

*Accomplishments*

**FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY**

**THE CLINTON-GORE DOMESTIC RECORD:  
WHAT A DIFFERENCE SEVEN YEARS MAKES**

**August 11, 2000**

**Achieving the Longest Consecutive Decline in Crime on Record**

- **1981-1992.** Under the Reagan and Bush Administrations, the nation's overall crime rate remained at historically high levels, with the crime rate increasing steadily starting in the mid-1980's.
- **Today.** The overall crime rate has dropped for 8 years in a row – the longest continuous drop on record – and is now at a 25 year-low. And, as a result of the Clinton-Gore Administration's historic 1994 Crime Bill, over 100,000 additional community police officers have been funded for our nation's communities.

**Turning Back the Tide on Three Decades of Escalating Violent Crime**

- **1992.** The violent crime rate in America had more than quadrupled during the previous three decades, with the violent crime rate in 1992 at nearly an all-time high in over 30 years.
- **Today.** The violent crime rate has dropped every year since President Clinton took office – a remarkable 25 percent decline since 1992.

**The Lowest Murder Rate in Over 30 Years**

- **1981-1992.** The nation's homicide rate was nearly the same in 1981 when President Reagan took office as it was in 1992 when President Bush left office – and at a historically high level.
- **Today.** The murder rate has dropped by more than one-third since President Clinton took office in 1993. The murder rate is now at its lowest point in 31 years.

**Gun Violence Cut By Over One-Third**

- **1992.** When President Bush left office, the total number of gun crimes in America had reached its highest point in 20 years.
- **Today.** Since 1992, the total number of gun crimes has declined by 35 percent. In 1993 President Clinton signed the Brady Law, which has helped deny more than half a million felons, fugitives and stalkers from buying guns as a result of Brady background checks.

**Welfare Rolls Cut More Than Half: Lowest Since 1968 and the Longest Decline in History**

- **1981-1992.** The number of welfare recipients increased by almost 2.5 million (a 22 percent increase) to 13.6 million people.
- **Today.** Between January 1993 and September 1999, the number of welfare recipients dropped by 7.5 million (a 53 percent decline) to 6.6 million – the lowest level since 1968.

**From Welfare To Work**

- **1992.** Seven percent of welfare recipients were working.
- **Today.** By 1998, 27 percent of welfare recipients were working, nearly quadruple the

level in 1992, and every state met the work requirements implemented in the welfare reform law the President signed in 1996.

- **1992.** Twenty percent of people on welfare in 1991 were working in 1992.
- **Today.** The percent of people on welfare in 1998 who were working in 1999 increased to 36 percent – an 82 percent increase from 1992.

[Background: Census Bureau data reflects the percent of people receiving welfare at any point in Year 1 who were working in March of Year 2, whether receiving welfare or not.]

#### **Child Support Collections More Than Doubled**

- **1992.** Child support collections totaled \$8 billion, and only 500,000 fathers that year legally established paternity.
- **Today.** Child support collections doubled to nearly \$16 billion by 1999, and the number of fathers taking responsibility for their children by establishing paternity has tripled to a record 1.5 million.

#### **Lowest Teen Birth Rate On Record**

- **1992.** The teen birth rate for 15-19 year-olds was 60.7 per 1,000 teens.
- **Today.** The teen birth rate has declined nearly 20 percent since 1992 to the lowest level since record keeping began 60 years ago.

#### **Improved Access to Affordable Quality Child Care and After-School Programming**

- **1992.** Child care for working families was severely underfunded and there was no federal funding to help support after-school opportunities.
- **Today.** Federal funding for child care has more than doubled, helping parents pay for the care of about 1.5 million children in 1998, and the 1996 welfare reform law increased child care funding by \$4 billion over six years to provide child care assistance to families moving from welfare to work. The Administration has also helped provide after-school opportunities to approximately 850,000 children so that more parents can go to work knowing that their children are in safe learning environment during the after-school hours.

#### **Educational Achievement: Scores Are Up, Gaps Are Narrowing**

- **1992.** The average reading score on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) for nine-year-olds was 180; and the gap between nine-year-olds in high-poverty and all nine-year-olds was 29 points. 388,000 students were taking Advanced Placement exams and about 38 percent of high school seniors were taking a core curriculum of four years of English and 3 years each of Math, Science and Social Studies
- **Today.** Since 1992, reading and math scores on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) have increased for fourth, eighth, and twelfth graders, including those students in the highest poverty schools. Reading and math scores for nine year-olds in our highest poverty schools have improved by nearly one grade level since 1992. In 1996, average NAEP reading scores for nine year-olds increased eight points, and the gap between nine year-olds in high-poverty schools and all nine year-olds decreased to 22 points. The number of students taking AP exams has increased by two-thirds, to more than

581,000 in 1997, and the fraction of graduating seniors taking a core curriculum has grown to 55 percent.

#### **Educational Accountability: Nearly All States Have Implemented Standards**

- **1992.** At the start of the Administration, only 19 States had academic standards, or clear definitions of what students should know and be able to achieve.
- **Today.** As a result of the President's initiatives Goals 2000 and Improving America's Schools Act (IASA), 49 states have adopted rigorous standards for core curriculum subjects as well as standards-based assessments, and these initiatives have provided assistance to states to develop challenging standards for all students.

#### **Public School Choice: Substantially More Charter Schools**

- **1993.** There was only one charter school in the entire nation, and only one state with a charter school law.
- **Today.** There are over 1,700 charter schools, serving 250,000 children. Charter school laws are now in place in 36 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia.

#### **Educational Technology: Almost All Schools Are Connected To The Internet**

- **1993.** In 1993, only 3 percent of classrooms had access to the Internet, and in 1994 only 35 percent of school were connected to the Internet.
- **Today.** Through the aggressive E-rate program, more than 65 percent of classrooms have Internet access, and by the end of this year, 100 percent of schools will likely be connected to the Internet. Ninety percent of high-poverty schools are connected to the Internet, compared to 19 percent in 1994.

#### **Higher Education Access is Up: Largest Investment**

- **1992.** In 1992, 62 percent of high school graduates enrolled in college. Only 14 percent of black 25-29 year-olds had a bachelor's degree or higher, as did only 28 percent of women.
- **Today.** Since 1993, high school graduate enrollment has increased to 67 percent – an all time high. The fraction of blacks and women with a bachelor's degree or higher have each increased by more than 4 percent, and student aid has doubled to nearly \$60 billion – the largest investment in higher education since the G.I. Bill. The Administration has significantly expanded college opportunity by providing over \$7 billion per year in tax credits to 13 million students and families for postsecondary education and training, increasing the maximum Pell grant award from \$2,300 to \$3,300 (which updated the average increase in tuition and fees during the same period), decreasing student loan costs by billions of dollars through interest rate formula and origination fee reductions, and helping nearly 30 percent more students pay for college through work-study opportunities.

#### **Improving Public Health**

- **1993.** Immunization rates were too low, infant mortality rates were too high, and funding for biomedical research and mental health services were inadequate.
- **Today.** Immunization rates are at an all-time high – 90 percent for toddlers – and infant mortality

has declined by 14 percent since 1993. NIH funding has increased by \$7.3 billion (an increase of 58 percent since 1993) and funding for mental health prevention and treatment has increased by 65 percent.

### **Improving And Expanding Health Insurance Coverage**

- **1993.** Millions of children could not access affordable and meaningful health insurance, people with disabilities who wanted to work could not for fear of losing their health insurance, and young people leaving foster care could not retain the critical health insurance they needed to make a healthy start as adults. Unlike many other American workers, self-employed Americans received absolutely no tax assistance in purchasing health care insurance.
- **Today.** Up to five million children are expected to have health insurance as a result of the enactment of the historic Children's Health Insurance Program in 1997 – the largest expansion of health insurance for children since the creation of the Medicaid program. The President has also enacted historic expansion coverage expansions for people with disabilities who wish to return to work and for foster care children aging out of Medicaid eligibility, including legislation to assure that self-employed Americans receive the same tax benefits as workers who have job-based health coverage.

