commission on Time and Learning, a panel commissioned by Congress in 1991 to study the school day.

That report said American public schoolchildren spend 41 percent as much time on academics as students in Germany, Japan, and France, the nation's leading economic competitors.

"Lengthening the school day and school year in the United States will allow our students to compete on equal footing with their counterparts in other countries," Torricelli said in a statement. "We're cramming a lot more onto the plate of the typical student and teacher.

Instead of meeting this increased demand with a longer school day, we've squeezed the traditional schedule, to the detriment of core curriculum classes."

The commission's report noted that the average school year of 180 days remains one of the shortest among industrialized nations, which generally adhere to 190- to 240-day schedules. The specifics of the current \$ 90 million provision were not available Friday, but earlier legislation Torricelli has introduced called for money to be provided to schools that would extend the school year to at least 200 days and the school day to at least seven hours.

The programs would then be studied to determine the relationship between time in school and performance on international assessment tests.

In the state, the New Jersey Quality Education Commission called for a longer school year in its January 1992 report, but the idea never has won wide legislative support. Critics

generally cite the enormous cost of installing air conditioning in more than 2,200 of the state's public schools, and the drain on teacher and staff salaries.

The New Jersey School Boards Association and the New Jersey Education Association, the state's largest teachers union, support leaving decisions on a longer school calendar to each school board.

There is some momentum in the state, however, for lengthening the school day and year. In July 1995, Trenton's school district will become the first to experiment with a year-round calendar.

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: October 4, 1994

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Time
May 9, 1994, U.S. Edition

SECTION: CHRONICLES; Pg. 15

LENGTH: 246 words

HEADLINE: INFORMED SOURCES

BODY:

Good Luck Implementing This One

Washington -- A federal report due out this week will call for schools to sharply extend the amount of time students spend on their studies so they can compete with pupils in Germany and Japan. According to a Clinton Administration source, schools will be asked to double the roughly three hours a day that most children spend studying core academic subjects such as reading and math; the study will also recommend extending the school year to 240 days from the current average of about 180.

A New White Knight for Health Care?

Washington -- Treasury Secretary LLOYD BENTSEN, who has been on the sidelines of the health-care debate for more than a year, has quietly begun to sound out Democratic elders and health-care interest groups in the event Congress can't pass legislation this summer. Bentsen has never been a fan of the grandiose Clinton scheme, and may help cut a deal if the committee chairpeople on Capitol Hill can't do it themselves.

David Gergen and the Perils of Party Switching

Washington -- Clinton adviser DAVID GERGEN, a former aide to Republican Presidents Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan, sat toward the rear with other members of the Democratic Clinton Administration at the funeral for Nixon last week. James Cavanaugh, also a veteran of the Nixon White House, playfully scribbled a note and passed it back to Gergen. It read, "If you had stayed with us, you'd be three rows closer to the front!"

GRAPHIC: Picture, Bentsen descColor: Lloyd Bentsen., WALKER FOR TIME

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 10, 1994

Copyright 1987 U.P.I.
February 21, 1987, Saturday, AM cycle

SECTION: Washington News
LENGTH: 468 words
HEADLINE: Governors: 'Make America Work'
BYLINE: By TAMARA HENRY
DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

States can help break the cycle of poverty and chains of welfare dependency by guaranteeing all children a good education that may include longer school years, the nation's governors were told Saturday.

The National Governors Association opened its annual winter meeting with a "roundtable discussion on welfare prevention" and heard ideas from colleagues, business leaders and organization officials.

Following the advice of NGA Chairman Gov. Bill Clinton not to discuss the governor's controversial \$2 billion welfare proposal, the group focused on the pros and cons of extending the school year, developing special summer opportunities for disadvantaged children and finding more summer jobs.

"We are losing 25 percent of each generation," said William Kolberg, president of the National Alliance of Business Inc. "We cannot repair damaged adults nearly as well as we can build real strong and healthy young people.

"Specifically, governors need to go through a second wave of school reform ... The second wave ... has got to concentrate on the 25 percent that we've talked about."

Marián Wright Edelman, president of the Children's Defense Fund, said, "The single message ... the most important thing that you can do to prevent dependency and prevent teen pregnancy -- and I suspect a lot of other problems -- is to make sure your young people are growing up knowing how to read and write well and to have a sense of confidence and a sense that they have a future."

Stressing the connection between basic skills, poverty and teen pregnancy, Edelman said a study to be published soon found that teenage girls who by the ages of 14 or 15 have weak academic skills are five times more likely to become mothers before age 16, than those with average skills.

Young men who by age 17 or 18 have weak basic skills are three times more likely to become fathers before age 20 and four times more likely to be forced to rely on public assistance.

Edelman called for a "comprehensive approach" that includes keeping children busy and off the streets, possibly keeping school buildings open all year.

Siobhan Oppenheimer-Nicolau, president of the Hispanic Policy Development Project, pointed to statistics that showed "at risk" children "lose tremendously over the summer."

"It seems to be increasingly clear for a variety of reasons that we have to really consider year-round schooling. We cannot let our kids fall back this way. Year-round schooling solves other

problems as well," particularly those faced by poor and working mothers, she said.

Cathy Reynolds, president of the National League of Cities, stressed that welfare prevention should include medical and pre-natal care of mothers, whose health determines the learning ability and environment of the children.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH