

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. memo	Steve Waldman to Reed re: Republicans and National Service (1 page)	11/96	P2, P5
002. memo	Waldman to Harris [Wofford] and Deb re: The Board (6 pages)	11/2/96	P2, P5

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
 Domestic Policy Council
 Bruce Reed (Subject File)
 OA/Box Number: 21206

FOLDER TITLE:

National Service [2]

7858

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN ✓
11-3-97

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 30, 1997

✓
MR. PRESIDENT:

Harris Wofford, Director of the Corporation for National Service, has sent you two memos. The first seeks your approval on a strategy of moving forward with reauthorization of AmeriCorps this year. The second seeks your approval of a plan by Sen. Wofford to reinstate the "Daily Points of Light" award. Sen. Wofford has apparently already had extensive conversations with President Bush about this plan.

At my request, Bruce Reed has summarized the memos and presented you with recommendations; the underlying memos from Wofford follow Bruce's cover note.

There is no disagreement on the reauthorization issue -- your advisors agree that we should move forward this year. On the "Points of Light" award, Bruce presents a recommendation different than Harris' proposal. While none of your advisor's are thrilled about reinstating these awards, they agree that Bruce's suggestion makes the most sense. Resumption of the awards could be announced at your visit to the Bush Library next week.

Please see Bruce's memo for details.

copied
Reed
Silverman
COS
Pardina

Phil Caplan

PCW

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1997 OCT 24 AM 11:35

October 24, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: BRUCE REED *BR*

CC: Steve Silverman

SUBJECT: Harris Wofford Memos

*added on WOTM
processed
but see my notes
on trust
Wofford
memo*

Harris Wofford has written you two memos. The first recommends that you make reauthorization of AmeriCorps a high priority. The second recommends that you reinstate President Bush's "Daily Points of Light" awards. A discussion of each memo, along with my recommendations, follows.

1. Recommendation on Harris's Reauthorization Memo

Harris Wofford wrote you on October 3 urging that we make reauthorization of AmeriCorps a high priority. He argues that we should send the Corporation's reauthorization proposal to the Hill before adjournment this year, with the goal of getting AmeriCorps reauthorized by the first anniversary of the Presidents' service summit next April. AmeriCorps has never been reauthorized and is now operating without any authorization. Harris argues that we must seek to establish firmly AmeriCorps' existence, preferably beyond the end of your term, and that this is the best time to do it.

The Corporation has made strides, particularly since the service summit, in getting Congress to support or at least not attack AmeriCorps. This year, for the first time, Congress did not launch an effort to eliminate the core AmeriCorps programs during the appropriations process, and it appears we will secure funding at last year's levels plus an increment for America Reads, although a smaller one than we requested.

Agree
We recommend that we launch the reauthorization in a high-profile way as Harris requests, but wait until the final phase of this year's appropriations battle is complete. The VA-HUD appropriations bill that is coming to you for signature includes funding for core AmeriCorps programs as well as \$25 million for America Reads. However, we are still fighting to get more funds for AmeriCorps' portion of America Reads as part of the Labor-HHS appropriations bill, and we believe it would be prudent to wait until this is resolved. It is possible that Labor-HHS will not be settled until just before recess, which would frustrate Harris's goal of sending this proposal to the Hill prior to adjournment. Nevertheless it would be prudent to wait.

One option is to launch the reauthorization in a radio address right before Thanksgiving, which would come just before Powell's summit update on November 25.

II. Recommendation on Harris's Points of Light Memo

Harris Wofford has written to urge that you resume former President Bush's "Daily Points of Light" awards. He proposes to rename the awards the "Presidents' Points of Light," with you and President Bush as co-sponsors. Rather than having the White House take responsibility for selecting and vetting the winners on a daily basis, as was the case under President Bush, Harris proposes that the Points of Light Foundation and the Corporation for National Service take on this responsibility. The Knights of Columbus have agreed to fund the costs of this program for one year.

One factor complicating the decision is that Harris has had extensive conversations with the Points of Light Foundation and with President Bush himself on this proposal. Apparently Harris has made it clear that he favors this idea and that the decision rests with the White House. Harris indicates that President Bush will be deeply disappointed if we decide not to resume the awards.

One other timing issue is that you are scheduled to attend the dedication of President Bush's library on November 6. If we decide to reinstate this program, that event would be an opportunity to announce it, especially given the former President's attachment to the Points of Light program.

Arguments For:

- Reinstating the awards is an easy way to keep the issue of service and volunteerism before the public on a daily basis. It would continue to repair the rift between the AmeriCorps concept of service and the more traditional volunteer sector, just as the Philadelphia summit did. Also, AmeriCorps members would be eligible for the awards.
- President Bush very much wants the Administration to do this. He will be very disappointed if we do not, and he will see it as the White House's decision because of Harris's conversations with him.

Arguments Against:

- The benefits of resuming the awards are minimal. Our efforts to reach out to the volunteer sector at the Philadelphia summit were so successful that it is not clear what this would add. In addition, some would react negatively to such a decision, since the original Points of Light program was derided by many as an empty gesture.
- Although theoretically we could assign responsibility for vetting the award winners to the Points of Light Foundation and the Corporation for National Service, from a practical

standpoint we would probably still feel the need to do a legal and/or political check on award winners. (The daily responsibility of selecting and vetting winners will be time-consuming for White House staff, and not worth the effort.

L1 Disagree - we can let them handle it w/ government + our presence of them things @ own to go ahead

Options:

- #1 Resume the awards as Wofford proposes.
- #2 Decline to resume the awards.
- #3 Recommended Option: Reestablish these awards as the "Daily Points of Light" awards, rather than the "Presidents' Daily Points of Light" awards, to be administered by the Points of Light Foundation and the Corporation, with no formal connection to the President or the White House.

Harris believes that this plan would be acceptable to former President Bush as long as we do not appear to be distancing ourselves from the awards. To that end, he suggests we announce this at the dedication of the Bush library, and advise former President Bush in advance of our action. He also suggests that we invite a group of the first winners to the White House during National Volunteer Week in April, along with former President Bush, and that we use inclusive language in talking about the awards, such as "We join former President Bush in congratulating the winners." Such actions seem like a reasonable compromise on this issue.

Option #1

Option #2

Option #3 (recommended)

Discuss

Walter I'm OK on options - might help us get Bush - if did would Bush publicly help us get authorization?

After a bumpy start, America's Promise appears to be moving toward a stable organizational structure. This week, Peter Gallagher became the third CEO of America's Promise, replacing Ray Chambers, who remains very involved. Gregg Petersmeyer, who ran President Bush's volunteer office, manages the communities team and Tim Hanlon handles Communications. They manage a staff of 50-60 that continues to grow.

As you have noted, it is critical for the Administration to connect our on-going policy initiatives to service and to the summit's five goals for children wherever possible (i.e., America Reads, children's health, welfare to work, racial reconciliation, education technology). Moreover, real progress has been made on projects directly related to service, including AmeriCorps Scholarships, high school service scholarships, and cabinet agency summit commitment implementation.

We should remain proactive over the next six months, continuing to demonstrate the Administration's commitment to service through Presidential speeches, several service-related events, participation in mini-summits, agency commitment follow-up, new policies related to service and children, and direct service program enhancement. As set forth here, your record of accomplishment on service is profound. In the coming weeks, we will ensure that all interested media and constituencies are briefed about your record.

SIX MONTH STRATEGY ON SERVICE INITIATIVES

We should remain proactive over the next six months, continuing to demonstrate the Administration's commitment to service through Presidential speeches, several service events, mini-summit participation, agency commitment follow-up, service-related policy development and direct service program enhancement.

There are a number of promising opportunities for events and announcements that will allow us to show significant progress by next April, one year after the Summit.

I. Six-Month Anniversary October 26-28

America's Promise is now planning to downplay the six-month anniversary because much of their empirical and anecdotal evidence is not ready for release yet. So, rather than hold a press conference at the National Press Club and release a report, General Powell will have one interview from Prime Time Live.

However, America's Promise has set November 25 as the release date for their "Update to the Nation" report and we are considering having your pre-Thanksgiving radio address be on AmeriCorps reauthorization and service.

II. Participation with America's Promise

We meet regularly with representatives from America's Promise and are working closely together in order to promote the goals of the Summit -- especially goal five, to serve. Below are activities at America's Promise that we are involved in.

Mini-Summits:

You, the Vice President, Mrs. Clinton and Mrs. Gore should participate in one of the several hundred mini-summits being held in communities and regions around the country. We are working closely with General Powell's staff to determine the most appropriate summit for you and the other principals -- including your cabinet -- to participate in over the next six months. Harris Wofford will continue to travel extensively to these mini-summits. The Corporation for National Service is part of the planning team for many of the state and local summits.

Meeting with General Powell:

You and the Vice President should meet with General Powell again, as you did in July, for a briefing on Summit follow-up. White House staff will continue to meet regularly with America's Promise officials to keep abreast of developments and to keep America's Promise up to speed on Administration service related activity. In this regard, we should ask America's Promise to report to you on their progress since the summit. It will be useful to continue to foster these positive relationships.

America's Promise Video:

On behalf of America's Promise, the John Schreiber Group is producing a television special to highlight the daily risks facing millions of American children and youth and the numerous programs, corporations and individuals that have responded through the efforts of the Summit and America's Promise. The John Schreiber Group has requested photos of the President for the special. We supplied them with a photo taken at the Summit in Philadelphia and are waiting for them to send us a copy of the program for counsel's approval.

III. Administration Policies with Service Themes

As has been noted, your interest in service did not commence or conclude with the advent of the Service Summit. Over the years, you have promoted service as a way of life and as one of your major themes. Your signature program -- AmeriCorps-- is a testament to that commitment. As we go forward, there are opportunities to continue and enhance the ongoing service related initiatives and to announce new ones. Below are some thoughts on possible next steps towards promoting community service.

Children's Health Outreach:

We are working with states and community groups to ensure that eligible children are enrolled in Medicaid and the new child health program. Through America's Promise, we could ask all the organizations that made commitments to the summit to embark on a major effort to reach these children. Gen. Powell has been interested in this issue.

Teen Pregnancy and Service:

A new study shows that engaging in community service is at least as effective as other methods of teen pregnancy prevention. We could design an event with the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy and the Corporation for National Service.

Policy Events Focussed on Summit's Goals:

You could appear at one or more event centered on one of the five goals of the summit. Opportunities are many, and they could include an event with the Department of Justice's new Mentoring Alliance, which is working toward the summit's first goal. Another option is the launching of the Corporation for National Service's Seniors for Schools: America Reads initiative, which uses older volunteers as literacy tutors in elementary schools. The Corporation says such an event could take place in October or November.

President's Initiative on Race:

We are working to make the topic of your first town hall on Race in early December revolve around service themes. We could look at the AmeriCorps programs like City Year that have focused consciously on race as part of the service experience, and also examine how more service-learning programs in schools could bring together students of different backgrounds to share in community service. We are also preparing for your review a major proposal on mentoring young people to ensure that they take advantage of higher education opportunities.

Additionally, we will reach out to America's Promise to see how we can integrate the goals of the race initiative with the Summit-related activities taking place in cities and states across the country.

IV. Service Projects Moving Forward

The Corporation for National Service is making significant progress in pushing goal five of the Summit and continues to gain national support for AmeriCorps and its other important programs. Additionally, within the White House, we are thinking about ways to promote citizen service nationally.

AmeriCorps:

Harris Wofford has put together a draft legislative proposal to reauthorize the Corporation for National Service's programs, including AmeriCorps. As discussed above, we could announce this as part of a pre-Thanksgiving radio address on service, immediately prior to Powell's summit update. This would be the first reauthorization of these programs, which are now operating without authorization. Ideally, we would like to reauthorize these programs through the end of your term or beyond. We could use this as an opportunity to reflect on the contribution AmeriCorps has made in the past five years, including its key role in mobilizing volunteers.

It appears that the antipathy toward Corporation programs has lessened significantly since the summit. This year's appropriations battle has not seen an assault on the Corporation's core programs, as previous years have. The remaining battle is over what level of funding the Corporation will secure for the America Reads program. We have asked the Corporation to wait on this proposal until appropriations are finished. Wofford is pushing hard to send our draft legislation to the Hill before Congress leaves for the year.

Expansion of High School Service Scholars Program:

Next year we can expand our program of \$1,000 scholarships for exemplary high school service to 10,000 high schools, a significant increase from the 1,700 schools that participated in the first year of the program. There are approximately 24,000 high schools in the U.S.. The Corporation for National Service is planning a major promotional campaign to generate more interest in this program, including getting local sponsors to provide matching funds. You could send a letter to all high school principals urging them to become involved and nominate a student from their school.

Mentoring through the Inter-Net/Virtual Reference Desk:

OSTP, in conjunction with Cabinet Affairs, DPC and the Corporation, is promoting this initiative. The goal is to allow all qualified and interested individuals to volunteer their time to answer the questions of the k-12 community which relate to the federal government. The project builds on national initiatives of the Administration including a call for increased volunteerism and community service.

Mentoring Projects:

White House staff and the federal agencies are investigating opportunities to tutor young

people through America Reads, Everybody Wins and other appropriate programs.

The White House Service Web Page:

The Office of Communications, under the direction of Kevin Moran, is developing a clearinghouse of community service opportunities for White House staff.

Strengthening The Clinton Administration's Commitment to Service Presidential Memorandum:

Shortly, we expect to recommend a Presidential Memorandum directing federal departments and agencies to explore additional measures to expand service opportunities for Federal employees.

Other Service Ideas:

We are continuing to search for opportunities to highlight citizen service. For example, there may be opportunities in St. Louis or Sacramento to do a service related event. Another idea is to have you host a meeting with representatives of companies, volunteer groups, recipients of mentoring, non-profits and community leaders to get a report from the field on how things are going. There would support the anecdotal information, like the story General Powell related to you, about Sioux Falls, South Dakota and the groundswell that is taking place. This would contrast with the "inside the beltway" view offered by some reporters.

Martin Luther King Day of Service:

Martin Luther King Day is designated as a day of service -- "a day on, not a day off". Rev. King was an advocate of service. You, the Vice President and/or the First Lady could join some of the service activities planned for that day.

Administration Accomplishments Since the Presidents' Service Summit

President Clinton is deeply committed to the goals of the Presidents' Summit for America's Future held in Philadelphia last April. Service and the well-being of our nation's children have been at the center of the President's agenda since he took office.

The President is committed to moving forward with America's Promise and other partners to attain the summit's goals for children --a caring adult, a safe place, a healthy start, a marketable skill, and a chance to serve. Since April, the President has continued to emphasize the importance of service to audiences, including the Business Roundtable, the Conference of Mayors, the Welfare-to-Work Partnership, and the radio address, and has recognized major corporate commitments. At the same time, the Administration has been moving forward on all five goals.

The Spirit and Work of the Summit Continues

Since the summit, America's Promise and the Corporation for National Service have continued the work that began at the summit --working with communities at the grass-roots level and securing commitments from corporate and non-profit America toward the five goals. America's Promise, the independent organization founded to follow up on the summit, has garnered over 200 new commitments since the summit, some very substantial. Over 150 cities and states are holding "mini-summits" around the country, with the help of America's Promise and the Corporation for National Service. America's Promise is encouraging communities to become "communities of promise" that take responsibility for reaching children at risk. The President has met with General Powell to discuss progress since April and talk about future directions.

The President's Corporation for National Service is also helping corporations and non-profits implement their summit commitments at the local level. Viacom is deploying its employee volunteers through AmeriCorps. The Corporation's Learn and Serve America program is helping in the delivery of eye exams and glasses to over 40,000 needy children promised by Vision Service Plan. The Corporation's National Senior Service Corps is helping the National Education Association-Retired meet its commitment to deploy thousands of retired teachers as tutors for America Reads. AmeriCorps*VISTA is working with IBM to bring technology to community organizations.

The Administration is Moving Ahead on the Summit's Goals

Since April, we have continued our work on the summit's five goals. Several of the following initiatives were announced at the summit itself by the President or by federal agencies.

AmeriCorps Scholarships:

We have increased opportunities for young people to serve their communities. At the summit, the President issued a challenge to service and religious organizations that we would provide 50,000 new AmeriCorps scholarships over the next 5 years to organizations that offer young people the chance to serve. The response since then has far exceeded our expectations. Seventy-seven organizations answered that challenge, offering to sponsor 10,000 new AmeriCorps members. In June, 8,900 scholarships were approved, well ahead of our first-year plan for 5,000 scholarships. (Summit goal

5, among others.)

National Service Scholars:

This summer, we launched a new effort to recognize and foster outstanding community service among our nation's youth. We awarded scholarships to over 1,600 high school students with exemplary service records in the first year of the National Service Scholars program. A host of leading community organizations stepped forward to raise the local match for the scholarships, including the Kiwanis, Rotary, Lions, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, Elks, and Women's Clubs. Each high school principal was invited to nominate a junior or senior for the scholarship. For next year, we have secured funding that will allow the program to expand to 10,000 high schools --almost half of all high schools in the nation. (Summit goal 5.)

Children's Health:

The Balanced Budget Act included a huge investment of \$24 billion in children's health care, the single largest investment in health care for children since 1965. This Children's Health Initiative will give many more children the "healthy start" that the Summit recognized as so important. In June, the President announced that Kaiser Permanente is committing \$100 million to provide health coverage for uninsured children in California, complementing the Administration's efforts. The Administration is also focusing on outreach to families who may not know their children are eligible for Medicaid or other health insurance. (Summit goal 3.)

Welfare to Work:

Since May, the Vice President has been leading the Coalition to Sustain Success, a new partnership of civic organizations that is working with state and local government to mentor families seeking to leave welfare for work and provide them with networking and support. In addition, the Welfare to Work Partnership has mobilized over 2,500 businesses to hire welfare recipients, so that those parents can move into the economic mainstream and improve their children's future. The Partnership is helping companies all across the nation hire people off welfare by providing information on best practices through a Blueprint for Business and other information available on their toll-free hotline and web page, as well as working closely with community and business leaders in a number of cities to promote innovative and effective welfare to work initiatives. (Several summit goals.)

Loan-Forgiveness for Community Service:

1102 ✓ The President's proposal for loan forgiveness for those who perform community service was enacted as part of the balanced budget. To encourage private universities and non-profit organizations to offer loan forgiveness to borrowers who take lower-paying service jobs, the President proposed and won a provision that would not subject such loan forgiveness to taxation. (Summit goal 5.)

America Reads and AmeriCorps:

The Department of Education and the Corporation for National Service have begun to implement the President's America Reads initiative this year, while seeking resources from Congress for full-scale implementation in 1998-99. Hundreds of colleges and universities have committed to provide tens of thousands of work-study students as reading tutors in the current school year as part

THE PRIORITY HAS BEEN
10/27/97

Teacher Leadership
to understand the on

of America Reads, the national literacy campaign to ensure that every child can read well and independently by the third grade.

AmeriCorps members are working in 94 programs across the country to tutor and mentor, set up after-school and summer programs, and recruit parents and community volunteers as tutors. The Corporation is also launching a new "Seniors in Schools" initiative in nine cities to use older volunteers as literacy tutors in some of the nation's poorest elementary schools. In the District of Columbia, over 1,000 college students, volunteers, seniors, and parents will tutor first grade children in 16 of the neediest schools in the city. (Summit goal 4.)

White House Conference on Child Care:

On October 23, the President and First Lady will host this event as part of an Administration focus on how to ensure high quality and affordable child care. This effort builds on our earlier emphasis on the importance of early learning. (Summit goals 1, 2, and 4.)

+ Specific Action

Commitments by Federal Agencies:

Federal agencies are following through on the more than 40 commitments they made at the summit, including mentoring and tutoring and launching new partnerships with corporations and nonprofits. They are also continuing to launch new initiatives and partnerships to reach the summit's goals. Here are some examples of agency progress:

- **Department of Justice:** The Department of Justice has convened a new public/private Mentoring Alliance to promote the Summit's mentoring goal, disseminate information about best practices, and determine how best to link volunteers with the children who need them. Members include Big Brothers/Big Sisters, One to One, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, and Save the Children. In addition, DOJ has followed through on its commitment to more than double the number of sites for its Juvenile Mentoring Program. (Summit goal 1.)

DOJ also completed its commitment to expand its Drug Education for Youth (DEFY) summer camp program that promotes positive life choices for children between the ages of 9 and 12. After the summer program, the children are linked with mentors from the local U.S. Attorney's office, police department, or university. DOJ's new Youth Network provides a forum for young people and community organizations to exchange ideas on juvenile violence and delinquency prevention. (Summit goals 1 and 2.)

- **Corporation for National Service:** The Corporation for National Service is taking the lead to meet the Summit's goal of engaging an additional 2 million young people in community service. (Summit goal 5.) It is also developing a new initiative "To Learn and Grow" to expand and improve the quality of afterschool programs (Summit goal 2).

- **Department of Education:** This summer, the summer reading program Read*Write*Now! reached over 1.5 million children through over 500,000 reading partners, fulfilling the Department's commitment. (Summit goal 4.)
- **Health and Human Services:** In June, HHS Secretary Shalala launched a new partnership with the Girl Scouts, to teach girls about the dangers of substance abuse and other risky behaviors, featuring a new patch that Girl Scouts can earn by completing the program. (Summit goals 1 and 3.)
- **Department of Defense:** The Army has modified its leave policy to make it easier for military and civilian personnel to volunteer in schools. Pursuant to its commitment, the Department of Defense is increasing high school enrollment in Junior ROTC Career Academies, an alternative to the regular high school JROTC program designed to address the special needs of at-risk youth. (Summit goals 1, 2, and 4.)
- **Department of Agriculture:** In September, the Vice President and Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman convened a National Summit on Food Recovery, to develop a national strategy to increase gleaning efforts by one-third by the year 2000. (Summit goal 5.)
- **Department of Transportation:** DOT has launched its new effort, the Garrett A. Morgan Technology & Transportation Futures Program. To date, DOT has heard from over 200 partners who want to join its effort to reach one million students by the year 2000. The program will offer these students better math, science, and technology skills and information about careers in technology and transportation. (Summit goal 4.)
- **Partnerships with Schools:** The Social Security Administration, the Department of Labor, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Department of Transportation are among the agencies now forging new partnerships with schools. (Summit goals 1 and 4.)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 24, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: BRUCE REED *BR*

CC: Steve Silverman

SUBJECT: Harris Wofford Memos

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Option #1

Option #2

Option #3 (recommended)

Discuss

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

7-13-97

7-18-97(94)

*20 the fig
need reply
should do
follow up with*

AMERICA'S PROMISE

THE ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH

*Washington
Bowles*

Colin L. Powell
Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret)
Chairman
3901 North Washington Street
Suite 100
Alexandria, VA 22304-0561
Tel: 703/831-4500
Fax: 703/831-7320
www.americaspromise.org

July 11, 1997

*Copied
Bowles*

President William J. Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The spirit of the Philadelphia Summit keeps on growing and spreading. I see it everywhere I go. In Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, the local Chamber of Commerce presented me with a loose-leaf book full of America's Promise pledges from local businesses. I have participated in Summit-related events in Boston, St. Louis, San Juan, Detroit and New York City.

Since the Summit, over two hundred additional corporate commitments have been made. Larry Ellison of Oracle provided one of the largest with a \$100 million+ commitment to bring network computing into every school room in the country. Bill Gates' Microsoft commitment to \$200 million+ to libraries is also part of "America's Promise." Even more significant are the many letters I receive from individuals who have gotten in a youth program in their community.

Governors and mayors are planning summits all across the country. We know of at least thirty states and over 175 cities and towns that have a summit in the works.

As you, the First Lady and the Vice-President plan your travels for the fall, I recommend you try to participate in one or more of these summits. Involvement can be as modest as a cameo appearance or as much as participating in a seminar and giving a speech. Other possibilities are a live satellite hook-up, a taped video message or a letter of support.

I am providing the schedule of summits to your staff and will follow up with Erskine Bowles. Attached is just a quick snapshot of a few of the early fall opportunities.

Very Respectfully,

Remaining letters
will be penned.



AMERICA'S PROMISE

THE ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH

Colin L. Powell
 General, U.S. Army (Ret)
 Chairman
 160 North Washington Street
 Suite 400
 Alexandria, VA 22314-1550
 Tel: 703/684-4500
 Fax: 703/684-7328
 www.americaspromise.org

Upcoming Community and State Summit Events

The following communities and states are planning exciting summit events. Listed below are highlights of their goals, processes, event programs and their respective dates. Please contact Gregg Petersmeyer with the Communities Department at America's Promise for further information, (703) 684-4500 Ext. 134.

1. Massachusetts State Summit

- Governor Weld and Colin Powell together announced these goals for the state summit titled "The Promise of Youth":
 - a) 50,000 additional mentors;
 - b) double the number of safe places in the state;
 - c) enlist 2,000 AmeriCorps members and 200,000 youth in service;
 - d) double the number of individuals and organizations participating in school-to-work and remedial reading programs;
 - e) a healthy start for children without health insurance under new state law

Date: October 25-26, 1997

2. Rhode Island State Summit

- A July 2nd press conference with Governor Almond announced the summit strategy and solicited commitments
- Initiating a Youth Resource Bank -- the first-ever statewide inventory of resources available to youth and those who are willing to commit their efforts
- Goals include: a) 50 Neighborhood Homework Sites; b) 2,500 parent/teacher collaboratives; c) 100 employers offering paid time off for community service; d) 2,000 more mentors; e) a local chapter of "One Hundred Black Men"
- Providence community delegation and state delegation have merged to form a super-delegation to plan both a youth-designed summit and a broader summit in the fall



3. Marquette, Michigan Local Summit

- Richard Lynch will be the keynote speaker at Marquette's Summit entitled, "The Emerging Patterns of Volunteerism." The all-day volunteer conference will have presentations, information booths and goal sessions for the communities to attend.
- The Marquette and Alger counties' goal is to make the 5 fundamental resources available to an additional 1,000 youths by the year 2000.

Date: October 8, 1997

4. West Virginia State Summit

- The state's goals are threefold: a) 20,000 children with all five resources by the year 2000; b) one Community of Promise in every county in the state and; c) increased citizen volunteering statewide
- The summit will convene 5 representatives and one county commissioner from every county
- Identifying number of existing children with all 5 resources and seeking promise books from every county -- with 1,100 promises from Clay County already
- Governor committed to active role before and after the event
- Already spoken to over 1,000 state youth on getting involved in the upcoming summit

Date: October 3-6, 1997

5. Louisiana State Summit

- 300 delegates will convene to produce local action plans after a Celebration of Service at the Governor's mansion. The effort is headed by the Lieutenant Governor
- Launching a corporate promise campaign to fund the event, including the statewide day of service, working sessions and plenary sessions

Date: October 22, 1997

6. Syracuse/Onondaga, New York Local Summit

- Rev. Soaries will be the keynote speaker at the Dual County Summit held on September 27. The Summit members and Mayor of Syracuse will blend corporate and community efforts in local volunteering projects
- A local youth media group will produce a video, The Media Unit, to use during presentations and for publicity purposes
- The Local Youth Summit will be held on October 13th, giving local youths the opportunity to speak out and develop their own action plans

7. Greenville, North Carolina Local Summit

- An inspirational event convening local youth agencies that will set yearly state goals
Date: November 1, 1997

8. Madison, Wisconsin Local Summit

- A statewide Day of Youth Service planned for October 5, 1997
- A state summit in Madison on October 6, 1997

9. Columbus, Ohio Local Summit

- A "Words of Youth Retreat" to gather over 100 student representatives of all grade levels and community leaders who have each surveyed 10 friends to hear the critical issues facing the community's youth and what permanent vehicles for youth involvement they can create
Date: August 18-20

10. Indianapolis, Indiana Local Summit

- Ongoing statewide roundtable discussions will culminate in the "Indy Summit 2000," an event with a celebration of the Indiana Promise Book, a service opportunities fair, breakout working sessions and a non-profit networking dinner
Date: September 27, 1997

11. New Jersey State Summit

- Completing county-based needs assessment study and survey of existing resources in each goal area before state summit in December
- Governor Whitman has committed to the campaign and event, as well as boosting healthy start efforts under her current "Bright Beginnings" initiative
- Delegation is attempting links with major national commitment-makers present in Philadelphia

Date: Early December

CABINET AFFAIRS ROUTING SLIP

DATE: 7/15/97

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: _____
 FOR APPROPRIATE ACTION: _____
 FOR YOUR INFORMATION: _____

Nat. Service

FROM: **STEPHEN B. SILVERMAN**
DEPUTY SECRETARY TO THE CABINET
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: _____
 COMMENTS: FYI AmeriCorps

ERSKINE BOWLES	1FL WW	JOHN KOSKINEN	260 OEOB
SYLVIA MATHEWS	1FL WW	JACK LEW	252 OEOB
JOHN PODESTA	1FL WW	ANN LEWIS	GFL WW
DON BAER	GFL WW	GOODY MARSHALL	2FL WW X
KRIS BALDERSTON	160 OEOB	MIKE MCCURRY	1FL WW
DAVID BEAUBAIRE	160 OEOB	ANNE MCGUIRE	160 OEOB
EMILY BROMBERG	106 OEOB	LORRIE MCHUGH	1FL WW ✓
SUSAN BROPHY	2FL WW	CHERYL MILLS	2FL/WW
PHIL CAPLAN	GFL WW	LINDA MOORE	115 OEOB
DAWN CHIRWA	130 OEOB	JENNIFER PALMIERI	184 OEOB
LYNN CUTLER	106 OEOB	VICKI RADD	1FL WW
MICHAEL DEICH	209 OEOB	DOUG SOSNIK	1FL WW
FRED DUVAL	106 OEOB	GENE SPERLING	2FL WW
MARIA ECHAVESTE	2FL WW	TODD STERN	GFL WW
RAHM EMANUEL	1FL WW	STEPHANIE STREETT	GFL WW
JASON GOLDBERG	1FL WW	GINNY TERZANO	274 OEOB
T.J. GLAUTHIER	246 OEOB	BARRY TOIV	1 FL WW
LARRY HAAS	253 OEOB	LORRAINE VOLES	274 OEOB
NANCY HERNREICH	1 FL WW	MICHAEL WALDMAN	196 OEOB
MICKEY IBARRA	2FL WW		
RONDA JACKSON	160 OEOB	<i>Bruce Reed ✓</i>	
JON KAPLAN	233 OEOB	<i>Diana Kurland ✓</i>	
ELENA KAGAN	216 OEOB		
CABINET AFFAIRS STAFF	160 OEOB		

<u>FEMA</u>	<u>DOT</u>	<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>
MATHEWS 1/WW MARSHALL 2/WW CHOW 107/EW TOIV G/WW IBARRA 2/WW MURGUIA 112/EW MCHUGH 1/WW C. SMITH 115OEOB VOLES 274 OEOB	MARSHALL 2/WW DEICH 209 OEOB MCHUGH 1/WW TOIV 1/WW MAYOCK 166 OEOB	MATHEWS 1/WW MARHSALL 2/WW LEWIS G/WW IBARRA 2/WW MCHUGH 1/WW C. SMITH 115 OEOB SPERLING 2/WW TOIV 1/WW VOLES 274 OEOB

PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY!

CORPORATION
FOR NATIONAL
SERVICE

1201 New York Ave, NW #8609
Washington, DC 20525

TO: Steve Silverman

J. Toscano
DIRECTOR

Office of Public Affairs

WITH: _____

FAX NUMBER: _____

jtoscano@cnfs.gov

DATE/TIME: 9/14

202-606-5000 ext 277 (voice)

202-565-2794 (fax)

TOTAL PAGES: 9

202-565-2824 (e-fax)

NOTE:

We're in trouble again.
I've enclosed some TPT material
that may be useful in the days
ahead.
I've asked McCurry to make
the enclosed statement Tuesday AM.
Here we go...

GETTING THINGS DONE



DRAFT for MCCURRY statement: July 15, 1997

Regarding the Tiarht amendment to the House VA-HUD appropriation bill being debated July 15th and 16th:

The House Appropriations Committee has proposed level-funding for AmeriCorps as part of the VA-HUD bill the House will consider this week. A few members of the "shut down government" crowd, led by Congressman Tiarht, are expected to offer an amendment to kill AmeriCorps.

The President has been very clear: no bill that cuts or eliminates AmeriCorps will gain his signature.

The Bipartisan Balanced Budget agreement was achieved without cutting AmeriCorps. Further, it specifically called for funding a literacy initiative along the lines of our America Reads initiative, which -- among other things -- would fund an additional 11,000 AmeriCorps members each year. We are disappointed that the House Appropriations Committee has not yet lived up to the agreement on literacy. It's time for the congressional majority to keep the promises they make and fund national service and America Reads.

It's always good to go outside the beltway to get the real story. The Winfield, Kansas Daily Courier has quoted Congressman Tiarht saying that the real strategy behind his amendment to kill AmeriCorps is to "get the administration's attention." Unfortunately, his reckless political gamesmanship may imperil one of the first appropriations bills passed since the Bipartisan Balanced Budget was approved.

Good things to know:

- 85% of Americans support the use of taxpayer dollars to help fund AmeriCorps
- 91% of Americans think AmeriCorps makes a positive difference in such areas as public safety, education, the environment, and housing.
- 97% of Americans think AmeriCorps is a benefit to the people who serve.
- 80% of Americans would encourage a friend or family member to join AmeriCorps as a way to solve community problem.

Within Worldwide, October, 1996

WINFIELD DAILY COURIER

WINFIELD, KS
DAILY 8,000WEDNESDAY
APR 23 1997BURRELL'S

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11

Tiaht optimistic on chances for vets home grant

Prospects remain uncertain

By DAVE SEATON

Prospects for a federal grant to complete phase two of construction of the Kansas Veterans Home at Winfield are uncertain, but Rep. Todd Tiaht is optimistic about getting the job done.

"I think we're going to get it," Tiaht said during a recent interview in his office on Capitol Hill.

Tiaht's optimism may arise from the request of the House Veterans Affairs Committee to nearly double President Clinton's budget proposal for grants this year.

"To ensure that states continue to participate in this program ... the committee proposes an appropriation of \$80 million for fiscal year 1998..." said a March 20 memo to Budget Committee chairman John Kasich.

"It's helpful," Dave Hanna of Tiaht's staff, said today.

The president sought \$41 million although the appropriation has been \$47 million for the past three years. It

Residents urged to attend bill signing Thurs.

Winfield community leaders are encouraging area residents to attend the signing of the Kansas Veterans Home bill by Gov. Bill Graves Thursday.

The event will take place at 1 p.m. in Memorial Park at Ninth and Fuller. In case of rain, the ceremony will be moved to the commons of Timbercreek building at the Winfield State Hospital and Training Center.

"The weather could present a challenge for us, but then we have overcome many, many challenges along the way, so this seems only a fitting culmination of the legislative process," said Rodger Steffen, chairman of the Community Opportunities for Growth task force, which has been working to help Winfield prepare for the hospital's closure by the end of the year.

(SEE: Tiaht, page 3)

(SEE: Residents, page 3) R

Tiahrt optimistic about vets home grant

(Continued from page 1)

was once as high as \$85 million.

The Department of Veterans Affairs has a backlog of \$192 million in grant applications, and 57 of those carry state commitments for matching funds, which makes them eligible to compete for federal funding.

If Gov. Bill Graves signs Kansas' veterans home bill here Thursday as planned, Kansas will become eligible for the coming federal fiscal year, which begins Oct. 1.

But if there is not enough money to fund Kansas' application for \$4.2 million, Tiahrt, a member of the Appropriations Committee, will try to increase the funds available in the appropriation for fiscal 1998.

"We've got three chances to do it," Tiahrt said, "in subcommittee, in the committee and on the floor."

A hefty increase by the Budget Committee, which sets guidelines for appropriations, would help.

The Kansas Legislature has already authorized spending \$1.7 million for phase one of the project, which includes remodeling the Holly and Juniper buildings attached to the Timbercreek Habilitation Center on the east campus of Winfield State Hospital.

Phase two of the project would remodel the older medical services and treatment buildings west of the Timbercreek complex. The administration building would not be part of the veterans home.

Completion of phase two would bring the total number of beds to over 400 and jobs created to 220.

Rep. Jerry Moran, R-Hays, a member of the Veterans Affairs Committee, said he was confident the Kansas delegation would do all it could to help. "We certainly consider Congressman Tiahrt, among us, the leader on this issue," Moran said.

The funding process

Uncertainty about Kansas' application relates both to available funding and the fact Kansas already has 250 beds for veterans at the Kansas Soldiers Home at Fort Dodge.

Kathleen Greve, chief of the state home construction program at the Department of Veterans Affairs, said

Kansas remains one of a few states in which 91 percent or more of the veterans population is unserved by veterans beds.

This gives Kansas an advantage in the statutory process for making funding decisions.

Texas, which has four applications on file, and Nevada, which has one, are 100 percent unserved and have an edge. Kansas is in the second tier with Tennessee and Louisiana, which are each seeking a home.

Greve pointed out this information applies to the current 1997 fiscal year, and the cards will be reshuffled for the next fiscal year.

Tiahrt said earlier he thought \$10 million above last year's appropriation, or \$57 million, would be enough to fund Kansas' application next year.

"If Texas funded all four (with state matching funds), it would be much more," Greve said.

In Texas yet

Speculation is Texas will fund only one home, according to Sen. Greta Goodwin of Winfield. But no one really knows what Texas or other states will do before the Aug. 13 final deadline for the coming fiscal year. Some, like California and New York, have large projects that would eat up a lot of money, if they were funded.

"Some of these states have had their applications in a long time, and some have come back with new ones," Goodwin said. "I can't get a good, strong feeling about whether they are serious or they just want their name up there in case they get serious."

Linda Stalvey, a spokeswoman for the Department of Veterans Affairs, said the statutory selection process is not susceptible to political influence. "It's a cookbook approach," she said.

Tiahrt's strategy is to "get the administration's attention" with an amendment he plans to introduce to shift funds from AmeriCorps, the president's volunteer service program, to the veterans programs.

Tiahrt said he thought getting the appropriation for veterans homes up substantially with this tactic would not be difficult. "I think that's an easy

sell," Tiahrt said. "I think that's doable, based on last year."

Last year the House passed Tiahrt's measure to shift AmeriCorps money to research on prosthetics for veterans. The Senate restored the AmeriCorps funds and then added more for veterans.

Going grassroots

If Kansas does not get a grant this year, there would be several options, according to those involved. The most attractive would be applying for a grant again in the next federal fiscal year.

The Kansas Legislature has written its bill so this could be done before the 60 beds authorized at a VA nursing facility in Wichita come into operation.

Another option would be for Kansas to plow ahead with phase two of the project at Winfield, using state and local funds, and apply later for a federal grant to recoup the \$4.2 million.

Rodger Steffen, chairman of Community Opportunities for Growth, said this option was not very appealing, since adding more beds would lower Kansas' priority for a grant.

"No doubt we would drop way too far down the list to ever get funded," Steffen said of this option.

The number of state veterans homes has grown to 89 in 49 states as aging World War II veterans decide they want to live with other veterans and states seek to save Medicaid monies.

In Kansas, veterans aged 75 and over numbered 26,000 in 1995. This group will reach its peak at 46,000 in 2010, according to the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs.

A study by the commission indicates an annual savings of approximately \$3,811 for each resident at a veterans home, compared with the cost in a nursing home with the veteran on Medicaid.

Residents urged to attend vets bill signing

(Continued from page 1)

"We are hoping that people will bear with us on any last-minute changes that may have to occur and make the effort to be present for this historic event," he said.

Members of both the Winfield American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars posts are expected to attend the ceremony. Area lawmakers and the governor will have an opportunity to address the public, Steffen said.

For last minute information on the ceremony's location, call the Winfield Area Chamber of Commerce at 231-2420 or COG at 231-1129.

AMERICORPS

GETTING THINGS DONE

TALKING POINTS

AmeriCorps – the "domestic Peace Corps" – was established in 1993 by President Clinton, a bipartisan majority in Congress, and thousands of community groups nationwide to help young people earn help paying for college in exchange for a year of community service. It builds on the American tradition of service – military and civilian, overseas and here at home.

Today, 25,000 AmeriCorps members are serving in over 1,100 communities across America. They join the 20,000 members of the Class of '95 and 25,000 members of the Class of '96 who have already given a year of service to their country.

CORE MESSAGE:

AmeriCorps provides opportunity for those willing to shoulder responsibility for their community.

- **Community** – National service brings together people from all backgrounds and ages to solve community problems, rebuilding our sense of community. AmeriCorps looks like America. It reconnects citizens across the lines of age, race, income, and gender that too often divide us. We're all in this together – and working together, we can get things done.
- **Opportunity** – National service uses the GI Bill model: in exchange for a year of full-time service, AmeriCorps members earn educational opportunity – a \$4,725 scholarship that helps pay for college or training, or pay back student loans. AmeriCorps provides an opportunity for young people to be the next generation of American heroes.
- **Responsibility** – National service demands responsibility. It's not a handout. AmeriCorps members take responsibility for helping to solve community problems. Service should be a common expectation and experience of every active duty citizen – a year in AmeriCorps can provide that rite-of-passage experience that helps create great citizens.

NATIONAL SERVICE IS A NEW WAY OF MEETING COMMUNITY CHALLENGES:

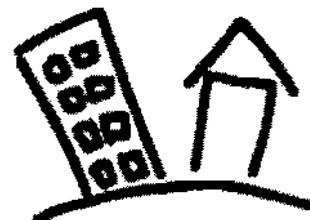
AmeriCorps is getting things done. In an era when government is downsizing and our problems are mounting, national service provides a proven, cost-effective, non-bureaucratic way to engage citizens in meeting our challenges.

- Community programs must compete every year for AmeriCorps members, and they must set and meet tough goals at the local level. Most sponsors are chosen by bipartisan state commissions appointed by governors – not Washington bureaucrats.
- Community groups that sponsor AmeriCorps members must raise at least 33% of the program costs – and do, from the largest corporations to local mom and pop hardware stores. Last year, AmeriCorps raised over \$41 million from the private sector – from companies that know a good return on investment when they see it. They raised another \$50 million in funding and in-kind contributions from state and local agencies like schools, police departments, and health facilities.
- A study done by three noted conservative economists shows that every federal dollar invested in AmeriCorps returns \$2.60 in direct, measurable benefits.



AMERICORPS: WHAT GOT DONE

The 25,000 AmeriCorps members in the class of '96 served in locally run programs in 1,200 communities across the United States. In all, AmeriCorps members assisted more than 11.5 million people and recruited, trained, or supervised more than 300,000 volunteers. The following numbers represent a sampling of their accomplishments.



Members build and rehabilitate housing, often involving volunteers from the community and the families being assisted.

- 1,214** Houses and housing units built
- 4,427** Houses and housing units rehabilitated
- 853** Community buildings renovated



Members help children succeed by tutoring, mentoring and by training volunteers.

- 508,493** Children taught or tutored
- 706,527** Students provided educational enrichment activities
- 85,327** Youth mentored
- 38,294** Tutors recruited and/or trained



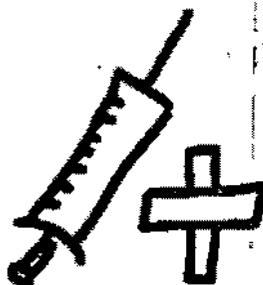
Members respond to communities hit by natural disasters and help ensure safe and affordable housing for Americans in need.

- 42,381** Homeless persons/families placed in emergency shelter
- 31,398** Homeless persons/families placed in permanent or transitional housing
- 15,931,838** Pounds of food and clothing prepared for distribution



Members help improve the appearance and safety of urban areas and preserve forests, rivers, and national parks.

- 3,544** Neighborhoods cleaned up
- 24,807,203** Trees planted
- 3,066** Miles of riverbank and shoreline restored



Members serve in clinics, VA hospitals, and other health-related facilities and focus particularly on children and youth.

- 64,449** Children and adults immunized
- 143,513** Individuals provided health care screening
- 1,105,805** Persons provided with health care information



Members work with police and community organizations to reduce crime through prevention and education.

- 3,133** Public safety patrols and programs established or expanded
- 85,408** Students enrolled or supervised in after-school programs
- 108,370** Persons trained or counseled in violence prevention



Members provide training to people who are unemployed, including families on welfare, to help them find permanent jobs.

- 2,886** Persons placed in jobs
- 31,908** Persons provided employment-related services



WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING ABOUT AMERICORPS...

"AmeriCorps is doing a lot of good things around this country. They're leveraging up other volunteers who come in to work with AmeriCorps."

— General Colin Powell

"We have found AmeriCorps to be an enormously beneficial addition to the traditional voluntary sector... Rather than replacing volunteers or diminishing volunteerism, we are finding over and over again that national service participants are helping draw more volunteers into service in communities across the country."

— Leaders of twenty-four national nonprofit organizations, including Big Brothers/Big Sisters, YMCAYWCA, AARP, and the Girl Scouts

"It is a big help to disaster victims to work with motivated, self-sufficient, young AmeriCorps members who will be in the community long after the TV cameras have been turned off and interest has flagged."

— James Lee Witt, Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency

"During my twenty-five years of experience with Atlanta's public schools, I have observed a lot of 'new' programs, but the positive experience that AmeriCorps has had on this school far exceeds anything I have experienced."

— Don Doran, Principal,
Bentzen Elementary School
Atlanta, Georgia

"These kids, they're bright, they're clean-cut, they are wonderful role models. It's really the best program I know of, and I would commend it to every community."

— Mayor Joseph Riley, Mayor of Charleston, South Carolina

"Well, four years after the President launched AmeriCorps, and two years after Congress moved in for the kill, it's alive and kicking. The value of full-time, low-pay service a la AmeriCorps and its precursors—Peace Corps and VISTA—is being celebrated at the Presidents' Summit. Now it's time to dramatically expand these programs."

— The Philadelphia Inquirer

"AmeriCorps has helped turn around one of the most troubled parts of our city. The neighborhood has come together, crime is down, and families can use the parks in safety. The partnership of national service and community policing is a winner for Kansas City."

— Steven C. Bishop, Police Chief
Kansas City, Missouri

"I do want to suggest one Clinton agenda item that Christians ought to be proud of, and support—the AmeriCorps program. Instead of giving away grants, the AmeriCorps program enables young people to get the financial help they need for education by working for it in programs that are cutting back on urban crime, cleaning up the environment, and improving education in urban schools."

— Tony Campolo, Evangelist and Author

"Every taxpayer's dollar we spend on AmeriCorps comes back threefold, when we add up the value of your innovative ideas, your physical labor, and all of the skills you bring to the workforce when you finish your education... It is one of the most intelligent uses of taxpayers' dollars ever."

— Governor William Weld, Massachusetts

"As AmeriCorps members gain in construction skill, our affiliates are able to expand the number of occasional volunteers through increased capacity to supervise and manage volunteers.... We at Habitat for Humanity feel privileged and honored to have the AmeriCorps people with us, and we want more of them as time goes on."

— Millard Fuller, Founder, Habitat for Humanity

NEWS

House Appropriations Committee

Chairman Bob Livingston (R-LA)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: CONTACT: Elizabeth Morra
June 13, 1997 (202) 225-2771

LIVINGSTON RELEASES FY98 SPENDING LEVELS

Washington, DC -- Upon releasing 602b allocations for the thirteen appropriations subcommittees, House Appropriations Committee Chairman Bob Livingston (R-LA) made the following statement:

"These spending levels for all functions of the federal government are consistent with those specified in the Balanced Budget Agreement," said Livingston. "My Committee will continue to do its part toward cutting and terminating unnecessary programs in our effort to save taxpayers' dollars and scale back the overall size of government. Specifically, I reserve my right to cut and terminate programs of questionable worth, such as the Ounce of Prevention Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Globe Program, the Advanced Technology Program, and Americorps."

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o we find every detail in the budget agreement is binding? No," Livingston said.

LE: SOME SPENDING MURDLES REMAIN, LIVINGSTON SAYS PANEL COULD TRY TO CUT
 PROGRAMS
 LINE: BRUCE ALPERT Washington bureau
 PAGES: 2
 DATE: 05/29/97
 CID: NOTP71490066
 SOURCE: The New Orleans Times-Picayune; NOTP
 SECTION: FIRST; SECTION: NATIONAL; PAGE: A19
 Copyright 1997

President Clinton and Congress may have agreed on a balanced budget, but that doesn't mean the battle over federal spending is over, says U.S. Rep. Bob Livingston, R-Metairie.

Livingston, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, said Wednesday that the agreement, ratified last week by the House and Senate, won't prevent his committee from attempting to eliminate some programs championed by the president, including the National Endowment for the Arts and Americorps, the national volunteer program. He also said the committee might seek changes in Clinton initiative to provide college scholarships to students who maintain B averages.

"Do we find every detail in the budget agreement is binding? No," Livingston said. "The appropriations process is independent and every bill must be voted on by 435 members of Congress."

Livingston said spending for some programs will be greater than what was intended in the agreement with the president and some will be less.

Some of the programs that Livingston says the committee might seek to eliminate, such as the National Endowment for the Arts, weren't specially mentioned in the budget agreement. But others, including the scholarship program, were incorporated into it.

In the end, Livingston said, the committee is more likely to make changes in the scholarship program, rather than eliminate it all together.

Despite his comments, Livingston said he would strive to come as close as possible to the numbers incorporated into the budget agreement as the 13 major appropriations bills are written by his committee. And he praised the accord as the "best possible deal" to

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NEWS

House Appropriations Committee

Chairman, Bob Livingston (R-LA)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: CONTACT: Elizabeth Morra
June 13, 1997 (202) 225-3771

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###

6/19

Bruce Reed

Reference getting together with John Hilley... Note: ~~John Hilley~~
Bob Livingston, of course, looks at this from appropriations level. He could be talking about "terminating" Amencorps coz it would be harder to do so if we're reauthorized.
(I just note the idea that we're on this particular EL)

Mat. Soc.



TO: Bruce Reed
 John Hilley
 Gene Sperling
 Don Baer
 Melanne Vermeer

FROM: John Gomperts, Corporation For National Service

RE: Reauthorization of the Corporation and Our Programs

DATE: May 12, 1997

Now that the Summit is behind us, the next big mountain for us to scale is getting the Corporation for National Service and our programs, including AmeriCorps, reauthorized. Our authorization expired last year, and we are currently operating under a one-year automatic extension.

For the past several months, and with real intensity in the last month, we have been developing a reauthorization proposal. We have consulted with the field at various points and have received considerable input from interested parties. We now have a proposal with which we believe we can move forward. This proposal reflects our experiences over the past several years, our hopes for the future, our understanding of the political landscape, the guidance of our Board, as well as wisdom received from experts and people working in the field.

While continuing with the framework established in 1994, the proposals strengthen AmeriCorps; strengthen our relationships with the states; and strengthen the National Service Trust education award. The attached documents detail our draft proposal. In this memo, I'll hit a few high points.

For the first time, the term AmeriCorps receives statutory sanction and the umbrella of the AmeriCorps name is placed over VISTA and the National Civilian Community Corps. Certain irritants that have interfered with bipartisan support are also addressed, i.e., the explicit authority for making Federal grants is removed and there is a ceiling placed on costs per AmeriCorps Member (\$16,000 for fiscal year 1998, \$15,000 thereafter). The prohibition against political activity is made clearer.

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Getting Things Done.
 AmeriCorps, National Service
 Learn and Serve America
 National Senior Service Corps

The proposal offers states the opportunity to enter into "service agreements" with the Corporation. The agreements are performance based and would allow states, through Governors, more flexibility in defining synergies and administering all Corporation programs, including VISTA, the National Senior Service Corps, Learn and Serve America and AmeriCorps State programs. The agreements would be tailored to meet the Corporation's interests and the circumstances of each state that wishes to apply.

We are also removing inequities in administration of the education awards authorized under the National Service Trust. These include expanding use of the awards to cover additional bona fide educational institutions and student loans; making the awards non-taxable; allowing use of the award by someone other than the AmeriCorps Member under carefully defined circumstances; and using the Trust Fund to pay for the National Service Scholars Program, which was announced by the Administration last fall.

Finally, there are several provisions to help Learn and Serve America and the National Senior Service Corps grow.

As we have completed this stage of the process, we are ready (and anxious) to move forward. We are sending this same package to OMB for them to begin their review. We need your guidance as well. For your review, inspection and comment, I have attached two documents that describe what our reauthorization proposal is all about. The first document describes the key features of the proposed bill, highlighting changes from the current law. The second document is a more detailed description of the entire bill – the legislative "specs" that are serving as the basis for the bill drafting that our general counsel's office is now doing.

I'd like to schedule a meeting with our chief thinkers and strategists and whomever in the White House has an active interest in our proposal to discuss what's in the bill, and how we move forward. We want to move quickly to take advantage of the good feelings created by the Summit.

I'll call this week to set up a meeting. Thanks.

Attachments

DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

May 12, 1997

Proposed National and Community Service Amendments Act of 1997

OVERALL PROVISIONS

A. Reauthorize and amend both the National and Community Service Act and the Domestic Volunteer Service Act.

The National Service Act of 1997 will reauthorize and amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 and the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1972. The authority for these two acts will be extended through September 30, 2002.

B. Add a purpose to the National and Community Service Act reflecting service learning and education.

The proposal is to add a ninth purpose to the National and Community Service Act reflecting the need to expand and strengthen service learning programs to improve the education of the Nation's children and youth and to maximize the benefits of national and community service.

SERVICE AGREEMENTS WITH STATES

A. Provide a new authority for the Chief Executive Officer to enter into formal intergovernmental service agreements with States.

This proposal permits the Chief Executive Officer to enter into formal intergovernmental agreements with state Governors to broadly administer all Corporation for National Service programs in the state, including the waiver of administrative impediments. Entering into such agreements will be done on a selective basis depending on the interests and circumstances of each state, including tailoring the nature and specific qualities of such an agreement to those circumstances. States that wish to administer the Corporation's programs through state commissions would be encouraged to do so after negotiating formal performance agreements with the Corporation. Performance goals and indicators for carrying out delegated authorities are required. Given the effort and time required to accomplish such agreements, it is anticipated that the Corporation would enter into no more than 3-5 such agreements per year.

This proposal will also specify those statutory provisions that may not be waived, including provisions related to the National Service Trust (Division D of the Act), and certain administrative provisions under Division F of the Act, including prohibitions of the uses of funds for religious and political activities, as well as provisions related to nondiscrimination, nonduplication, and nondisplacement.

AMERICORPS GRANT PROGRAMS

A. Relate the name AmeriCorps to the programs where it is applicable.

This proposal would relate the name AmeriCorps to the national service grant programs, as well as to the Volunteers in Service to America and National Civilian Community Corps programs. This retitling is consistent with current practices in the field.

B. Remove the Corporation's authority to make grants to Federal agencies.

This proposal removes the Corporation's authority to make grants to Federal agencies for the purpose of operating national service programs, making permanent a provision included in the appropriations acts for the last several years. This prohibition does not prevent the Corporation from working with Federal agencies to achieve the purposes of the legislation, including supporting education award only programs where appropriate. The Corporation will continue to interact with other federal agencies consistent with the procedures and practices under which any Federal agency may operate.

C. Revise the allotment of funds to States on a formula and competitive basis.

This change will increase the amount of funds provided to States on a formula basis, and decrease the amount of funds distributed to States on a competitive basis. As in current law, two-thirds of the AmeriCorps grant funds will be provided directly to States. Of this amount, the percentages being distributed on a formula/competitive basis will be changed from 50/50 today to: a) 1998--60/40, b) 1999--65/35, c) 2000--70/30, d) 2001--70/30, and e) 2002--70/30. The remaining funds for States in each of those years will be distributed on a competitive basis.

D. Provide that volunteer generation is an explicit criterion which is to be considered in the evaluation of programs. Also provide for adjustments to criteria, such as including the goals of the summit.

This proposal provides that the generation of unstipended volunteers shall be used as an explicit goal in the consideration of priorities for national service programs. The generation of additional volunteers will help meet the unmet needs of the country in the areas of education, the environment, public safety, and health and other human needs.

E. Provide a ceiling on the Corporation's average budgeted cost per AmeriCorps Member during the period of the reauthorization. This proposal limits the Corporation's average budgeted contribution toward an AmeriCorps Member funded under the AmeriCorps*State and AmeriCorps*National programs. The limitation is \$16,000 with fiscal year 1998 funds, \$15,000 with fiscal year 1999 funds, and \$15,000 adjusted for inflation in fiscal years 2000 through 2002.

F. Modify and clarify certain eligibility requirements for participation in AmeriCorps programs.

1) Change upper age limit for youth-inclusive programs from 24 to 25.

This proposal amends the upper age limit for youth inclusive programs from 24 to 25. The change is consistent with the eligible age range for youth corps programs, as reflected elsewhere in the legislation.

2) Clarify that the rules for certain youth programs apply to out-of-school youth.

This proposal clarifies that the rules for certain youth programs apply to out-of-school youth. This is consistent with the requirements under subtitle D of the Act with respect to eligibility for an education award.

3) Delete reference to jobs.

This proposal deletes a reference to the placement of participants in jobs. Participants are technically placed in positions, not jobs, under national service.

G. Provide federal workers' compensation and tort claims liability for leaders under the AmeriCorps program.

This proposal provides workers' compensation and tort claims liability for leaders under the AmeriCorps program by making them eligible for the same coverage provided to federal employees. This is necessary because leaders are appointed directly by the Corporation, similar to AmeriCorps*VISTA and AmeriCorps*NCCC Members. These individuals already receive such coverage by law; AmeriCorps' leaders, however, do not have any such coverage.

When an individual is selected as a Member by a local program, insurance coverage is typically provided by the organization. However, AmeriCorps leaders are not selected by a local program. They are selected by the Corporation and assigned to a program. Hence, it is necessary for the Corporation to provide such coverage. The coverage is similar to that offered under other programs where the Corporation makes such selections, e.g., AmeriCorps*VISTA.

H. Specify that AmeriCorps Members are not to be considered employees for a variety of purposes, including Fair Labor Standards Act and eligibility for unemployment compensation.

This proposal specifies that Members in an AmeriCorps program are not to be considered employees for certain specified purposes. The current statute's treatment of the status of an AmeriCorps Member, when considered with other state and federal statutes, has created difficulties for programs and individuals. This proposal clarifies that an AmeriCorps Member is not an employee of the organization in which he or she is serving, and would not be subject to minimum wage requirements nor be eligible for unemployment compensation upon completion of

service.

I. Provide flexibility to modify grant requirements on a test basis.

This proposal provides the Chief Executive Officer with the authority to waive requirements applicable to the grant program in order to achieve the purposes of the program and to test new and innovative approaches to national service. Included is the authority to accomplish "education award only" programs under Division C of the statute.

J. Modify the minimum living allowance requirement.

This proposal provides that the minimum living allowance shall be computed on a monthly, not annual, basis in order to reflect the fact that programs in which AmeriCorps Members serve are of varying lengths.

K. Strengthen description of prohibited activities.

This proposal will strengthen the description of the types of activities that are prohibited under the statute, including political activities. This will strengthen the Corporation's ability to deal with any infractions of existing policies and procedures, and will codify a number of existing requirements.

L. Modify requirements for grants to State Commissions for administrative purposes.

This proposal will raise the minimum grant to \$200,000 and revise the matching requirement so that it is related to the federal funds, and not the total amount of the grant. A minimum of \$200,000 is necessary to enable the State Commissions to carry out their responsibilities under the statute. The change in the matching requirement will make the grants to State Commissions for administrative purposes comparable to other grant programs authorized in the statute.

M. Modify the formula for the distribution of AmeriCorps grant funds.

This proposal will set the minimum grant to State Commissions under the AmeriCorps program at \$500,000. This minimum is viewed as essential, particularly for small States who would otherwise be penalized.

N. Authority to modify grant procedures and provisions.

This proposal will provide the Chief Executive Officer with the authority, in order to meet the requirements of subsection E above, with the ability to modify matching requirements, as necessary, as well as with the authority to issue grant amounts for AmeriCorps Members on a per

Member basis without explicit reference to the uses of federal grant funds.

AMERICORPS*NCCC (NATIONAL CIVILIAN COMMUNITY CORPS)

A. Clarify the name of the program, the designation of officials and units within the organization, and the purposes of the National Civilian Community Corps.

1) Clarify the name of the program.

This proposal clarifies the name of the program as the National Civilian Community Corps; the current statute uses the term Civilian Community Corps. The term National Civilian Community Corps reflects the name in actual use by the Corporation over the last several years, and distinguishes this particular program from a number of other Civilian community Corps programs operated at the state and local levels.

2) Clarify the designation of officials and units within the organization.

This provision designates the operating site level within the National Civilian Community Corps as campuses, reflecting the term and procedure employed during the last several years of operation. The head of a campus is designated as a director.

3) Revise the purpose of the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC).

This provision specifies that a major purpose of the National Civilian Community Corps is to respond to natural and other disasters in coordination with other organizations. The National Civilian Community Corps provides specialized training of Corps Members to serve as part of a disaster response team at the direction of designated Federal, state, and local officials. Disaster relief has been a major responsibility for the NCCC, but is not currently recognized in the statute as a purpose of the program.

This provision further clarifies that the purpose of National Civilian Community Corps is based on a series of specific goals related to residential national service programs and military service. The current statute states that the purpose is to test certain issues related to national service and military service. On the basis of experience over the last several years, there is no need to cite the purpose as a demonstration program.

B. Revise the age requirement for the full-year residential program and makes the educational requirement consistent with other programs supported by the legislation.

This authority revises the minimum age requirement from 16 to 18 years of age. The age of 18 is necessary, given the maturity and sophistication required for participation in a full-time, residential program of this type. The legislation should not create a situation where 16 years olds are teamed with older individuals in a residential setting. In general, the supervision required for 16 year olds

is significantly greater than that required of older individuals.

This proposal would also set the same education requirements for Members of the National Civilian Community Corps that exist for other service programs using full-time stipended Members that are supported under this legislation. This modification would also make it clear that individuals may not leave school to participate in the National Civilian Community Corps.

C. Delete the alternative cash benefit option available to National Civilian Community Corps Members and makes the education award available on a prorated basis for summer programs.

The current legislation provides for an alternative cash benefit option, at the discretion of the Director of the NCCC, for those Members who are not eligible for the education award. This alternative cash benefit is not available to other Members supported under the National and Community Service Act. Members supported under other parts of the legislation may only receive an education award, unless a waiver is granted by the Corporation and the funds for any alternative benefit are provided by non-federal sources. Therefore, in the interest of equity, simplicity, ease of administration, and efficiency, this proposal deletes the alternative cash benefit and only provides national service educational awards to those members completing a term of service.

The current legislation also prevents an AmeriCorps*NCCC Member, aged 14-16 and serving in a summer program, from being eligible for an education award. This proposal remedies that problem by making the Member eligible for a reduced award, consistent with the other provisions of the statute.

D. Require consultation with State Commissions on National and Community Service.

This proposal adds State Commissions on National and Community Service as one of the organizations required to be consulted by the National Civilian Community Corps when developing project proposals for Corps Members. Such consultation will enable State Commissions on National and Community Service to better coordinate and manage national service activities within their respective States, and will help maximize the overall impact of the National Civilian Community Corps.

E. Clarify the Advisory Board's responsibilities and amend its membership.

This proposal clarifies that the National Civilian Community Corps Board's advisory responsibility is to both the Director of the NCCC and the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation. This proposal adds nonprofit organizations as one of the groups from which individuals may be appointed to the Advisory Board, and also names the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency as a member of the Advisory Board.

NATIONAL SERVICE TRUST

A. Provide a slightly revised definition of institution of higher education and qualified student loans.

1) **Revise the definition of institution of higher education.**

This proposal revises the definition of institution of higher education that are applicable to the use of the education award. Specifically, the current definition limits the use of the education award to institutions of higher education that have a formal performance partnership agreement with the Department of Education. This excludes some institutions, including those that do not accept Federal financial aid. The revised definition will provide greater flexibility in the use of the education award, and make the definition equivalent to that used under the GI bill.

b) **Revise the definition of qualified student loan.**

The current definition of qualified student loans is too limited, that is, "any loan made, insured, or guaranteed pursuant to title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 other than a loan to a parent of a student pursuant to section 428B of such Act; and any loan made pursuant to title VII or VIII of the Public Health Service Act." This definition excludes a number of other legitimate education loans that may be held by AmeriCorps Members, such as loans made by the State of Alaska or private loans that exceed Federal guarantee limits for law school. The revised definition will permit Members to use the education award to pay for such loans.

The redefinition of qualified loans and institutions of higher education applies retroactively, permitting the Corporation to make payment for individuals under these new definitions to individuals who have already completed service prior to October 1, 1997.

B. Provide that the education award should not be considered as income for tax purposes.

This proposal provides that the national service education award should not be treated as income under the Internal Revenue Code. This revised treatment is consistent with other programs where financial aid for education is provided as a result of service to the nation.

C. Revise the limit on the number of education awards to the equivalent of two full-time awards.

This proposal revises the limitation on the number of education awards that a participant in national service may receive. The current definition limits the number of awards to those received in the first two terms of service. A term of service may include a summer or part-time program where the amount of the education award is reduced. Therefore, if an individual's first term of service is a summer program, the total amount of education awards that the individual could receive would be substantially less than two full-time awards. This serves as a disincentive for

some individuals to enroll in summer or part-time programs. This proposal would revise the limit to state that the maximum number of education awards an individual could receive is the equivalent of two full-time awards.

D. Remove any priority for the distribution of education awards.

This proposal removes the requirement to provide education awards first to members of the AmeriCorps*VISTA and AmeriCorps*NCCC. The Corporation is required to have sufficient funds in the National Service Trust to cover costs before enrolling any individual in a program that may lead to an education award; therefore, there is no reason to set up priorities for the use of the award.

E. Provides for the authority, under exceptional circumstances, of the transfer of an education award to another individual who has engaged in substantial community service.

This proposal provides that an individual, who served in a national service position and earned an education award, may transfer that education award under certain exceptional circumstances. Specifically, an individual may transfer the award when he or she is over 55 years of age and declares no interest in further education. The transfer may be made under procedures established by the Corporation, and may be given only to an individual who can demonstrate service in a local community service program.

F. Provide for the use of funds appropriated to the National Service Trust for administrative expenses related to the national service trust accounts held by Members who have completed national service.

This proposal provides, subject to an annual appropriation, that the National Service Trust may be used for administrative expenses related to servicing the accounts of Members who have completed national service

G. Provide for use of the National Service Trust for Scholarships For Community Service at the Secondary School Level.

This proposal authorizes use of the National Service Trust to award scholarships for education to secondary school students for outstanding community service. The federal contribution toward such scholarships shall not exceed \$500.

AMERICORPS*VISTA (VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE TO AMERICA)

A. Clarify the purpose of the AmeriCorps*VISTA program.

This proposal clarifies that a purpose of the AmeriCorps*VISTA program is to promote

sustainable activities within local communities. AmeriCorps*VISTA resources are provided for a period of time, after which local communities and organizations are expected to continue the programs supported by members of AmeriCorps*VISTA.

B. Provide greater flexibility in the management of the AmeriCorps*VISTA program.

This proposal removes a number of current statutory requirements that limit flexibility in the management of the AmeriCorps*VISTA program. Specifically, this proposal: eliminates the limit on the percentage of funds that may be awarded through grants; and repeals a provision stating that the length of the assistance may not be used as a criteria for determining future assistance.

C. Revise certain benefits so that VISTAs receive the same eligibility for family and medical leave as do other Members of AmeriCorps.

a) Establishes eligibility for family and medical leave benefits.

This proposal makes AmeriCorps*VISTA volunteers eligible for family and medical leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act. These benefits are currently available to other AmeriCorps Members.

D. Encourage cost sharing opportunities.

This proposal encourages the Corporation to enter into agreements with organizations willing to pay for all, or a portion of, the costs of providing an AmeriCorps*VISTA Member, consistent with the purposes of this legislation.

E. Revises certain provisions related to service in AmeriCorps*VISTA.

a) Limits participation in the program to three years.

This proposal limits service under AmeriCorps*VISTA to a period of three years. The current statutory limit is five years. Any individual, who is serving as of October 1, 1997 for more than three years, can serve up to five years in the program.

b) Amends certain grievance procedures.

This proposal streamlines grievance procedures by eliminating the statutory requirement for a notice and opportunity to be heard. This will provide the flexibility to determine whether such an opportunity should exist on a case-by-case basis.

F. Revise certain provisions to members of AmeriCorps*VISTA.

This proposal deletes an existing requirement related to formalized job training plans, and replaces

it with the expectation that sponsors and grantees will provide support comparable to that provided to other members of AmeriCorps, including assistance with future career and educational opportunities.

G. Provide flexibility to modify AmeriCorps*VISTA requirements on a test basis.

This proposal provides the Director with the authority to waive requirements applicable to the grant program in order to achieve the purposes of the program and to test new and innovative approaches to national service.

LEARN AND SERVE AMERICA

A. Rename the Learn and Serve programs.

This proposal would retitle the programs from Serve America and Higher Education Innovative Programs for Community Service to Learn and Serve America, with its major parts being Elementary and Secondary Education and Higher Education. This retitling is consistent with current practices in the field.

B. Provide additional flexibility for the use of funds available for capacity building activities related to school-based learn and serve programs.

This proposal raises the current limit of between 10-15 percent for capacity building activities within school based programs to a minimum of 10, and a maximum of 25, percent for funds distributed by formula. This allows States greater flexibility in determining how much of their limited resources for learn and serve programs should be devoted more to capacity building activities, including training and technical assistance, and how much to the direct support of operational programs.

C. Modify school-based programs for elementary and secondary school students.

1) Modify grant making authority.

This proposal will modify the grant making authority under school-based programs for elementary and secondary school students. The current authority provides for formula allocations to State Education Agencies and competitive grants to States and Indian tribes, and grantmaking entities. The legislation will combine these separate authorities into a single grantmaking program. Under this program, grants will be made to state education agencies. Of the amounts awarded, 70% will be distributed via the existing formula and 30% will be distributed on a competitive basis. The funds distributed on the basis of quality may be used for any of the authorized purposes of this proposal, including capacity building activities.

This will eliminate the requirement for State Education Agencies to apply separately through a

competitive arrangement. Further, grantmaking entities may not apply under this category, but may apply separately under a single category of funds reserved at the national level for the support of Learn and Serve programs (see F below).

The 3% set-aside for Indian tribes will continue to be distributed on a competitive basis.

2) Modify requirements related to instances where a State Education Agency does not apply for funds.

This proposal specifies that in those instances where a State Education Agency does not apply for funds, a local education agency in that state cannot apply. (See below for potential role of State Commission.) Under current legislation, if a State Education Agency does not apply, a local education agency in that State may apply directly to the Corporation for funding.

This change reflects the view that States should assume responsibility for the delivery of service learning programs within the State. Further, if a State Education Agency cannot apply, other changes (see below) will permit a State Commission on National and Community Service to assume this responsibility.

3) Revise the formula to include a minimum grant.

This proposal will revise the formula used to allocate funds to States to include a minimum grant of \$100,000 for each state.

4) Require states to distribute funds on a competitive basis.

This proposal will require States to distribute funds to local education agencies within the State on a competitive basis. This is consistent with existing State practices, and is necessary to assure that grants are of sufficient size to support high quality local programs.

D. Modify community-based programs for school-age youth.

1) Modify grant making authority.

This proposal will modify the grant making authority under community-based programs for school-age youth. The current authority provides for competitive allocations, or formula allocations when sufficient funds are available, to State Commissions and grantmaking entities. The legislation will combine these separate authorities into a single grantmaking program. Under this program, grants will be made to State Commissions on National and Community Service on a competitive basis. Grantmaking entities may not apply under this category, but may apply separately under a single category of funds reserved at the national level for the support of Learn and Serve programs (see F below). Individual programs within a State may not apply directly to the Corporation for funding.

E. Modify higher education programs

1) Add State Commissions on National and Community Service as an eligible applicant for grants under Learn and Serve: Higher Education.

This proposal adds State Commissions on National and Community Service as one of the eligible applicants for grants under the Learn and Serve: Higher Education program. This change will enable State Commissions, where interested, to coordinate and strengthen the service learning activities of institutions of higher education within their respective states.

2) Add service learning to the purpose.

This proposal adds service learning as one of the fundamental purposes of higher education grants and activities to be conducted by the Corporation. This reflects the strong belief that service learning in higher education is important and should be a fundamental purpose of grants made under this authority.

3) Delete certain priority determinations.

This proposal deletes a requirement that each of seven criteria be weighted when determining priority for applications. Many of the criteria are not applicable to every program, and this will provide greater flexibility in the design and delivery of local programs.

F. Reserve funds for multistate programs, demonstrations, and quality support.

This proposal provides for a set aside for competitive grants and contracts to support programs operating in more than one state and for demonstrations and support activities related to improving the quality of service learning programs across the country. Programs operating in more than one state may implement, operate, expand, or replicate a school or community-based service program. Other authorized activities include training and technical assistance, demonstration programs, and the replication of models in more than one State.

There is no single comparable proposal in the existing legislation. However, grantmaking entities, formerly eligible to apply for separate competitive funding for school-based and community-based programs, would be eligible to apply for these monies.

G. Add a provision to provide greater flexibility to States in administering Learn and Serve programs.

This proposal provides States with the authority to designate a single entity within the State---

either the State Education Agency or the State Commission on National and Community Service-
to administer school-based and community-based programs within the State.

NATIONAL SENIOR SERVICE CORPS

A. Establish the name as the National Senior Service Corps.

This proposal establishes the name of the program as the National Senior Service Corps, replacing the current statutory title of National Senior Volunteer Corps. The revised name is consistent with current practice in the field.

B. Amend the purpose of the National Senior Service Corps.

This proposal clarifies the purposes of title II of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act, and emphasizes the impact within communities of senior service.

C. Amend the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program.

a) Authorizes stipends where necessary to deliver high quality programs.

This proposal authorizes the Chief Executive Officer to provide stipends, under certain circumstances, within the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. The greater flexibility of this provision will allow local programs and communities to use modest stipends for seniors as an incentive to devote a substantial amount of time to service.

b) Emphasizes that a purpose of the program is to meet community needs.

This proposal adds a phrase to emphasize that a purpose of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program is to meet community needs.

c) Eliminates the need for certain reviews by State Agencies on Aging.

This proposal eliminates the requirement for a 45-day period in which, under certain circumstances, a review of a proposed grant must be conducted by a State agency on aging. Based on experience to date, this review is not necessary.

D. Establish a new minimum age for enrollment in the Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion programs.

a) Sets revised minimum age requirement for eligibility in the Foster Grandparent Program

This proposal revises the minimum age requirement from 60 to 55, which is consistent with the

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program.

b) Sets revised minimum age requirement for eligibility in the Senior Companion Program

This proposal revises the minimum age requirement from 60 to 55, which is consistent with the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program.

(c) Sets revised minimum age requirement with respect to the recruitment of minority groups.

This proposal amends the age requirement (60 to 55) to conform with the previous subsections.

E. Amend the Foster Grandparent program.

a) Requires mutual agreement concerning the provision of services

This proposal clarifies that there must be mutual agreement concerning the provision of services to children by all parties involved. The current statute contains a contradiction, giving sole authority to the nonprofit agency or organization responsible for providing services to a child in one section, and requiring mutual agreement in another section. This new section resolves this apparent conflict to clarify that mutual agreement must be achieved.

b) Authorizes foster grandparent leaders.

This proposal authorizes support for Foster Grandparent leaders. These individuals would assist other foster grandparents in carrying out the program, but may not necessarily provide direct one-to-one services to children. Compensation for Foster Grandparent leaders would be set by the Director through regulation. Local programs would have the flexibility to determine whether to have leaders as a component of their program. The use of leaders is consistent with other programs support under the national service laws, including the Senior Companion Program.

c) Support for Foster Grandparent volunteers who are not low income.

This proposal provides authority to use up to 10% of federal funds to support individuals who are not low-income under the program, and raises the threshold for participation in the program from 125% of the poverty level to 150% of the poverty level. This authority will provide greater flexibility to local programs to achieve a major goal of the program--meeting unmet needs in the community with respect to the provision of services to young children. This proposal also removes current statutory language which makes difficult the enrollment of other than low-income foster grandparents under the program with non-federal monies. This change will support greater flexibility by local programs in the use of their resources under the foster grandparent program.

F. Amend the Senior Companion program.

a) Conforms certain requirements related to the foster grandparent program.

This proposal clarifies that the Director may conform certain aspects of the Senior Companion Program so that they are consistent with the Foster Grandparent Program, including the use of other than low-income volunteers.

b) Amends the authority for senior companion leaders.

This proposal clarifies the authority for senior companion leaders so that it is consistent with the new authority for foster grandparent leaders. As is the case with foster grandparent leaders, these individuals would assist other senior companions in carrying out the program, but may not necessarily provide direct one-to-one services to adults. Compensation for senior companion leaders would be set by the Director through regulation. Local programs would have the flexibility to determine whether to have leaders as a component of their program.

G. Revise programs of national significance and directs that new funding be used for program expansion.

This proposal revises programs of national significance, which consists of 18 separate categorical activities that are to be supported with at least one-third of the new monies available to the National Senior Service Corps in any fiscal year. There is no sound reason why programs must consider one of 18 separate categorical activities as the basis for program expansion. This change enables both existing and potential new projects to compete for increased resources on the basis of impact within the local community.

DEMONSTRATION AND OTHER AUTHORITIES

A. Amend the authority to provide supplemental and outreach grants for individuals with disabilities.

This proposal amends the authority to provide supplemental and outreach grants to assist in placing applicants with individuals with a disability to include other programs that may benefit from this support, including formula grants under the AmeriCorps program, grants for Learn and Serve America, AmeriCorps*VISTA, AmeriCorps*National Civilian Community Corps, and the National Senior Service Corps. The current statute limits the authority to provide such supplemental and outreach grants only to competitive grant funds under the AmeriCorps*State and AmeriCorps*National programs.

B. Amend the authority to provide training and technical assistance to clarify that all programs supported by the Corporation are to be potential beneficiaries of these resources.

This proposal amends the authority related to training and technical assistance to clarify that all programs supported by the Corporation are to be potential beneficiaries of the amounts provided

for this purpose.

REPEAL OF CERTAIN AUTHORITIES

A. Repeal a number of national service programs authorized by the Domestic Volunteer Service Act.

This proposal repeals a number of separate program authorities authorized under the Domestic Volunteer Service Act. These programs duplicate other national service programs or authorize activities that may be more efficiently administered within other programs authorized by the Act. Specifically, this proposal repeals: VISTA Literacy Corps, University Year for VISTA, Special Volunteer Programs: Special and Other Demonstration Programs; Special Volunteer Programs: Technical and Financial Assistance; and Special Volunteer Programs: Literacy Challenge Grants.

The VISTA Literacy Corps is a separate component of AmeriCorps*VISTA that has the purpose of developing, strengthening, supplementing and expanding efforts of both public and nonprofit organizations at the local, State, and Federal level to mobilize local, State, Federal, and private sector financial and volunteer resources to address the problem of illiteracy throughout the United States. Although this purpose remains valid, all of the activities authorized through a separate VISTA*Literacy Corps may be conducted under the regular AmeriCorps*VISTA program. Further, literacy activities have been, and remain, a priority of the regular AmeriCorps*VISTA program.

The University Year for VISTA program has as its purpose assisting students, through service-learning programs and community service programs, to undertake volunteer service in such a way as to enhance the educational value of the service experience. Although this purpose remains important, the activities supported by the University Year for VISTA are the same as those supported under Division B of the National and Community Service Act: School-Based and Community-Based Service Learning Programs. There is no reason to continue duplicate authorities and functions. Further, the University Year for VISTA program has not been funded for a number of years.

Under the Special Volunteer Programs: Special and Demonstration Programs, the Chief Executive Officer has the authority to conduct special or demonstration programs. Although the activities are important, this proposal duplicates authority available elsewhere to the Chief Executive Officer. Further, the bill proposes elsewhere, under part A of title I of the Act, to provide the Director with the discretion necessary to waive requirements to support effective demonstration programs.

Under the Special Volunteer Programs: Technical and Financial Assistance, the Chief Executive Officer may provide technical and financial assistance to programs supported under this part. Although the activities are important and necessary, this proposal duplicates authority available elsewhere to the Chief Executive Officer. Further, the bill proposes elsewhere to make this

authority broadly applicable to all programs of the Corporation, including programs supported under title I of the Act.

Under the Special Volunteer Programs: Literacy Challenge Grants, the Chief Executive Officer is authorized to award challenge grants to eligible public agencies and private organizations to pay the Federal *share* of the costs of establishing, operating or expanding community or employee literacy programs or projects that include the use of full-time or part-time volunteers as one method of addressing literacy. Although the activities authorized under this program are important in addressing a critical national need, this authority duplicates other authorities available to the Corporation, or proposed by the Administration under the America Reads Challenge. There is no reason to authorize or fund separate authorities, and this proposal would eliminate the Literacy Challenge Grants as a separate program available to the Corporation to administer.

B. Repeal a number of national service programs authorized by the National and Community Service Act.

This proposal repeals a number of separate programs authorized under the National and Community Service Act. These programs duplicate other national service programs or authorize activities that may be more efficiently administered within other programs authorized by the Act. Specifically, this proposal repeals: Urban Youth Corps and Challenge Grants for National Service Programs.

The Urban Youth Corps authority provides for the establishment of an Urban Youth Corps in the Departments of Housing and Urban Development and Transportation. This separate authority has not been funded, as urban youth corps are also supported under Division C of the National and Community Service Act, currently entitled the "National Service Trust Program." There is no reason to maintain a separate, duplicate authority for conservation and youth service corps.

Challenge Grants for National Service Programs were intended to serve as an incentive to states and local communities to make substantial commitments to national service. Over the last several years, the Corporation has adopted numerous incentives within the AmeriCorps grant programs, including a new initiative entitled "Education Awards Only." There is no need for a separate Challenge Grants Program, as it is duplicative of these efforts. Therefore, this proposal proposes to remove this authority.

C. Provide conforming amendments related to the repeal of certain national service programs authorized by the Domestic Volunteer Service Act and the National and Community Service Act.

This proposal provides conforming amendments to renumber and rename certain authorities as a result of repealing certain authorities under the previous two sections.

ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION

A. Clarify the responsibilities of the Corporation's appointed representative to the State Commission.

This proposal clarifies that the Corporation's appointed representative to the State Commission shall be a nonvoting Member.

B. Revise the description of the process for the termination of assistance in order to provide flexibility to the Chief Executive Officer.

This language clarifies the intent that the grant termination process be an administrative proceeding.

C. Revise certain procedures related to hearings and grievance procedures.

This proposal makes minor revisions to hearing and grievance procedures in order to make them more flexible and easier to administer. The proposal also limits the potential outcomes of arbitration to the benefits available under the Act.

D. Add authority to enter into personal services contracts.

This proposal will provide the Chief Executive Officer with the authority to enter into personal services contracts. This authority will provide flexibility to the Chief Executive Officer in the management and operation of the Corporation, particularly with respect to programs, such as AmeriCorps*National Civilian Community Corps, where individuals would be hired under contract for a specified period to perform functions related to the day-to-day operation of a campus while serving under the direct supervision of a Corporation employee.

E. Provide buy-out authority.

This proposal will provide the Chief Executive Officer with the authority to provide up to \$25,000 to an individual employee as a retirement incentive. Eligible employees must have completed 20 years of service or be at least 50 years of age. This incentive will be used in those situations where the Chief Executive Officer determines it will facilitate accomplishing the proper staffing of functions managed by the Chief Executive Officer.

F. Provide the CEO with the explicit authority to serve as a nonvoting member of the Board of Directors of the Points of Light Foundation, at their request.

This proposal will provide specific statutory authority to enable the Chief Executive Officer to serve in a nonvoting capacity on the Board of Directors of the Points of Light Foundation. The request to serve must be made by the Board of Directors of the Foundation.

G. Delete outdated references to specific positions reporting to one of the Managing Directors.

This proposal will delete outdated references to heads of VISTA and National Senior Corps programs reporting to one the Corporation's Managing Directors.

AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS AND OTHER AMENDMENTS

A. Provides authority of appropriations for programs authorized under the Domestic Volunteer Service Act.

1) Provides authority of appropriations for AmeriCorps*VISTA, as authorized under title I of the Act, and eliminates existing language that restricts the flexibility to administer the program in as efficient a manner as possible.

This proposal provides authorization of appropriations for fiscal years 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002 for AmeriCorps*VISTA, as authorized under title I of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act.

A number of changes are made to the existing statute governing the authorization of appropriations for title I. First, there is no authority provided for a separate Literacy Corps portion of VISTA, as this program is proposed for repeal in this statute (see the section-by-section analysis for title IX of the bill).

Second, there is no authority provided for Literacy Challenge Grants, as this program is proposed for repeal in this statute (see the section-by-section analysis for title IX of the bill)

Third, there is no authority provided for the University Year for VISTA program, as this program is also proposed for repeal in this statute.

Fourth, this proposal would remove existing language specifying that the appropriations under this Act be treated as a component of budget function 500 by the Office of Management and Budget. There is no reason to specify budgetary categorization in an authorizing statute; further, these programs are categorized within that function today by the Office of Management and Budget and there are no plans to change such categorization.

Fifth, this proposal would remove a requirement that the minimum subsistence level for AmeriCorps*VISTA Members not be reduced in order to provide for an increase in the number of volunteer service years under part A of title I. The current requirement restricts the flexibility of the Chief Executive Officer, and the Congress, in determining the use of resources within the VISTA program. With limited funds available for national service programs, the decisions on how to operate within reduced budgets should not be specified in the authorizing statute.

Sixth, this proposal removes a requirement preventing the use of an AmeriCorps*VISTA Member to serve in a program or project authorized under other parts of title I or under title II of the Act, unless the program meets an antipoverty criteria. This requirement serves as a barrier for national

service programs working together to achieve local and community needs. when a local community determines that the most effective use of an AmeriCorps*VISTA Member is to serve in a program also supported under other parts of the Act, then the Corporation should be able to support such a request.

Seventh, this proposal eliminates a current statutory requirement giving priority to appropriations for AmeriCorps*VISTA within the total appropriations available for title I of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act. The current requirement states that of the amounts appropriated for title I, there shall first be available an amount not less than the amount necessary to provide 3,700 volunteer service years in fiscal year 1994, 4,000 volunteer service years in fiscal year 1995, and 4,500 volunteer service years in fiscal year 1996. Mandating a minimum number of service years under AmeriCorps*VISTA is an unnecessary restriction on program flexibility. This proposed bill proposes such sums as necessary for this purpose, and there is no need to mandate a program level in an authorization bill.

2) Provides authority of appropriations for the national Senior Service Corps, as authorized under title II of the Act, and eliminates existing language that restricts the flexibility to administer the program in as efficient a manner as possible.

This proposal provides authorization of appropriations for fiscal years 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002 for National Senior Service Corps programs, as authorized under title II of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act. Specific authorities are provided for the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, the Foster Grandparent Program, the Senior Companion Program, and the Senior Demonstration Program.

3) Provides authority of appropriations for the administrative activities under title IV of the Act and a separate authority for evaluation funding.

This proposal provides authorization of appropriations for the administrative activities described under title IV of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act. Also provided is a separate authority for evaluation. If this authority is not funded in any given fiscal year, the Chief Executive officer is provided the flexibility to allocate funds appropriated for titles I, II, and IV of the Act for evaluation purposes.

B. Provide authority of appropriations for programs authorized under the National and Community Service Act.

1) Authorize such sums as necessary for a five-year period.

This proposal provides authority for the programs authorized under the National and Community Service Act for the period including fiscal years 1998 through 2002. All amounts authorized are such sums as necessary.

2) Modify the distribution of Learn and Serve funds.

This proposal modifies the percentages set aside for monies appropriated for Division B, as follows: School-Based Programs for Elementary and Secondary Students: 50%; Community-Based Programs for School-Age Youth: 10%; Higher Education Programs: 25%; and National Set-Aside Activities (including the Clearinghouse): 15%.

3) Modify the requirements related to administrative expenses.

This proposal also removes the minimum split between funding for the Corporation's administrative expenses and those of the Commissions on National and Community Service.

4) Modify the requirement related to budgetary treatment.

This proposal would remove existing language specifying that the appropriations under this Act be treated as a component of budget function 500 by the Office of Management and Budget. There is no reason to specify budgetary categorization in an authorizing statute; further, these programs are categorized within that function today by the Office of Management and Budget and there are no plans to change such categorization.

C. Provide for funding of the America Reads Challenge.

This proposal specifies that amounts appropriated above the levels available in fiscal year 1997, up to a total of \$200 million, shall be available for the America Reads Challenge. This initiative is intended to enable all children to read well and independently by the end of the third grade.

D. Provide an effective date for the legislation.

This proposal provides that the effective date of this legislation is October 1, 1997, or the date of enactment.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Nat Service

June 30, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO STAFF SECRETARY

FROM: ANN F. LEWIS
SUBJECT: WOFFORD MEMO

Sorry for the delay and this may be too late, but this request raises very real concerns:

- Does this mean giving out daily Points of Light awards, with "a major portion of the staff commitment . . . devoted to working with media . . ." while the President's Service award is given out once a year? What will be the impact on our effort to emphasize service?
- Do we have any realistic expectation that agreeing to the proposal would result in more bipartisan support for AmeriCorps? Or, does it dilute the value of AmeriCorps by highlighting more traditional volunteer programs?
- How far down the road has this traveled? Do we really have an option on how to respond?

cc: Bruce Reed ✓
Steve Silverman

June 25, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

From Harris Wofford

Harris Wofford

CORPORATION
FOR NATIONAL
SERVICE

This Sunday we are holding a joint meeting of the Board of the Corporation for National Service and the Points of Light Foundation. This meeting is a prelude to the Points of Light Foundation's National and Community Service Conference opening in New York. In connection with these major events, I hope very much to get White House concurrence so that we may announce the resumption of the Daily Points of Light awards -- with you and former President Bush as the co-sponsors. This will be good for National Service and for your post-Philadelphia Summit leadership. It would be extra good for you to send a video or speak by satellite to the conference and for the White House to announce the resumption of the awards simultaneously in Washington.

But even if that announcement, designed for public impact, is delayed for another occasion, it is important that I be able to report your support for the idea of resuming the awards as the Presidents' (plural) Points of Light. President Bush is enthusiastic about this, and awaits word that you approve. Working closely with the Foundation board, I have urged the resumption of the awards as a way to further demonstrate the bi-partisanship of National Service and to give greater recognition to service leaders around the country (including especially our AmeriCorps, Senior Service Corps and Learn and Serve America network). As you recall, Bush's special request at your meeting before the inauguration was to continue his Points of Light initiative. This will be a mutually beneficial way to do this.

As I reported to Bruce Reed and Steve Silverman some time ago, I am delighted that we have worked out this practical collaboration plan for the resumption of the daily awards. The administration of the program would be undertaken by the Points of Light Foundation, in collaboration with the Corporation for National Service -- similar to the present working arrangement with the annual President's Service awards. Selections would be made by an award committee we agree upon. (I attach a memorandum on the process that could be used to facilitate appropriate clearances of the awardees before they are named.)

It is also a breakthrough that the Points of Light Foundation has secured the full funding of the costs of this program by the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council.

I look forward to working with you on this.

1201 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20525
Telephone 202-695-5000

Getting Things Done.
AmeriCorps, National Service
Learn and Serve America
National Senior Service Corps

Additional Information about the Proposed Daily Points of Light Award

While the daily Points of Light will no longer be officially named by the current President of the United States as they were during the Bush Administration, both President Clinton and former President Bush will be invited to send a personalized letter of congratulations and appreciation to each person selected as a daily Point of Light.

The major form of recognition for daily Points of Light will be the media announcement. Daily individualized press releases will be developed and sent by fax and mail to all appropriate media for each winner. A major portion of the staff commitment to the daily Points of Light Awards will be devoted to working with media to ensure significant local coverage for each winner. Wire stories will be developed and distributed for those winners of national interest.

To increase the amount of recognition for the recipients, we will send letters to the winner's members of Congress, mayor and governor, local Volunteer Center, state National Service Commission, and to those who served as references and nominators. From time to time we will have national recognition occasions to celebrate the awardees, in groups, with White House events possible, at your call.

Special care will be taken in the choice of final recipients to ensure balance -- type of activity, age, racial and ethnic backgrounds, economic status, geographic diversity -- much as the final recipients of the President's Service awards have been chosen.

Award winners will be chosen through a several step process. Foundation staff with Corporation participation will review all nominations, choosing those more appropriate to forward to final judges. Staff will contact references and other local contacts on all nominations prior to submitting them to the final judging panels -- which will include volunteers, representatives from nonprofit organizations, business, government agencies and the national service network.

The new program will be announced broadly -- in the nonprofit trade press, in Points of Light Foundation and National Service network publications and in the releases to daily and weekly newspapers and broadcast media. Announcements also will be targeted to organizations and individuals that might be sources of nominations. Announcement packets will be sent to all Volunteer Centers, state commissions and offices of volunteering, national service network, members of Congress, governors, mayors, Points of Light Foundation and Corporation for National Service contacts, and other lists.

This new program will build on the strong media support given to the Presidents' Summit for America's Future and to the ensuing efforts of America's Promise - the Alliance for Youth.

APR 30 '97 5:57 AT&T FAX 9020FX

Fax to Cathy Mays - 4 pages EBB

The Welfare to Work Partnership
1250 Connecticut Avenue, NW - Sixth Floor - Washington, D.C. 20036
Telephone: 202-955-3005 Telefax: 202-637-9195

Facsimile Cover Page

To: Carol Parmice

Date: 4/30/97

Organization:

Fax: 456-1907

From: El. Sege

Phone: 887-6303

Number of Pages Including Cover 4

Note: I would appreciate a call before circulation of the enclosed.

Silvia / Steve Sivama -

TE (The El. Lavery good ideas
Can we implement any of them?
Ron ?

Cathy - I wanted to make sure Bruce saw this - I just got it.

Diana

APR 30 '97 15:57 AT&T FAX 9020FX

P.2

MEMORANDUM

TO: Erskine Bowles
FROM: Eli Segal
SUBJECT: The Summit and Beyond
DATE: April 30, 1997

Fylo.
Not Service

1. I think we did a real good job of achieving our objectives in Philadelphia:

(a) The President more than held his own as the leader of the "big citizen movement";

(b) We built solid relationships with the Summit people, something which frankly came as a happy surprise to me and for which Steve Silverman, among others, deserves lots of credit; and

(c) (While I don't think we picked up new allies for AmeriCorps, we didn't lose any either (and it would have been easy to do so; e.g. "with all of these volunteers, who needs AmeriCorps!").

All in all, an excellent outcome.

2. A few months ago, a decision was made to engage deeply in the Summit, rather than just make a speech and leave. It was clearly the right decision. Fortunately or unfortunately, we need to address this again. If we ignore the Summit's successor organization America's Promise, the President may well cede leadership of "the big citizen movement."

APR 30 '97 15:58 AT&T FAX 9020FX

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3. I know it's hard to focus on this, given the constant time constraints under which key White House personnel operate, and given the absence of an event forcing event like Philadelphia. Despite this, I urge you to have someone tasked to develop a plan. Here are a few disparate ideas of my own which you may want to consider:

(a) Have a White House event of Summit CEOs in six months to report on progress and setbacks. Make sure to include more non-profit CEOs, particularly those who were not invited to the CEO lunch in Philadelphia;

(b) Convene a conference on one (or more) of the five priorities of the Summit;

(c) Flush out the details of the President's bold call for 50,000 more AmeriCorps members without new federal dollars. The challenge to non-profits is a great idea which didn't get the play it would have if it weren't overwhelmed by the Philadelphia media extravaganza;

(d) Make the case for a sixth Summit focus -- welfare to work; if the mom of a kid at-risk gets a job, that's as important a determinant of escape from poverty as anything else; and

(e) Keep the pressure on America's Promise; perhaps I am unduly discouraged that only one of our fifteen nominees made it onto the Board but it's worth thinking about. While the mission of America's Promise is not legislative, I hope all affiliated with it will be made to understand how important reauthorization of AmeriCorps (in substantially its current form) is to the

APR 30 '97 15:58 AT&T FAX 9020FX

P. 4

President. How about asking for a report from the entity on a quarterly basis which the White House offers to publicize.

4. Any or all of these may not work. The objective is to keep the White House engaged in what was launched in Philadelphia. We need to make clear that Philadelphia was simply an extension -- an important and positive one, to be sure, but still an extension -- of what the President called for initially in his 1992 campaign, then in the State of the Union ("I challenge a new generation of young Americans to a season of service"), and what the President has achieved to date.

EJS/gho

Agenda
June 3, 1997 Summit Follow-Up
Room 476

File:
Nat-Service

1. Update
2. Summit Relationship
3. Service
 - A. Event
 - B. In Speeches
4. Substance
 - A. Events
 - B. Federal Commitment
 - C. AmeriCorps

→ Discussion memo on AmeriCorps
+ SERVICE STRATEGY
→ Hilkey (letter to Powell)

DRAFT

TO:

FROM:

SUBJECT: Options on Service Summit Follow-up

This memo summarizes some options designed to ensure that we continue to sound the themes of the Presidents' Summit on America's Future in the coming weeks and months.

1. Working with America's Promise and Summit Leaders: We must determine how much to emphasize events that reinforce our service message vs. work with the Summit's new 501c3, "America's Promise." Although there are legal limits on our involvement, we are able to continue to work with Gen. Powell, and it probably makes sense to do so since the Summit went well and the President is so identified with it.

- We should emphasize the Summit's partnership approach and goals in our ongoing events as much as possible. Related events in May included the Welfare to Work Partnership event, and the Vice President's announcement of his new coalition of civic groups to mentor those leaving welfare.
- We should meet with staff at America's Promise to learn about their efforts to set targets for the five resources for children and track progress toward their goal of reaching two million children.
- We could ask America's Promise to report to us on its progress on a quarterly basis, if counsel approves. In that way, we could stay connected to America's Promise even as we keep its operations at an appropriate distance.
- Eli Segal has suggested bringing in CEO's to report on their progress since the Summit, or convening a conference on one or more of the five resources. The President has expressed interest in tying the summit's "safe places" goal to our juvenile justice initiative. We could also take advantage of Ray Chambers' interest in using schools to deliver services to kids to highlight our Communities in Schools proposal in the budget.
- Administration officials could participate in local summits around the country.

PONS event
on 5 goals.

- Pres scholars
- BRT
- VP/HC
w/Powell

2. AmeriCorps and Other Service Opportunities: There are a variety of things we could do to reinforce our announcement of 50,000 new AmeriCorps scholarships

and our high school service theme.

- The President could announce the first winners of the new High School Service Scholars program, perhaps in combination with the first Maryland high school class to graduate under their service requirement.
- We plan to write non-profit organizations to restate the President's Summit announcement of 50,000 new "scholarship only" AmeriCorps members. The Corporation has asked us to hold this for the time being because of their concern that they may get too much interest in this idea.
- The President could announce the next group of scholarship-only AmeriCorps members.
- We could reach out to faith-based groups, perhaps involving Rev. Tony Campolo and his new "Mission Year" initiative. However, it is not clear whether Campolo's students can get AmeriCorps scholarships funding because of questions about their religious activities. We could work with other faith-based groups.
- One major goal we must stress in the coming weeks is getting AmeriCorps reauthorized. The Corporation wants to launch the Administration's reauthorization proposal at a roundtable on service with members of Congress in late June. Although reauthorization will be difficult, there will probably never be a better time to push for it and ensure some longevity for AmeriCorps beyond the President's term. Anything we can do to tie this to the Summit and even Powell would obviously be very helpful.
- Other options are to highlight the AmeriCorps component of America Reads, AmeriCorps' Teach for America program, various Corporation "service learning" programs, or the Corporation's senior service programs.

PONS memo

TO: Bruce Reed

FROM: John Gomperts, Corporation for National Service

RE: Introducing the Reauthorization Bill for the Corporation for National Service and AmeriCorps

DATE: May 27, 1997

Following up on our meeting last week, I am sending you my thoughts on the best way to roll-out the Administration's legislative proposal for reauthorizing the Corporation for National Service and AmeriCorps.

A central question in the planning is whether this should be an Administration bill or a proposal that is developed on the Hill and "owned" by our Congressional supporters. Although the latter approach has considerable advantages, as I said at our meeting, I fear that we do not have strong enough support on the Hill to generate the steam that we will need to move this bill. That leads me to propose a hybrid approach, a Presidential event that includes our leading friends on the Hill.

The Event

I suggest that we invite our leading Congressional supporters -- a bipartisan group -- for a roundtable on service. I would also invite a number of people who are involved in service -- especially young people but also including seniors -- and perhaps seat one person in service between each Member of Congress. Other invitees would be leaders of major service organizations and the leaders of the national service movement. In all, I would invite 75 -100 people. Relatively few would have a speaking role, of course.

Thematically, I suggest that the President should be very proud of what has been accomplished, and therefore strong in his belief that the core of AmeriCorps be preserved. He should also say that he has heard the criticisms of the current program, and that the reauthorization bill goes a long way toward meeting the concerns that have been raised. He should say that he is proposing creative and cost-effective ways to extend the opportunity to serve (the AmeriCorps Challenge Scholarships). He should close by saying that in the wake of the Presidents' Summit, there is much to be done to address the needs of America's children. As was clear at the Summit, national service is a key part of the strategy.

The political message is a little sharper. The Summit was a notable occasion of bipartisan agreement. National service as a strategy for meeting the goals for America's children was a central theme of that agreement. Getting the national service program

reauthorized and on solid footing is important for moving forward on the goals of the Summit. The president should say that getting this bill passed is a high priority for the Administration, and for him personally. He should ask Congress to hold hearings and take up the bill expeditiously. And he should tell his Congressional supporters, and the others at the event that he will need their help to get this done.

Timing

We are sending the draft bill to OMB this week for review. They have already reviewed the specs, and we are discussing a few items with them. By and large, however, the legislation seems to be in pretty good shape, and I expect it will be ready to go by the middle of June. **I suggest that we do the event in the last two weeks of June**, before the July recess. In this way, we can still tie the reauthorization to the Summit. Also, the height of our appropriations season is likely to occur in July, and it would be helpful to have our reauthorization bill out during that time.

Summary

Naturally, we can put in the details of how this event would proceed, if that is helpful now. Also, we are happy to consider other venues, like a service site, if you think that is more appropriate and not overly complicated. And, if you want to consider a wholly different approach, we can do that as well.

Let me know what you think. I'll look forward to hearing from you.

MEMORANDUM

March 25, 1997

CORPORATION
FOR NATIONAL
SERVICE

To: Bruce Reed
Gene Sperling

From: Harris Wofford

Re: Leader Schools

President Clinton announced in May in his commencement address at Penn State that the Corporation will establish a National Service Leader Schools Program to recognize the middle and high schools in the country that have the most outstanding community service and service learning programs. A notice of funding availability has been issued in the Federal Register (see attached) to locate a contractor to assist the Corporation in the development of the program.

I have spoken with Ted Sizer, recently retired from Brown University and the Annenberg Institute, about playing a visible role with the Corporation and the education community. He seems to me to be just the person to chair a steering committee for the National Service Leader Schools Project. The steering committee would assist with the development of the criteria, selection, and visibility of the Leader Schools. Because this is a presidential initiative, I want to make sure that you are in agreement about Ted Sizer in this position. I would like to call him right away so that we can be sure that the National Service Leader Schools Program is included in some way in the Summit.

CC: Diana Fortuna
Susan Stroud

1201 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20525
Telephone 202-406-9000

Getting Things Done.
AmeriCorps, National Service
Learn And Serve America
National Senior Service Corps

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bruce Reed

FROM: Harris Wofford *HW*

RE: National Service and
the President's State of the Union Address Initiatives

This paper briefly outlines ways that national service can play an integral role in the major initiatives outlined in President Clinton's 1997 State of the Union address. We define national service broadly, to include everyone from full-time AmeriCorps Members to part-time community volunteers. National service participants may be highly skilled professionals or young people who have not yet completed high school. And they may serve in teams or individually, through an organized program or on their own initiative. What most have in common is the spirit of service - a willingness to offer their time and talents to benefit others. What the best service programs have in common is a commitment to build community and provide opportunity to those who serve, in addition to "getting things done" that would otherwise not be undertaken.

The Corporation for National Service administers three types of programs. AmeriCorps (including VISTA and the National Civilian Community Corps along with hundreds of state and locally sponsored placements) provides an educational scholarship or loan forgiveness to Members who complete a full-time or part-time term of service. The National Senior Service Corps engages Foster Grandparents, Senior Companions, and hundreds of thousands of other non-stipended older Americans in the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. Through Learn and Serve America and other service-learning programs, school-aged youth and college students perform part-time service that enhances their education. Many of these programs are designed to leverage additional community volunteers and therefore are an excellent way to develop an infrastructure that brings the community together around an important goal.

Sponsors of national service programs are free to define the qualifications of those who will serve and to select, train, place, and supervise those participants. In this way, sponsors can assure a good fit between needs and resources. At a comparatively low cost, national service can make a contribution to solving the critical problems outlined in the President's address. And in so doing, it will contribute "to the pursuit of opportunity for all Americans, responsibility from all Americans, in a community of all Americans."

1201 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20525
Telephone 202-606-5000

How national service can help get things done

National service has a strong track record in contributing to the quality and quantity of services provided to communities in need. Last year, the Corporation established children and youth as its major priority for all its programs, regardless of whether education, public safety, the environment or other human needs are their focus. As many leaders in these fields can attest, service provides an important complement to the work of professionals, rather than supplanting their efforts. And it has the added benefit of being able to attract young people to the helping professions by exposing them to careers they might not otherwise have considered.

Here are some examples of how national service can help get things done in some of the initiatives mentioned in the State of the Union Address:

Early Learning. Early childhood education and school readiness have been a priority for AmeriCorps since its creation. AmeriCorps helps increase the availability and quality of programs -- Action for Children Today Members help recruit and train new home-based infant care providers in 31 sites across the country, in Greensboro, North Carolina, AmeriCorps Members serve in classrooms, increasing the teacher-child ratio (in some cases, the AmeriCorps Members have more training than the actual teachers!); AmeriCorps Members in the Teach program serve as teacher substitutes in child care centers, enabling the regular providers to obtain additional training; AmeriCorps Members in HIPPO (Home Instruction Program for PreSchool Youngsters), a home based, early intervention/school readiness program to help educationally disadvantaged parents provide educational enrichment for their preschool children. In addition, approximately 2,870 Foster Grandparents serve one-on-one with children in roughly 1,110 Head Start Centers and other preschool programs. Last March, the Corporation sponsored a forum with leaders of Pittsburgh's initiative to provide universal early childhood education; as a result, service will be an integral part of efforts to achieve this goal. AmeriCorps Members and Foster Grandparents are working side-by-side to carry out this initiative.

Literacy. National Service participants, working under the supervision of reading specialists and other teaching professionals are serving as reading and math tutors, and are recruiting others to take on this important role. The Experience Corps demonstration program develops and tests new strategies to mobilize the time, talents, resources and experience of older adults in intergenerational programming. The Experience Corps demonstration operates through five project sites around the country utilizing teams of Foster Grandparents or RSVP volunteers serving in public elementary schools and community youth organizations concentrated in target neighborhoods. Research examining the impact of service on the young people, schools, youth organizations and the seniors is an integral part of the demonstration. The Experience Corps will help better define effective models for volunteer intergenerational programming. SLICE (Service Learning Impacting Children's Education) in Simpson County, KY already has an excellent track record with AmeriCorps Members providing intense tutoring in reading to second graders and in only nine months, students improved their reading comprehension by an average of 2.8 reading levels. Other examples include Pillsbury Neighborhood Services, Inc. where AmeriCorps Members serve in Minneapolis inner city community schools tutoring youth, teaching Adult Basic Education classes, and teaching English as a Second Language to recent immigrants. In

Providence, RI, AmeriCorps Members provide tutoring and mentoring at family centers in 19 schools. Through a Learn and Serve America: Higher Education grant, Rust College's Developing Responsibility through Empowerment, Affirmation, Mentoring and Service (DREAMS) project tutors 250 kindergarten through fourth grade students in basic reading, writing and quantitative skills by: 1) Working in classrooms with high concentrations of low-income students; 2) Mentoring and tutoring in the after-school programs of two local elementary schools; and, 3) Involving parents, caretakers and other community members in the work participants do with students. Over 60 college student volunteers work with Project DREAMS through their courses at Rust to provide academic training and social and cultural experiences to K-4 students and their parents in the Holly Springs and Marshall County School District. Students A model with particular promise, supported by Learn and Serve America K-12 funds, engages older secondary school students to tutor elementary students. The Pennsylvania High School Literacy Corps shows the wisdom of treating young people as resources to be tapped, not problems to be solved. Since 1991, high school juniors and seniors have served as reading tutors to elementary students in Philadelphia public schools. While the reading skills of the younger students improved, the older students showed higher academic performance, greater self-esteem and higher degree aspirations. The program now exists in 20 Pennsylvania schools and will soon be expanded to 50.

After-school Programs. After-school programs are a major focus of national service activity, and an area we have targeted for expansion. Recognizing the importance of the time children spend outside of the regular school day, the Corporation reached out to the after-school child care and education communities to create an innovative national partnership. Focusing initially on three states (Washington, Massachusetts, and Illinois), this partnership will expand the amount and quality of out-of-school time programs using national service as a strategy, and will increase the number of young people enrolled in these programs to be engaged in service activities. The HHS Child Care Bureau and Department of Education are cosponsors of the initiative, along with the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies and the Wellesley School Age Child Care Project. Types of activities undertaken by national service participants include Hands on Atlanta, which places 110 AmeriCorps members to work full-time in eight of the Atlanta Public Schools as teaching assistants, mentors, tutors and recruiters of more volunteers. Hands on Atlanta AmeriCorps Members provide diverse educational, recreational, and enrichment opportunities for children, parents, and community members after school, in the evenings and on weekends, including opportunities for youth and children to perform various community service projects. Another example is in Austin, TX. The Community Mentor Program at St. Edward's University, a Learn and Serve America: Higher Education grantee, engages 80 University students as part-time AmeriCorps Members in tutoring and mentoring more than 500 at-risk elementary school children.

Technology. An early success story for AmeriCorps is the Public Education Fund Network/Project First in partnership with IBM. AmeriCorps Members improved the educational achievement of public school children who lacked academic and technological skills. Members also secured and refurbished computers donated from the corporate community, developed multi-media library centers and conducted family technology fairs. To help bring technology to other schools, the Corporation was a cosponsor of Net Day At California State University at Monterey Bay, a service-learning course in the computer science department that combines the institution's commitment to the use of technologies as resources to people with the development of service-

learning experience for students. Monterey Bay students are placed in tutoring partnerships with elementary and middle school youth to teach multimedia technologies related to "virtual field trips" of the Monterey Bay Canyon.

Community Policing. The success of community policing depends on the willingness of community members to become more active in the community. AmeriCorps and the National Senior Service Corps have supported pioneering programs in the area of public safety. In the Blue Hills neighborhood on Kansas City, Missouri, AmeriCorps Members and local community volunteers helped shut down drug houses, designated neighborhood "safe homes", identified block representatives, and sponsored anti-drug events. In New York City, an AmeriCorps program with the NY Police Department was able to significantly reduce crime and disorder at public swimming pools and parks. Members also coordinated and supervised "play streets" in neighborhoods, providing a safe recreational environment for young children.

Medicaid. The primary National Senior Service Corps partner in the Medicaid waiver network is the Senior Companion Program. Individual Senior Companion projects nationwide are increasingly working to become contractual partners in the community-based service of Acompanionship@. As an eligible waiver category, Acompanionship@ is virtually identical to services that Senior Companions provide every day: friendly visiting, transportation assistance, personal and household chores, and relief to burdened informal care givers.

A Senior Companion project that secures a Medicaid waiver contract becomes a contractually obligated partner to deliver a predetermined level and type of service in return for a mutually acceptable fee. The fees are generally set per hour for each Senior Companion. The project monitors placements, meets contract compliance, and invoices the lead agency appropriately. For example, a Senior Companion project may negotiate a rate of \$10.00 per hour with the agency, knowing that the stipended rate for Companions is \$2.41 per hour. The difference belongs to the Senior Companion project as unrestricted revenue.

It is not possible to provide comprehensive information on the number of individual Senior Companion projects nationwide, although the numbers are on the increase.

Environment. Whether preserving the natural habitats of our wildlife, promoting community gardens, or cleaning streams and rivers, national service participants are engaged in protecting the environment and teaching others how to become good stewards of our natural resources. For example, in 1987, the clam flats in Wells, the self-proclaimed clam capital of Maine, were closed because high amounts of fecal matter were found in the estuary. In 1994, students from Wells High School, supported by a Learn and Serve America grant, established a monitoring program to protect the estuary's 1600 acres. Students made topographical maps, used satellite imagery to select over 15 testing sites, conducted water quality tests twice a month, used technology to compile, graph, and analyze data, and compared their findings with neighboring towns via telecommunication. Students also used the scientific method to identify, research, and propose solutions related to human impact on the estuary. Over the next few years, monitoring will also become a central component of the science department's curriculum, making it possible for all students graduating from Wells High School to participate in monitoring as part of their course work. The students' information was used by the Maine Department of Marine resources in order

to reopen the swimming areas and clam flats that had been closed for nine years. In addition to the economic benefits, the project is enhancing the town's vision as a destination for ecology and tourism - or eco-tourism

How national service provides opportunity to those who serve

All national service programs benefit those who serve -- sometimes by providing a modest living stipend and educational award; other times, by fostering learning and career opportunities; and almost always, by strengthening the individual's connection to the community as an active and good citizen. Studies even show that seniors who volunteer are healthier and live longer than those who don't.

Specifically, national service can support the President's initiatives in the following ways:

Character education. An excellent way to teach character is through students' active participation in service to the community. Well-structured service-learning programs increase students' sense of responsibility and citizenship and likelihood of continued service after the program ends. Learn and Serve America and the National Service-Learning Clearinghouse represent important resources for the expansion of service-learning at a low cost. The Leader Schools and National Service Scholars initiatives announced by the President last year will provide up to ten thousand high school students with a \$1,000 scholarship for their community service. We stress positive actions that many students now take that lay the groundwork for good character throughout life.

Higher education access. The Corporation has taken major steps to expand the availability of AmeriCorps education awards by lowering costs and leveraging new resources for service. We hope to expand the number of individuals performing service and in return get an award for college costs. The National Service Scholarships, initiated by the President, for outstanding high school student volunteers, will be another way to help students pay for colleges. It is funded by community organizations, businesses, and other non-federal sources.

Welfare-to-work. Although we would strongly oppose converting AmeriCorps to a program dominated by welfare recipients, it has always engaged individuals of diverse backgrounds, often working side-by-side with each other. In addition, national service, particularly VISTA, has a good track record in supporting micro-enterprise development. For example, the Entrepreneurship for Single Parents and Minorities Program in Fargo, ND provides professional training, guidance and assistance for people, many of them low income or on welfare, who want to start their own businesses. This collaboration among the local housing authority, the Small Business Administration and AmeriCorps*VISTA requires participants to attend a series of ten weekly seminars and prepare a business plan. In Michigan, AmeriCorps*VISTA member Jackie London, working through the WISE program helping formerly low-income women become successful entrepreneurs, spearheaded the negotiations with Arborland Mall - a major but decaying retail mall—and was happily in the audience in October to hear President Clinton compliment her work. Her supervisor, WISE Program Director Lindell McEwen, also a former AC*VISTA volunteer, says 400 women have graduated from the program; half now own their own businesses, and the rest are working or continuing their education. RSVP volunteers in

Grand Rapids have joined with the local public assistance agency and the local employment agency to help low income persons find employment, by providing employment and resume assistance. Thirty-five clients were assisted saving over \$200,000 in the public assistance system.

How national service builds community

By engaging Americans of all ages and backgrounds in service, national service helps develop a sense of responsibility and connection among us all. National service programs have played a pioneering role in engaging the corporate community in responding to community needs and in calling together ordinary citizens to confront local problems.

The Presidents' Summit for America's Future

The Presidents' Summit in Philadelphia, April 27-29 presents an unprecedented opportunity to call all Americans to action. The Summit will feature significant commitments by national, state and community leaders and organizations from the business, education, nonprofit, and government sectors to respond to pressing problems facing children and youth. It will bring together teams from 100 communities and delegations from all states who will promote local and state plans for citizen action. And it will provide national visibility to the needs of children and youth, and the solutions that are within the reach of all of us if we have the will to become involved.

The Summit is organized on the proposition that America's young people must have access to five fundamental resources that can help them lead healthy, fulfilling and productive lives:

- an ongoing relationship with a caring adult – a mentor, tutor, coach;
- safe places and structured activities during non-school hours to learn and grow;
- a healthy start;
- a marketable skills through effective education;
- an opportunity to give back through community service

As the Summit and follow-up activities unfold, we hope to make connections among the multi-agency policy initiatives of the Administration and the five goals. Organizations and communities making commitments can become connected to these efforts, and we can help raise the visibility of the issues. Most important, however, the Summit provides a platform to capture the attention of the people and inspire them to action.

Conclusion

If we are truly "committed to a new kind of government -- not to solve all our problems for us, but to give our people - all our people -- the tools they need to make the most of their own lives," then we must find ways to model this ethic and strategy in national policy. National service provides a strong track record and knowledge base for motivating, organizing, and sustaining citizen involvement in community problem-solving. The Corporation stands ready to assist in responding to the major challenges outlined by the President and Domestic Policy Council.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12-27-96

Walt. Smith

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— Staff Photo by Roger Klock

AmeriCorps Sprucing Up

Nicole Hiles of Cochranton, Pa., and Wesley Knauft of West Hartford, Conn., dig up weeds Wednesday in the empty lot just north of the Murrah Building bomb site in downtown Oklahoma City. The pair were part of a group provided through the AmeriCorps program, which will be working for seven weeks to improve the area. The group recently arrived in Oklahoma City from Denver.

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. memo	Steve Waldman to Reed re: Republicans and National Service (1 page)	11/96	P2, P5

**This marker identifies the original location of the withdrawn item listed above.
For a complete list of items withdrawn from this folder, see the
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COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Bruce Reed (Subject File)
OA/Box Number: 21206

FOLDER TITLE:

National Service [2]

rs58

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

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- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. memo	Waldman to Harris [Wofford] and Deb re: The Board (6 pages)	11/2/96	P2, P5

**This marker identifies the original location of the withdrawn item listed above.
For a complete list of items withdrawn from this folder, see the
Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet at the front of the folder.**

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Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Bruce Reed (Subject File)
OA/Box Number: 21206

FOLDER TITLE:

National Service [2]

rs58

RESTRICTION CODES

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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Nat Service

To: Bruce Reed
From: Steve Waldman
Re: Senior Corps Language

I don't know if this is the proper format, so please edit as appropriate:

THE THEME: It's time we started viewing seniors as resources – a major force in solving critical problems – rather than as financial burdens.

[[The aging of America has prompted much commentary about looming crises – the threat to Social Security, the growing budget deficit and the strain on families. But this demographic revolution holds the key to solving so many of our critical problems. A typical American can expect to spend almost one-third of his or her life in retirement. This is an awesome untapped resource. For this growing cohort of “young old,” many of whom had tried to change the world as young men and women, “retirement” can mark the beginning of a new career of part-time voluntary service -- a second chance to give something back to their communities and their country.]]

THE PROPOSAL: A new national service program for older Americans. It would in the first year enlist 15,000 seniors to make serious time commitments – 10-20 hours a week – to work in schools, Head Start centers and other venues to ensure that every child can read independently by the Third Grade. It would be open to seniors of all incomes and backgrounds, not just the poor.

THE SCHOLARSHIP: Those seniors who make the most serious time commitments could be eligible either for a small stipend or a \$2,000 scholarship that they could give as a gift to a grandchild or child, or use to help a low income child.



To: Bruce Reed 456-5557

From: Steve Waldman

606 5000 x121

H) 202-338-4289

I know this is a lot to ask,
but Harris (+ B. of course)
would be extremely grateful
if this note could get to the
President before The Speech.
Is that possible?

To: President Clinton

From: Harris Wofford

Re: The Speech

August 24, 1996

I know it is quite late to weigh in with speech ideas, so I will keep it brief. I want to urge you to set out as a goal, as you did in 1992, that every young American who wants to do service in exchange for college aid, ought to have that opportunity.

As is, AmeriCorps is like the Peace Corps – a smart, worthwhile expenditure of taxpayer money. With some bold leadership in your second term, however, it could become more like the GI Bill – something that transforms the country.

We have a more detailed plan which I'm eager to discuss with you after the convention. In the meantime, here is some suggested speech language designed to establish the goal. Good luck in Chicago.

Some possible language:

"There are so many ways one can serve one's country. The highest form of service is the Armed Forces. Those who join the military know they will develop good skills and earn a college scholarship – but they also know that, at any moment, they may put their lives at risk to defend our country and its values.

"Bob Dole is right. He sacrificed in a way that I didn't. He gave of himself so profoundly that regardless of what one thinks of what he did in his long political career, his nation owes him an enormous debt of gratitude for what he did as a young man.

"There are, of course, other ways Americans today can and do give significant sustained service to country and community. Young men

and women who join the Jesuit Volunteer Corps give a full year of their lives, at poverty living allowances to work with the poor. Others change lives one at a time through committed volunteer work with the young – Big Brothers, Big Sisters, YMCAs. Senior citizens in programs like Senior Companions, Foster Grandparents and RSVPs prove every day that far from being burdens on society, they can be a great a resource.

“Some colleges have taken work study jobs and allowed young people to serve their way through school by tutoring a second grader instead of shelving books in the library. I hope many more schools give work study students that opportunity.

“Peace Corps volunteers not only help the poor in Third World countries to develop their economies – which is good for us – but they act as America’s greatest good-will ambassadors.

“And then there is AmeriCorps. I am so proud of the 45,000 young people who have served in their communities, often working hand-in-hand with the country’s outstanding volunteer groups like Red Cross and Habitat for Humanity. This program shows how government can help – without getting in the way. Instead of funding government bureaucracies, AmeriCorps gives opportunities to energetic young people to work directly in schools, police stations, or cleaning up rivers.

“In one county in Kentucky, AmeriCorps members – working with teachers, students and parents – helped raise the reading scores of second graders by almost three grade levels. Just imagine if we could do that in every school in this country. In exchange, these AmeriCorps members have earned scholarships for higher education. Think of what a good bargain that is for our country.

“One side effect of the Cold War’s end is that there are fewer opportunities for Americans to serve. There are now 200,000 fewer slots in the all-volunteer Armed Services than there were just in 1976.

"If we can agree on nothing else, let us work toward a day when anyone who wants to serve their country in exchange for college aid will be able to do so.

"Whether it's through the Armed Forces, AmeriCorps, religious service, or college work study, those who want to dedicate a year or two or three to intense service, should have that opportunity. Nothing would more dramatically transform the civic ethic of this country – and nothing would help us to so effectively solve our problems. Let's make voluntary full-time service a rite of passage for every young American."

Date: 05/13/96 Time: 15:08
CCCommunity Service Requirement Draws Criticism

Jayell
Fax to Steve
Waldman.
Call me
about this

WASHINGTON (AP) Needy children in Florida are getting new shoes from a community service project run for the past six years by 18-year-old Eric Perlyn of Fort Lauderdale.

It's the kind of volunteerism embraced by President Clinton, but Perlyn started the program on his own not because he was required to do it by his school.

In a commencement speech Friday at Pennsylvania State University, Clinton urged every middle school and high school to make public service part of the curriculum. He also urged colleges to use federal funds to orient college work-study toward community service. He said the government would match community grants up to \$500 to reward high school students who do significant work for their communities.

But critics contend that requiring students to perform community service is "mandatory volunteering" and unconstitutional.

Lawyers with the Institute for Justice are filing a Supreme Court challenge this week. Staff attorney Scott G. Bullock shares the president's desire to build strong, interconnected communities, but says the "hallmark of community is volunteerism."

Cliff
Bullock's
group?

Perlyn agrees. He is graduating this year from Pine Crest School, which does not have a community service requirement. He started the nonprofit "Stepp'n Up" on his own and thinks helping others should come from the heart.

Making it mandatory might result in more students becoming lifelong community servants, he says. "By requiring it, it takes away some of the special feeling you get," said Perlyn, who worked with shoe manufacturers and local stores to provide shoes to more than 5,000 children.

Perlyn was one of about 100 youth volunteers who traveled to Washington last week to receive The Prudential Spirit of Community Award, a program the insurance company launched with the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

"Volunteering is not really volunteering unless you're doing it because you want to," says fellow award winner Anisa Kintz, 13, a student at Whittemore Park Middle School in Conway, S.C.

She was recognized for organizing the "Calling All Colors" conference at Coastal Carolina University to promote racial unity among students in grades three to eight. "Calling All Colors" conferences have been held nationwide and in Canada and New Zealand.

Twenty-five percent of the students in 130 of the nation's largest school districts have some type of community service requirement, according to a November survey by the American Alliance for Rights and Responsibilities, a coalition that supports citizen participation.

The requirement has been imposed in individual schools and districts from coast to coast, but Maryland is the only state requiring it statewide.

"Once somebody starts doing a project, they realize how good it feels to help other people and they'll want to keep doing it, keep helping people," says Erin Doolittle, a ninth-grader at Urbana High School in Frederick County, Md.

Frederick County is one of a rising number of schools that are integrating community service into the school curriculum, says Jim Pitofsky with the National Association of Partners in Education, which offers training on setting up service learning projects.

Instead of working at a nursing home, for example, students can interview residents to learn about World War II and complete a

history assignment, he says.

Bullock, a lawyer with the institute, says this is a misguided attempt to involve government in volunteerism.

Students and parents in Bethlehem, Pa.; Mamaroneck, N.Y.; and Chapel Hill, N.C., have sued school districts over mandatory community service requirements. So far, the courts have sided with the school districts.

In 1993, the Supreme Court turned down the appeal of the two Pennsylvania families who said requiring students to perform unpaid community service was a form of involuntary servitude and violated the Constitution's 13th Amendment.

Lawyers for the institute have decided to approach the Supreme Court again this time on behalf of a family in Mamaroneck, N.Y. The institute said it would file an appeal Wednesday alleging that a community service requirement in the Rye Neck School District violates the 14th Amendment's prohibition against taking away a citizen's rights without due process of law.

APNP-05-13-96 1510EST

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, DC

TO: Bruce Reed
FROM: Katie McGinty

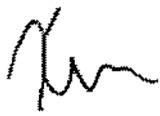
Here are the materials we discussed
in regard to national service and welfare
reform initiatives.

Cheers!

Nat. Service

February 29, 1996

NOTE TO JACK LEW
GENE SPERLING
MELANNE VERVEER

FROM: Ken Apfel 

RE: National Service

Attached please find a CLOSE HOLD document that my staff has prepared on National Service. It is a quick summary of the packet which was delivered to us on Wednesday evening from the Corporation for National and Community Service. For your convenience, I have attached the packet as well.

I will see you at 10:00 in my office to discuss the issue further.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

February 29, 1996

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ken Apfel

THROUGH: Barry White *BW*
Larry Matlack *LM*

FROM: Pamela B. VanWie *PBW*

SUBJECT: Response to National Service "Reauthorization Paper"

You received a package of documents from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) comprised of the following: 1) a draft response to Senator Charles Grassley's February 9, 1996 letter in which he asked the CNCS to implement reforms; 2) a memorandum outlining proposed long-term "reforms"; and 3) an analysis of the reform proposal. The issues raised below by the Corporation are in their very early stage of development. We do not believe they have thoroughly explored these or other options for efficiencies. The draft response to the Grassley letter and the ideas raised in the other documents do not necessarily track in all cases.

The CNCS is pressing for guidance so it can respond to Senator Grassley and in the House Subcommittee on Labor-HHS Appropriations on March 12th testifying on the FY 1997 budget and, more importantly, the House Oversight Committee on March 21st testifying on AmeriCorps.

The CNCS does not intend to submit a formal reauthorization package to the Hill. This is probably wise considering the beating it has taken on the budget and the GAO report. What CNCS hopes to do is assemble some broad principles and concepts on reforms that the Administration approves and use them as a basis to begin negotiations on the Hill. This tactic is similar to what was used in Job Training legislation.

Because AmeriCorps took such a beating for its high federal program costs, most of the issues are for cost cutting or cost shifting. The key ingredients of the CNCS reform proposal are:

- 1) reduce CNCS spending on the national service participants' living allowance;
- 2) limit the program overhead financed by federal contributions to \$5,000 per member and require a local match;

- 3) expand the number of participants who receive only education awards; and
- 4) make the CNCS a non-governmental entity.

Reduce CNCS spending on living allowance for participants

The CNCS would provide \$100 per week rather than the current almost \$130 per week while allowing sponsoring programs to supplement the wage up to another \$100 per week. This would reduce the CNCS cost per member and combat the perception that compensation received is overly generous as depicted in the GAO report and highlighted by many members of Congress. We think this is a good idea, however, this will affect AmeriCorps programs. If programs choose not to supplement the living allowance, the demographics of the program may be affected. Based on current data, middle class AmeriCorps members are most likely to forego participation in AmeriCorps if the living allowance were lowered or eliminated. Similarly, if the CNCS eliminates the health and child care benefits currently provided (not under consideration at this time), most single parents would choose not to participate in AmeriCorps.

Limit program support (overhead) to \$5,000 per member on a matching basis

The CNCS would provide funds to support AmeriCorps members on a matching basis up to \$5,000 per member. This would cap federal spending per participant (currently up to \$10,000 + per member) and would encourage the programs to seek private sector as well as state and local funding. This is a good idea but several issues would have to be worked out regarding determining the availability of the match funds and what types of funds could be counted towards the match, i.e. in-kind, only non-federal, etc.

Expand the number of participants who receive only education awards from the CNCS

This was Senator Grassley's idea and the CNCS has already tried this in a small pilot project with the Jesuit based "Teach for America" program. Expanding this program would allow larger numbers of students to earn their way through college performing service. Possible areas for expansion would include federal agencies, state financed opportunities, higher education, opportunities using local government funds (e.g. school districts, police departments and municipalities).

Make the CNCS a Non-Governmental Entity

Harris Wofford stated in his confirmation testimony that we should consider making the CNCS more of a "trust of the American people, chartered by Congress, like the American Red Cross, but not controlled by the government." The CNCS is exploring and will continue to explore this idea with leaders of major corporations, foundations, educational institutions and non-profit agencies. While it is a worthy goal, it is not a realistic option in the near future.

Although mentioned in the draft response to Senator Grassley, the CNCS needs to explore thoroughly options to target AmeriCorps dollars to young people who are attending college or accredited vocational programs, further reduce total costs for the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) program, and eliminate the underlying authorization for Federal agencies to run AmeriCorps programs.

Nat. Service

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

FROM: Shirley Sagawa 
RE: AmeriCorps Proposals
DATE: February 28, 1996

CORPORATION
FOR NATIONAL
 SERVICE

Attached, for your consideration, are three documents:

- 1) Draft response to Senator Grassley's letter to the Corporation. We believe that Senator Grassley, our most vocal critic, may be willing to endorse AmeriCorps if we can work out a package of "reforms." The letter is designed to lay out steps the Corporation has already taken that address his concerns. A second round of letters might work to formalize a deal.
- 2) Memorandum outlining proposed long-term "reforms." Although we are very satisfied with the quality and cost-effectiveness of AmeriCorps, we believe that steps should be taken to further reduce costs, increase private sector involvement, simplify the program, and expand the number of AmeriCorps Members. This memo suggests legislative reforms that move in these directions which might be negotiated in the reauthorization bill or 1997 appropriations agreement.
- 3) Analysis of reform proposal. I prepared this analysis of the reform proposal for Harris. It may be helpful to you in understanding the effects that the proposal, if implemented, would have on our existing portfolio of programs.

Finally, not included in this package are a series of more minor and technical amendments that we would like to propose. These will be provided to our OMB contact as soon as they are available, within the next two weeks. Please note that several authorizing and appropriations committee hearings have been scheduled for the Corporation over the next two months. We hope to be able to talk about the long-term direction of the Corporation in our testimony, and therefore would like to reach consensus with you and the President as soon as possible.

Distribution:

Alice Rivlin
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Getting Things Done.
AmeriCorps, National Service
Learn and Serve America
National Senior Service Corps

Initials: ES Date: 10/15/95

~~CONFIDENTIAL/DRAFT~~

MEMORANDUM

TO: Distribution

FROM: Harris Wofford and Shirley Sagawa
Corporation for National Service

SUBJECT: Draft Outline of Proposed Long-Term Reforms

DATE: February 28, 1995

CORPORATION
FOR NATIONAL
 SERVICE

These proposals were designed to significantly expand the political support for AmeriCorps while simultaneously strengthening its existing mission. They would make it possible to (1) expand the size of the program to bring it closer to the original goal of 100,000 or more; (2) ensure that AmeriCorps is viewed as service that involves sacrifice; (3) strengthen the link between service and education; (4) reduce costs; (5) simplify the structure and reduce red tape; and (6) increase private sector involvement.

The net effect of these changes should be to reduce the per person cost by at least \$3,600. And, even without any increase in overall funding, it would increase the number of participants by up to 25 percent, and possibly much more.

Clearly, the reforms should be phased in, starting with the passage of legislation (either the reauthorization or 1997 appropriations) that gives us the flexibility to move in this direction. One possibility is to start with the National Direct programs (one third of AmeriCorps assignments), and for at least the first year to leave it optional to state commissions and their grantees.

The key ingredients would be:

Reducing Corporation Spending on the Living Allowance -- The Corporation would provide \$100 a week for a stipend, the amount originally proposed in the 1992 campaign. (Currently the federal government puts up about \$150/week.) Programs could supplement the wage if they wish up to another \$100/week.

This has several advantages. First, it would lower the cost per member, thereby answering critics and allowing expansion of the program. Second, it would combat the perception that AmeriCorps compensation is overly generous. The more Spartan living allowance, combined

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with a continued emphasis on "getting things done," would ensure that AmeriCorps, like the military and the Peace Corps, is viewed as service and not a jobs program. Yet this approach would also provide programs the flexibility to supplement the living allowance if necessary to guarantee a diversity of participants.

Giving Program Money Through a Challenge Grant System -- The Corporation would provide program assistance on a matching basis -- programs that put up money would get money -- up to a certain amount, perhaps \$5,000. This would be far simpler and less bureaucratic than the current system in which program officers negotiate in painstaking detail each item in a program's budget. It would effectively establish a cap on federal spending per participant that is significantly below the current maximum, and it would encourage programs to seek private sector, as well as state and local government funding. There are ways of phasing this in gradually--perhaps doing a 3 for 1 match or including in-kind contributions as part of the calculations--so as not to adversely affect bootstrap programs in rural and urban low income areas.

In addition to limiting federal costs per person, this approach would have the added advantage of ensuring more local buy-in for individual programs and AmeriCorps generally.

Providing More "National Service Scholarships" -- The Corporation could increase the number of members who receive only the education voucher. This should have a special appeal to religious organizations and other large non-profit groups. The competition for these awards should have a key criterion a plan to expand the numbers of those serving in their programs. The Act already authorizes such education-only awards and it has been tried on a small pilot scale. We have both been interested in trying it on a larger scale. It happens also that this is an idea of Senator Grassley's, who suggested it in his letter to the President last August, and would undoubtedly help with other Republicans as well. Even more important, this approach would allow for a larger number of Americans to earn their way through college by performing service.

Eventually Making the Corporation a Non-Governmental Entity -- In Harris Wofford's confirmation testimony before the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, he stated that we should consider making the Corporation more of a "trust of the American people, chartered by Congress, like the American Red Cross, but not controlled by the government." In recent months, in meetings with leaders of major corporations, foundations, educational institutions and non-profit agencies, we have been posing the question: To what extent can the private and independent institutions -- including colleges and universities, and also units of state and local government such as schools and police forces -- contribute more of the resources and assume even more of the responsibility? There are many practical and legal questions that would need to be addressed, but the concept is powerful. It could establish national service as a permanent fixture of American society, effectively wiping out partisan opposition.

MEMORANDUM FOR HARRIS WOFFORD

FROM: Shirley Sagawa
RE: Analysis of reform proposal
DATE: February 16, 1996

A group of us spent some time analyzing the reform proposal. The following represents our conclusions about the effect of the proposal and steps we should take to prepare to implement it.

Our assumptions about the proposal are as follows:

- o The Corporation would provide \$100 per week living allowance (or "field fellowship") plus \$100 per month in health insurance (and would foot all child care costs for eligible members as under current law).
- o The Corporation would provide up to \$5,000 per member in program costs, provided on a one to one matching basis. (We understand that the exact formula might vary, and discuss options later in the memo.)
- o The education award stays the same as under current law.
- o We would set a target for the number of education awards only Member we would hope to enroll.

We assume that some of the goals of the proposal are:

- o To decrease the average federal cost per FTE for AmeriCorps Members significantly below the GAO-reported average of \$17,629 (Corporation costs).
- o To increase the proportion of federal funds going to Member support verses program support.
- o Potentially, to decrease the average Member living allowance so that it is clear that AmeriCorps Members are making a sacrifice.
- o To gain the support of a significant number of Republicans for the funding and reauthorization of the program.

On the next page is a chart showing our current program and the reform program, as we understand it. The chart is a little confusing because the current program numbers are **not** the average costs, but rather, the "normal" costs assuming (1) a grantee provides the minimum

matching funds for Member support, and (2) the actual "average" program support grant. Therefore, the numbers seem high relative to what we know to be the overall average per FTE amounts. For state programs, the average per FTE amount is about \$17,125 including all Corporation costs. About 60% of that amount goes to members (this percentage increases to about 66% if you exclude Commission and Corporation "overhead").

What the chart does show is that for the average program, the reform plan would not pose a serious hardship, **depending on what type of funding counts toward the match.** The implications of various match restrictions are discussed later in the memo.

Current program -- full time members

<u>MEMBER COSTS</u>	<u>Corporation</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
Ed award	4,725	0	4,725
Living allowance	6,753	1,192(+)	7,945(+)
FICA*	516	92(+)	608(+)
Health care	1,020	180	1,200
Child care**	250	0	250
SUBTOTAL	13,264	1,464	14,728
Program grant (state average)	5,511	5,236	10,747
State Commission	400	100	500
Corporation***	1,600	0	1,600
SUBTOTAL	7,511	5,336	12,847
TOTAL	20,775	6,800	27,575

Reform proposal -- 52-week full-time members (shorter programs would have lower costs)

<u>MEMBER COSTS</u>	<u>Corporation</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
Ed award	4,725	0	4,725
Living allowance	5,200	up to 5,200	up to 10,400
FICA*	398	up to 398	up to 796
Health care	1,200	0	1,200
Child care**	250	0	250
SUBTOTAL	11,773	up to 5,598	up to 17,371
Program grant	up to 5,000	up to 5,000	up to 10,000
State Commission	400	100	400
Corporation***	1,600	0	1,600
SUBTOTAL	up to 7,000	up to 5,100	up to 12,000
TOTAL	up to 18,773	up to 10,698	up to 29,371

*FICA is calculated based on 7.65% of living allowance. Not all programs have had to pay FICA, although currently most do. It is a legal determination. To get an across the board exemption for AmeriCorps Members would require the support of the Finance/Ways and Means Committees.

**Child care is calculated based on current total expenditures for child care benefits divided among all AmeriCorps Members. In reality, some Members receive a benefit of up to several thousand dollars, but most do not qualify for this assistance.