### **Reforming The Health Insurance Market**

- **1993.** There were no federal protections ensuring that Americans who left their jobs wouldn't lose access to health insurance. Individuals with mental health needs were often faced with discriminatory insurance benefits; new mothers and women recovering from mastectomies were discharged from the hospital before it was medically prudent; and the scientific progress made in identifying the genetic causes of disease was in danger of being used to discriminate against Americans purchasing health insurance or applying for jobs.
- **Today.** The President's enactment of the bipartisan Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ensures that Americans now have insurance portability protections when they switch or lose jobs. The President has also enacted legislation that assures that: annual and lifetime coverage limits can be no different for mental health coverage than other benefits; new mothers can stay in the hospital; drive-through mastectomies are eliminated; and genetic discrimination against many Americans purchasing health insurance is prohibited. In addition, through executive action, the Clinton Administration applied patient protections to 85 million Americans in Federal health plans, and prohibited genetic discrimination in Federal hiring and employment actions.

### **Modernizing and Strengthening Medicare**

- **1993.** At the beginning of the Clinton Administration, the Medicare Trust Fund was projected to become insolvent in 1999, and the program's benefit package excluded important preventive services, including annual mammograms, colon, cervical, and prostate cancer screenings, diabetes management services, and coverage for the routine care costs associated with clinical trials. And the Medicare program's management was vulnerable to fraud and abuse.
- **Today.** The life of the Medicare Trust Fund has been extended by 26 years and offers premiums that are nearly 20 percent lower today than projected in 1993. And, the President's concerted effort to fight fraud, waste, and abuse in the Medicare program has resulted in savings of more than 50 billion to the American taxpayers. The program also now covers annual

mammograms, colon, cervical, and prostate cancer screenings, diabetes self-management services, and the routine care costs associated with clinical trials.

### **Helping Families Balance Their Responsibilities at Home and At Work**

- **1992.** Workers could not take leave for family or medical reasons without fear of losing their job, and the previous Administration had vetoed twice a proposal to allow employees to take unpaid family or medical leave.
- **Today.** In 1993, President Clinton signed the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) the first bill he signed into law – mandating that public and private employers with at least 50 workers provide their employees with 12 weeks of unpaid leave without risking their jobs, which provides protected leave to 90.7 million American workers, about 71 percent of the American workforce.

### **Ensuring a Head Start for More of America's Children**

- **1992.** Head Start – the national program that provides comprehensive development services for America's low-income, pre-school children ages three to five – was severely underfunded and only able to serve just over 700,000 children.
- **Today.** President Clinton increased funding for the Head Start program by 90 percent and this year the program will serve approximately 880,000 children – well on the way to meeting the President's goal of serving one million children by the year 2002.

### **Helping Children Most in Need by Reforming Foster Care and Adoption**

- **1992.** Children in the foster care system often languished for months without being reunited with their parents or placed in a permanent loving home with adopted parents.
- **Today.** Between 1996 and 1998, adoptions rose 29 percent nationwide from 28,000 to 36,000, which puts us on track to meeting the President's goal of 56,000 adoptions in 2002. In 1997, the President signed the Adoption and Safe Families Act, which expedited permanent placement decisions for children, ensured health insurance coverage for all special-needs children in subsidized adoptions, and created an incentive program for states to increase adoptions, and has also fought hard to remove racial and ethnic barriers to adoption.

### **New Tools in the Fight Against Domestic Violence**

- **1992.** There was no coordinated Federal response to violence against women, in the home, workplace, or on campus.
- **Today.** In 1994 President Clinton signed the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the number of women experiencing violence at the hands of an intimate partner declined 21 percent from 1993 to 1998. In addition, in 1996, 1997, and 1998, intimate partners committed fewer murders than in any year since 1976.

### **Protecting Reproductive Rights and Promoting Reproductive Health**

- **1992.** Science was held hostage to politics and women's health suffered as a result. The "gag rule" prevented women from receiving information about all their medical options at family planning clinics. Women and medical professionals were subject to violence and harassment at reproductive health clinics. A woman's basic

right to choose was in jeopardy.

- **Today.** The fundamental right to choose has been protected and women have expanded access to family planning services. The gag rule was reversed and women are able to receive medical advice and referrals on all their medical options. Science is no longer held hostage to politics: the ban on importation of RU-486 was reversed, and the ban on federal funding for fetal tissue research was lifted, opening the way for potentially lifesaving biomedical research. Thanks to the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act (FACE), championed by the President, women and medical professionals have federal protection from violence and harassment at reproductive health clinics. Over one million federal employees have contraceptive coverage.

*Accomplishments*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
July 21, 1999

MEMORANDUM TO INTERESTED PARTIES

FROM: LORETTA UCELLI

SUBJECT: CLINTON-GORE ADMINISTRATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

---

Attached please find updated versions of our general accomplishments. I hope you find them helpful. These sheets, as well as a number of other state- and constituent-specific accomplishments, may be found on our web page at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Accomplishments>.

Communications Research maintains, updates and distributes these documents on a monthly basis. If you have questions regarding these accomplishments, please contact Robin Bachman, Mike Gehrke or Rajiv Mody at x66238.

Thank you.

Attachments: One Pager  
Six Pager  
Accomplishments by the Numbers

# American Families Are Better Off Today Than They Were Six and a Half Years Ago

## *Clinton-Gore Administration Accomplishments:*

### ECONOMY: The Best American Economy In A Generation

**Nearly 19 Million New Jobs...** 8 million more than were created under the Reagan Administration in the same amount of time (6 years, 6 months).

**Largest Budget Surplus in History...** from a \$290 billion deficit in 1992, to a projected \$99 billion surplus in 1999 – the largest in history. For the first time in 40 years, the budget will be in surplus for two years in a row.

**Lowest Unemployment in 29 Years...** down from 7.5% in 1992 to 4.3% today – its lowest level in 29 years.

**Fastest Real-Wage Growth in More than Two Decades...** after adjusting for inflation, wages increased almost 2.7% in 1998 – the fastest real-wage growth in more than two decades. And wages have increased three years in a row.

### CHILDREN AND EDUCATION: Greatest Investment in Children's Health & Education in 30 Years

**Protecting Families...** by allowing workers to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave to care for family members without fear of losing their jobs. Approximately 91 million workers are protected by the Family and Medical Leave Act.

**Enacted Single Largest Investment in Health Care for Children since 1965...** the \$24 billion Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) will provide health care coverage for up to five million children.

**\$500 Child Tax Credit For 27 Million Families with 45 Million Children...** included in the 1997 Balanced Budget Act.

**More than 200,000 Additional Kids in Head Start Since 1992...** reaching more children with early learning than ever before.

**Smaller Classes With Well-Prepared Teachers...** won a down payment on the President's new initiative to hire an additional 100,000 well-prepared teachers to reduce class size in the early grades, when children learn to read and master the basics.

**Providing Safe After-School Opportunities...** for nearly 400,000 school-age children each year.

**Increasing Charter Schools from One to More than 1,000...** offering parents choice within the public school system.

**Making College More Affordable...** by increasing Pell Grants from \$2,300 in 1993 to \$3,125 in 1999, the largest maximum award ever, and offering flexible repayment options and better service through the Direct Lending Program.

**The Biggest Single Increase in Higher Education since the G.I. Bill...** was enacted in the 1997 Balanced Budget Act. The law included the HOPE Scholarship and other tax deductions, putting college within reach for millions -- the largest overall higher education investment in 30 years.

### CRIME: Crime Rates Are Down To The Lowest Levels In A Generation

**Violent Crime Down 7 Years in a Row...** and the murder rate is down more than 25% since 1993, its lowest point in 30 years.

**Putting 100,000 More Police on Our Streets ...** this year, ahead of schedule and under budget, the Administration has met its commitment of funding 100,000 police officers for our communities.