***Corporation costs are a very rough calculation that includes federal administration, t/ta, recruitment, evaluation, etc..

Policy issues related to this proposal:

Living allowance

Capping the living allowance at \$10,000 would affect approximately 23 existing programs. These programs tend to recruit higher skilled, more highly educated Members.

Lowering the minimum living allowance to \$100 per week would possibly cause concern to the youth corps community and labor unions, who have lobbied in the past for a minimum wage-level living allowance.

Requiring amounts of the living allowance that exceed \$100 per week to be raised by the programs would increase the "match" burden for most current programs by about \$1,500.

We have assumed that the Corporation would continue to pay most or all of a health care policy and child care benefits. If these are eliminated, the effect of lowering the living allowance would be more severe, and would effectively eliminate most single parents from AmeriCorps.

Assuming that many programs end up dropping the living allowance to the minimum amount by not augmenting it, there may be an effect on the demographics of the program; based on current data, it is the middle class Members who say they are most likely to forego AmeriCorps if the living allowance were lowered or eliminated.

Program support

Current program support grants range from almost nothing to more than \$10,000 per member, with the average being about \$5,500. The reform proposal would have the effect of requiring a larger match from most programs (currently about one-third programs are providing a 50% or better match).

We are assuming that programs would be free to raise and spend more than the required match, and that the proposal does not cap total available resources. If this is true, the effect would mainly be that most programs would have to raise more funds than they are now raising or lower costs significantly. (In a few cases, programs that want to maintain their current levels of support from the Corporation would have the incentive to increase overall program costs -- for example, Volunteer Maryland currently receives \$5,224 per Member from the Corporation and contributes only \$3,723. Such a program might want to increase its contribution so it could receive the maximum.)

Significant issues are raised around the administration of a challenge grant. If the challenge works like a typical government match, in which the grantee says "I will go out and raise \$5,000 if you give me \$5,000," with compliance being monitored after the fact, no such problems arise. If, on the other hand, grantees must have the cash in hand in order to draw down the corresponding amount of the grant, there would have to be a significant auditing capacity put into place that does not now exist. When such challenge grants have been proposed in the past, the Corporation

has not been able to administer them in this fashion. If, as City Year has proposed, we rely on an independent audit to verify that funds are indeed in the bank, there would be a timing problem -- in many cases, it takes up to 18 months for an audit to be completed. We are investigating other challenge grant systems (like the FEC) and hoping to find a simple way to administer the dollar for dollar match.

A policy issue to be decided is what would count toward the "challenge." Federal agency funds would presumably not count. Would the funds have to be in cash or could it be in kind? Programs have an easier time with in kind, but could more easily "pad" an in-kind match. Perhaps that matters less when the amount of the Corporation grant is effectively capped at \$5,000. If more than 10 - 15% of the match must come from nongovernmental sources, staff predict a majority of programs would drop out.

The effect on the actual design of programs is hard to predict. Consider a few circumstances:

Rural programs tend to have high transportation costs, tend to use federal funds as their base of support, and have more difficulty raising nongovernmental funds. Would we provide a "rural supplement"?

Programs that exist primarily as national service programs tend to have higher overhead costs attributed to AmeriCorps than those that are organized by entities that exist to carry out other missions.

Geographically dispersed programs tend to have high travel costs. Many programs would have to be redesigned to eliminate large group trainings and other events demanding that Members gather together. Would this have an effect on quality (usually the trainings are conducted by the substantive experts) and the sense of unity Members have? Could this be offset by more local gatherings across programs, new training designs that do not require travel, and use of technology (such as internet)?

Youth corps and other programs involving at-risk youth tend to rely heavily on federal funds. Eliminating use of federal funds as a match (coupled with our cutting off of grants to federal agencies) will cause a good portion of these programs to drop out.

Education award only issues

A key part of this proposal is that "education awards only" programs would become a significant part of the AmeriCorps portfolio. Currently, the Corporation has 3 education awards only programs in AmeriCorps*State and National and another 13 in which the Corporation provides only minimal program support and no Member support. (In another 16 programs, the Corporation provides significant program support, but no Member support.) In addition, there are currently 40 A*VISTA cost share agreements (covering 600 A*VISTAs). Staff estimate that most of the current "ed awards only" and "cost shares" are supported by federal funding. Concerns about ed award only programs in the past have centered on quality and fit with AmeriCorps. For that reason, other than in the federal partnerships arena, we have not worked aggressively to promote this option outside of the existing grantee universe. A*VISTA on the other hand, has made it a priority to pursue these kinds of relationships. Interestingly, as we learned in the meeting yesterday, most A*VISTA cost-shares were created after an organization had had experience with fully funded A*VISTAs. This will be critical to our marketing plans for cost-shares.

Does the field have the capacity to significantly increase the number of ed awards only and cost share agreements? That depends on the assumptions about who will pay the related costs. Here are options:

Federal programs: We have pursued these aggressively through the Office of Federal Partnerships, which at one time had as many as 6 staff. We are down to 1 staff person in this office and have determined that this is no longer a priority. However, this is the most likely source of funding for additional cost-share arrangements.

State funding: State funding could be a fertile source of cost-share funds, especially if national service can be positioned as a strategy to solving critical social problems targeted by states for reform. State Commissions and state offices could pursue these arrangements more effectively than Washington-based staff.

Higher education: Higher education institutions may be an excellent source of cost-share funds, provided that we are comfortable with part-time Members. A review of our part-time portfolio indicates that most of our part-time programs are higher education-sponsored programs or those that use college students as Members. Issues to consider are the fact that part-time programs have tended to be lower quality than full-time programs; implications of providing education awards to unstipended part-time Members; whether we would be effectively "displacing" current volunteers with AmeriCorps Members (by providing an education award to those who would otherwise be regular volunteers); and whether we are concerned with creating more situations in which individuals receiving ed awards are serving alongside those who are not.

Local government funds: We have not fully explored whether school districts, police, and municipalities might be a source of cost-share funds. Currently, municipal funds are the funding source for a few education awards only programs. Note potential union issues (AFSCME has been our closest ally among the unions up to now).

Existing service programs: Providing education awards to existing service programs could be

perceived as "displacing" current full-time servers (if we end up simply providing ed awards to an existing corps or program for their existing slots). If we expect these programs to add additional members, staff feel it is unlikely that many will want to participate due to the high cost involved.

Non-profits: Given the costs of operating a program of a significant size (a program of 20 full-time Members would cost more than \$100,000), staff believe it is unlikely that many non-profits would be interested in paying for an education award only program similar to the programs funded by AmeriCorps. Much more attractive would be a A*VISTA-style cost-share arrangement for one or two Members. Either would have to be marketed strategically and aggressively to achieve the large numbers contemplated.

Next steps

The issues identified in this analysis suggest several action steps that should be taken immediately, if we are to pursue the reform plan.

- o We should firm up the specifics of the proposal and provide a memo to OMB for review.
- o We should do a legal review to determine if legislative amendments would be needed to implement any of the pieces of the plan.
- o We should develop a plan for consulting with our constituency groups and the staff about the proposal.
- o We should consider differential matching rates or dedicated "pots" of funding for certain types of programs and funding. For example, we might provide two dollars for every private dollar (2:1), no dollars for each federal dollar (0:1), one dollar for each dollar of other types of funding (1:1); we might also have a higher (2:1 or 3:1) matching rate for start-up programs, rural programs; programs that have other kinds of hardships, etc. Providing these kinds of incentives could mitigate against unintended negative effects on the portfolio of programs.
- o We should develop a phase in for the plan.
- o We should come to terms with what kind of assignment appropriately constitutes an AmeriCorps assignment.
- o We should develop a plan to market and manage more education award-only programs and A*VISTA cost-share partnerships.
- o We should explore additional ways to support local programs' fundraising capacity, including technical assistance, partnership agreements, the Partnership for National Service, and new initiatives.

DRAFT

D R A F T (2:00 p.m.)

February 28, 1996

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
135 Hart Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510-1501

Dear Senator Grassley,

Thank you for your letter of February 9, 1996, and for the special concern for AmeriCorps you have shown during the last year. I have appreciated our talks and the constructive spirit with which you have worked with me, as you say, not to terminate but to improve AmeriCorps. Working together with you and your colleagues in Congress, I'm convinced we can make it a program in which all Americans -- Republicans as well as Democrats -- take pride. I look forward to your being a partner in that effort, just as you are with the senior programs of the National Senior Service Corps which the Corporation also administers.

I also appreciate the emphasis you put on fulfilling President Clinton's original vision of helping young people to pay for college by serving their communities. I would add my own emphasis that this principle of reciprocity, like the G.I. bill's investment in veterans' education after their national military service, is a longstanding ground for bipartisan agreement. As one who paid for college through the G.I. bill after World War II service in the Air Force, I was a beneficiary of that bipartisanship.

Though the Peace Corps was President Kennedy's favorite program and is his special legacy, it earned -- and has maintained -- strong bipartisan support. The same is true of the Points of Light initiative of President Bush, which is retained as part of our national service legislation. As you well know, the National Service Trust Act of 1993, through which AmeriCorps was created, built on the first National Service Act signed by President Bush in 1990. Under that Act's Commission on National and Community Service, the same kind of grants to support full-time and part-time national service were made, albeit on a smaller scale. And the National Civilian Community Corps (now a branch of AmeriCorps) was created in 1992 with support from both sides of the aisle and was also signed by President Bush. That bipartisanship in Congress and nonpartisanship in the country is the key to the success of national service and community volunteering, and it is my goal to reclaim that tradition, even in this inevitably partisan political year. I welcome your help in doing this.

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Turning to the particular points and proposals of your letter to me of February 9, 1996, and your letter to President Clinton of August 29, 1995, I want to assure you again that I am committed to achieve the cost and performance goals set by the President and Congress. Specifically, I am committed to reducing costs per full-time AmeriCorps member. This will enable more corpsmembers to serve and to get help to pay for college or job training. We will also take steps to increase substantially the contributions to the programs by the private sector and by all nonfederal sources. This will enable us to decrease the proportion of federal dollars going into program support and administrative overhead.

And, as you know, I am especially interested in your proposal that AmeriCorps increase the number of programs where the Corporation provides only educational awards. I believe that approach can be undertaken in a way that will benefit many nonprofit service organizations, enabling them to increase the numbers serving in their programs and enabling more of those serving in their programs to go to college, pay off their student loans, or receive approved job training through the educational awards.

Let me report some of the steps we have been taking in recent months, which I think you will find move AmeriCorps in the direction you favor. While I very much appreciate the contributions made by your criticisms and proposals, I also want to underscore that these are directions that I supported when I took this job. These directions, as you have noted, are also consistent with President Clinton's original vision; and I am happy to report they are directions that the Corporation, by its own trial and error process, has been quietly and diligently pursuing.

1. Reduce Member Costs

The Corporation has held itself out as a new kind of entity -- sensitive to the bottom line, actively involved with our partners in the private and independent sectors, aggressively promoting competition to achieve quality and economy. We are committed to producing the best possible program at the lowest possible cost.

As you know, most start-up enterprises have high costs as investments are made in infrastructure and system-building. Those costs come down as the investments pay off. The Corporation for National Service has already reduced costs from our first year to now. Our second year awards in the AmeriCorps state grant program represented an average real reduction of about 7 percent per member when compared to first year costs, when accounting for inflation. In the renewal process this third year, we are asking grantees whose grant costs exceed the average to reduce their per full-time equivalent cost by 10 percent. We are also eliminating funding for planning grants and for relocation costs for AmeriCorps members. Our goal is to focus Corporation resources directly on corpsmember support, not on program overhead and administrative costs. In addition, we have cut \$7 million out of the Corporation's 1996 administrative budget -- \$2 million in personnel and the rest in travel and other expenses.

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Regarding the National Civilian Community Corps (AmeriCorps*NCCC), our residential CCC program, we have taken significant steps to reduce our first year per member start up cost. We closed the Aberdeen, Maryland, Campus for a savings of \$1 million. We reduced members' living allowance from \$8,000 to \$6,000 this year, and plan to reduce it further to \$4,000 in FY 1997. By consolidating functions and making other structural changes, we cut headquarters staff by 25 percent, and plan additional cuts in campus staff of 30 percent next year.

2. Eliminate Grants to Federal Agencies

In response to concerns raised by Senator Bond and others, we have notified our federal agency grantees that we will no longer provide grants to federal agencies. Local nonprofits who had been affiliated with the federal agency programs will be free to apply for funding on their own to support AmeriCorps members utilized by those nonprofits.

3. Continue to Enforce Prohibitions Against Lobbying

We have also addressed concerns raised by Senator Bond and Representative Hoekstra by again requesting that state commissions and national direct grantees firmly remind AmeriCorps sponsors of all prohibited service activities, including lobbying and partisan political activities. In their renewal requests, programs must now delineate specific actions they will take to ensure that members do not engage in improper political activities. Such actions could include programs signing a certification, highlighting prohibitions in a member training manual, and adding a clause to the member contract. The Corporation will continue to investigate, on a priority basis, every allegation brought to our attention. It is important to note, however, that fewer than two percent of AmeriCorps programs have been accused of such activities. The Corporation has investigated every case brought to its attention and, in the case of ACORN Housing, acted quickly to terminate the grantee for improper activities.

4. Decrease Reliance on Corporation Funding

As a group AmeriCorps programs exceeded goals for private sector fundraising, raising more than \$41 million last year. To further encourage such private sector partnerships, in the 1996-97 renewal documents the Corporation makes it clear that all AmeriCorps programs should secure some funding from nongovernmental sources. We are also increasing the matching requirement for program support for which grantees are responsible from 25 to 33 percent.

5. Increase "Education Award Only" Programs

As you have urged, we are developing a plan to expand substantially the number of sponsors who receive no direct funding from the Corporation, but whose members receive education awards from the National Service Trust. This arrangement may have special appeal

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for religious organizations, higher education institutions, and other organizations with alternative sources of funding. The Act authorizes such awards, and we have piloted a program providing such awards on a competitive basis to the nation's governors. Expanding this program will increase the Corporation's cooperation with the larger world of nonprofit service organizations.

6. Increased Collaboration with National Nonprofit Organizations

We are strengthening and increasing our collaboration with national nonprofit service organizations. Working with such groups as Habitat for Humanity, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the American Red Cross, and with a growing number of religious service organizations such as the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur and the National Council of Churches, members of AmeriCorps and of other programs of the Corporation such as Learn and Serve America and the Senior Corps are contributing directly to the strengthening and expansion of the independent civic and service sector of our society. Our special partnership with the American Red Cross, for instance, is enabling hundreds of Red Cross trained AmeriCorps members to respond on call by the Red Cross to serve as team leaders in natural disasters such as the recent floods along the Susquehanna River.

When I recently visited AmeriCorps teams working to help the 10,000 families hit by the flood in Pennsylvania, Red Cross officers emphasized the vital role they were playing in helping to utilize effectively more than 2,000 local volunteers. Millard Fuller, founder of Habitat for Humanity, turned from skeptic to enthusiast for the work of AmeriCorps members by seeing how their dedicated service in Habitat projects multiplied the number of unpaid volunteers effectively used, and the number of houses built. We intend greater emphasis on such partnerships.

7. Increase State Autonomy

From the beginning, the Corporation has been a partnership between the Federal Government and the states. Consistent with this outlook, we have informed the governor-appointed national service commissions in each state that if they have instituted appropriate peer review processes, the Corporation will no longer review their formula grant selections. As the states enhance their capacity, further devolution will occur.

8. Improve the Grant Review Process

As you know, Senator Bond has expressed interest in the Corporation's grant review process. Our Inspector General has recently completed an examination of that process. While concluding that the Corporation acted within its discretion in those few instances when it awarded grants to lower ranked applicants at the expense of higher ranked applications, the Inspector General also finds some areas where we could strengthen grant competitions. We are

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currently reviewing the Inspector General's draft recommendations regarding the improvement of the peer review process and plan to implement quickly those that are workable. We will keep you informed of the steps we take. We have identified other ways to improve this critical process as well; and will pilot test them during our next review of new grant proposals.

9. Expand Efforts in Evaluation

The Corporation has taken seriously its commitment to make evaluation a central component of the management of AmeriCorps. The evaluation system we have in place provides valuable information about the impact of the program and encourages individual sponsors to track their efforts. As AmeriCorps matures, however, our evaluation needs will change, and as it becomes larger and more decentralized, we will be increasingly constrained in our capacity to monitor and evaluate. Among our goals are to develop evaluation systems that make increasing use of our network of service programs and their expertise, and to encourage and work in close coordination with private and independent sector efforts to evaluate service programs.

10. Increase and Strengthen Unpaid Volunteers

George Romney called full-time national service and traditional unpaid community volunteering "the twin engines" for civic action that pulling together could solve some of our critical educational, environmental, and social problems. A few days before he died George proposed that the Act itself, when reauthorized, should be named the "National Service and Community Volunteering Act of 1996". I agreed with him to propose that change and other changes emphasizing the role of AmeriCorps members as recruiters, organizers, and leaders of part-time, unpaid volunteers. I assured him I would do everything in my power within the present law to see that in AmeriCorps projects, high priority is given to such assignments.

Many of the best programs in which AmeriCorps members work already do just that, multiplying the number of community volunteers and the things that get done by the two forces working together. In addition to the examples already noted of volunteer generation in our work with such large nonprofits as Habitat for Humanity and the Red Cross, we are increasing the number of projects in which AmeriCorps members organize and lead secondary school or college volunteers in unpaid community service. We have now made this volunteer-generation factor a priority in the 1997 competition for project renewals.

I should note that the AmeriCorps record in volunteer generation in its first year was quite remarkable. In the fourth quarter, over three additional community volunteers were recruited for every AmeriCorps member serving. From July 1, 1995, through September 30, 1995, it is estimated AmeriCorps members recruited at least 73,000 volunteers who contributed over 700,000 hours of service to their communities, or an average of about ten hours for every

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volunteer recruited. By further emphasizing this role we will increase the value added by each AmeriCorps member and by each federal dollar invested in national service.

* * *

The President and the Congress intended that the Corporation for National Service evolve to face changing situations with creativity, agility, and lack of bureaucracy. From the beginning, we have been engaged in a process of continuous improvement to lower our costs, to improve the ability of our partners to increase the share of costs they bear through fundraising, to devolve responsibility to the states, to root ourselves squarely in the continuum of service that runs from traditional volunteering to full-time service with living allowances and education awards, and from school-based service to Senior Corps programs, to be nonpartisan and firm in our policies against political advocacy, and to make our internal systems more effective.

The items I have outlined above are some of the steps we are taking to achieve these goals. These are steps we can take under the existing statute. These changes significantly address concerns raised by our critics. Further reform can occur during the reauthorization process this spring and summer. That process, which I hope will begin soon, will be the appropriate venue to determine other significant changes.

You have proposed increasing the private sector or nonfederal match, and have suggested a specific cap on costs per AmeriCorps member. As you know, this is a complex matter and we want to consider carefully any unintended consequences that would adversely affect rural areas and economically disadvantaged urban communities whose access to the private sector may be limited, or affect the autonomy of local nonprofit organizations and youth service corps supported in part by state or local governments. Nevertheless, I believe an increase in the match can be phased in, and per member Corporation costs can be further reduced and limited, whether through a cap or other measures.

In my Senate confirmation hearing, I said that I would put to leaders of major corporations, foundations, and educational and nonprofit organizations the question: To what extent can the private and independent institutions, including colleges and universities, and also units of state and local government such as schools and police forces contribute more of the resources and assume even more of the responsibility? I am pursuing that possibility actively and will keep you up-to-date.

DRAFT

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I am ready to sit down with you and other Members of Congress to consider all the above -- and other -- ways to improve and strengthen the program. I look forward to such discussions with you about legislative or administrative changes that can be accomplished to move us further along the lines you and I and the President favor.

So I hope very much you will work with Senator Bond and Senator Specter in the 1996 and 1997 appropriations process for AmeriCorps and other Corporation programs, and with Senator Kassebaum and the Committee on Labor and Human Resources to reauthorize the Corporation. Together I believe we can create a national service program in which we can all be proud partners.

Sincerely,

Harris Wofford
Chief Executive Officer