**400,000 Felons, Fugitives and Stalkers Denied Guns...** since the President signed the Brady Bill into law.

**Developed Comprehensive Anti-Drug Strategy...** including a \$195 Million National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign. And appointed four-star General Barry McCaffrey as the nation's Drug Czar.

### WELFARE: Largest Drop In Welfare Rolls In History

**6.5 Million People Have Left Welfare...** an over 46% decrease from January 1993 and the largest decline in history. The President signed landmark welfare reform legislation in 1996 requiring work, imposing time limits and dramatically expanding child care spending. And in both 1997 and 1998, the President fought successfully to restore fairness for legal immigrants.

**80% Increase in Child Support Collections...** as a result of the toughest child support crackdown in history.

### ENVIRONMENT: Protecting Our Environment For Future Generations

**Cleaned up Nearly Three Times as Many Superfund Sites in Six Years as Previous Administrations Did in 12.**

**Our Food and Drinking Water Is Safer...** because the President fought for and signed the Food Quality Protection Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act.

## A NATION TRANSFORMED

### *Clinton-Gore Administration Accomplishments: 1993 - 1999*

Over the last six and a half years, President Clinton and Vice President Gore have led America in preparing for the 21st Century. The President and Vice President have put our economic house in order while providing tax relief for middle income families, expanding critical investments in the future and continuing American leadership in the world. The accomplishments of the Clinton-Gore Administration are giving Americans the tools to realize their potential, providing opportunity while demanding responsibility and building One America in which all are challenged to serve.

#### **Economy: the Strongest Economy in a Generation**

**Closing the Book on A Generation of Deficits** -- in 1992, the deficit was \$290 billion, a record dollar high. This year, the Administration expects the budget surplus to be \$99 billion, the largest budget surplus in history.

**Nearly 19 Million New Jobs** -- more than 90 percent of the new jobs have been created in the private sector, the highest percentage in 50 years.

**Fastest and Longest Real Wage Growth in Two Decades** -- Since 1993, real wages have risen 6.2 percent - compared to declining 4.3 percent during the previous two administrations. After adjusting for inflation, wages increased almost 2.7 percent in 1998 -- the fastest real wage growth in more than two decades. And wages have increased 3 years in a row -- the longest sustained growth since the early 1970s.

**Unemployment Is the Lowest in 29 Years** -- down from 7.5 percent in 1992 to 4.3 percent today -- staying below 5 percent for 24 months in a row.

**Highest Homeownership Rate in History** -- there are 7.8 million more new homeowners since the President took office.

#### **Families and Communities: Strengthening America's Working Families**

**\$500 Per-Child Tax Credit** -- 27 million families with 45 million children are receiving the \$500 per-child tax credit.

**Tax Cuts for Working Families** -- 15 million working families receive additional tax relief through the President's expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit.

**Protecting Families** -- Family and Medical Leave allows workers to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave to care for seriously ill family members, new born or adoptive children, or their own serious health problems without fear of losing their jobs. About 91 million workers are covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act and millions of workers have already benefited from FMLA since its enactment.

**Largest Four-Year Drop in Child Poverty Rate Since the '60s** -- Under President Clinton, child poverty has declined from 22.7 percent to 19.9 percent -- the biggest four-year drop in nearly 30 years.

**Increased the Minimum Wage** from \$4.25 to \$5.15 per hour -- increasing wages for 10 million workers.

**Enacted the Workforce Investment Act** -- reforming the nation's employment and training system by empowering individuals, streamlining services, enhancing accountability and increasing flexibility.

**Signed the Landmark Adoption and Safe Families Act** -- this law is helping thousands of children waiting in foster care move more quickly into safe and permanent homes.

**Putting Families First** -- put in place first-ever plan to protect our children from tobacco. Required the installation of V-chips in all new televisions. Encouraged schools to adopt school uniform policies to deter school violence and promote discipline. Produced guidelines on religious expression in public schools.

**Supporting Community Service** -- In just five years, AmeriCorps has allowed more than 100,000 young people to serve their communities while earning money for college or skills training.

**Building One America** -- established the President's Initiative on Race to lead the nation towards becoming One America in the 21st Century. In FY99 budget, won first real increase in the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in several years.

### **Education: Largest Investment in Education in 30 Years**

**Making 13th & 14th Grades as Universal As High School** -- making the first two years of college universally available for nearly six million students with the \$1,500 HOPE Scholarship credits.

**Increasing College Opportunity with Tuition Tax Credits and Education IRAs** -- 20 percent tax credit helps offset tuition costs for college or lifetime learning -- more than seven million students will benefit from the lifetime learning tax credit. The expanded IRA allows penalty and tax-free withdrawals for education.

**Expanding Work Study and Pell Grants** -- this year, nearly one million students will be able to work their way through college because of the President's expansion of the Work Study Program. And in 1999, nearly four million students will receive a Pell Grant of up to \$3,125, the largest maximum award ever.

**Making College More Affordable** -- cut student fees and interest rates on all loans, expanded repayment options including income contingent repayment, and improved service through the Direct Loan Program.

**Helping to Create Smaller Classes with Well-Prepared Teachers** -- won a down payment on the President's new initiative to hire an additional 100,000 well-prepared teachers, helping school districts reduce class size in the early grades, when children learn to read and master the basic skills. School districts have already started hiring these new teachers for fall 1999.

**Teaching Every Child to Read by the 3rd Grade** -- more than 1000 colleges have committed Work Study students to tutor children in reading, and thousands of AmeriCorps members and senior volunteers are organizing volunteer reading campaigns. Won \$260 million for a new child literacy initiative, consistent with the President's America Reads proposal.

**Increasing Title I Funding, Helping Students Most in Need** -- 11 million low-income students now benefit from higher expectations and a challenging curriculum geared to higher standards.

**Providing Safe After-School Opportunities for Nearly 400,000 Each Year** -- expanded the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program to keep public schools open longer and provide safe and educational after-school opportunities for nearly 400,000 school-age children in rural and urban communities each year.

**Raising Academic Standards with Goals 2000** -- 47 states plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico have set higher academic standards for public schools by adopting comprehensive Goals 2000 plans for education reform.

**Preparing for the 21st Century by Expanding Access to Education Technology** -- created the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund to help connect every school to the Internet by 2000, increase the number of multimedia computers in the classroom and provide technology training for teachers. Increased overall investments in educational technology by thirty-fold, from \$23 million in 1993 to \$698 million this year. Secured low-cost connections to the Internet for schools, libraries, rural health clinics and hospitals. Increased investment in education research to ensure all children benefit from educational technology.

**Supporting Local Education Reform Efforts** -- signed into law the Education Flexibility Partnership Act of 1999 (Ed-Flex) to give all states greater flexibility in the use of federal education funds in exchange for greater accountability for helping all students reach high academic standards.

**Establishing the GEAR-UP Mentoring Program for Middle School Children** -- created a new mentoring initiative to help up to 100,000 low income middle school children prepare for college.

**Expanding Choice and Accountability in Public Schools** -- supported increase of public charter schools, from one public charter school in the nation in 1993 to more than 1,000 charter schools in 1998, on track toward 3,000 quality charter schools early next century.

**Providing Early Education to 835,000 Children with Head Start** -- now reaching more kids than at any time since its creation in 1965 and more than 200,000 additional children than in 1992.

### **Crime and Drugs: Lowest Crime Rates in 25 Years**

**Violent Crime Rate at Lowest Level since 1973** -- violent crime rate fell 7 percent in 1997 and 21 percent since 1993. The murder rate is down more than 25 percent since 1993, its lowest point in 30 years.

**Putting 100,000 More Police on Our Streets** -- this year, ahead of schedule and under budget, the Administration has met its commitment of funding 100,000 police officers for our communities.

**More than 400,000 Felons, Fugitives and Stalkers Denied Guns** -- since the President signed the Brady Bill into law. And the historic 1994 Crime Bill banned 19 of the deadliest assault weapons and their copies, keeping assault weapons off our streets.

**Developed Comprehensive Anti-Drug Strategy Including a \$195 Million National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign** -- appointed four-star general as the nation's Drug Czar.

**Fighting Hate Crimes** -- enacted the Hate Crimes Sentencing Enhancement Act in 1994. Announced sponsorship of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act during the historic White House Conference on Hate Crimes.

## **Welfare Reform and Community Empowerment: Largest Drop in the Welfare Rolls in History**

**Lowest Number of People on Welfare in Thirty Years as More Recipients Go to Work** -- signed the landmark welfare reform law to require work, impose time limits and dramatically expand child care spending. Since January 1993, nationwide the welfare rolls have fallen by 46 percent, from 14.1 million to 7.6 million -- cut nearly in half since the President took office. The percentage of welfare recipients working has tripled since 1992; an estimated 1.5 million people who were on welfare in 1997 were working in 1998, and all states have met the first overall work requirement under the welfare reform law.

**80 Percent Increase in Child Support Collections** -- signed into law the toughest child support crackdown in history.

**Moving from Welfare to Work** -- the Balanced Budget included \$3 billion to move long-term welfare recipients and unemployed non-custodial fathers into jobs and provided tax credits for employers.

**Helping People Get to Work** -- the President's Access to Jobs initiative helps communities design innovative transportation solutions so that families who need to work can get to work.

**Helping Families Move from Welfare to Work with New Housing Vouchers** -- 50,000 new housing vouchers will help families get or keep a job.

**Expanded Investment in Urban and Rural Areas** -- by creating 31 Empowerment Zones and more than 100 Enterprise Communities that have created new jobs, new opportunities and stronger communities.

**Providing Incentives to Save** -- created Individual Development Accounts, providing incentives for low income families to save for a first home, higher education, or to start a new business, effectively completing his 1992 community empowerment agenda.

## **Health Care: Increasing Access for Millions of Americans**

**Protected Medicare** -- in the 1997 Balanced Budget, protected, modernized and extended the Medicare trust fund for at least a decade while offering new options for patient choice and preventive care.

**Enacted Single Largest Investment in Health Care for Children since 1965** -- the \$24 billion Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) will provide health care coverage for up to five million children.

**Passed Meaningful Health Insurance Reform** -- signed the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act which limits exclusions for pre-existing conditions, makes coverage portable and helps individuals who lose jobs maintain coverage. As many as 25 million people will benefit from this law.

**Working to Enact a Strong, Enforceable Patients' Bill of Rights for All Americans** -- leading by example, the President directed all federal agencies to ensure that their employees and beneficiaries have the benefits and rights guaranteed under the President's proposed Patients' Bill of Rights.

**Raised Immunization Rates to All Time High** -- 90 percent of toddlers in 1996, and again in 1997, received the most critical doses of each of the routinely recommended vaccines -- surpassing the President's 1993 goal.

**Ensuring Safe Food for America's Families** -- issued new standards to reduce and prevent contamination of meat, poultry, and seafood; issued a presidential directive to prevent the importation of unsafe foods; signed the Food Quality Protection Act with special safeguards for kids; issued new regulations that improve the safety of fruit and vegetable juices; and created a President's Council on Food Safety to develop a comprehensive food safety strategic plan for federal agencies.

### **Environment: Cleanest Environment in a Quarter Century**

**Accelerating Toxic Cleanups and Brownfields Redevelopment** -- cleaned up nearly three times as many Superfund sites in six years as the previous administrations did in twelve. Leveraged nearly \$1 billion in private sector investment for brownfields redevelopment.

**Keeping Our Drinking Water Safe** -- proposed and signed legislation to strengthen the Safe Drinking Water Act to ensure that our families have healthy, clean tap water. Required America's 55,000 water utilities to provide regular reports to their customers on the quality of their drinking water.

**Reducing the Threat of Global Warming** -- negotiated an international treaty to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in an environmentally strong and economically sound way. Secured \$1 billion in FY99 for research incentives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency and clean energy technologies.

**Preserving Our Lands** -- protected or enhanced nearly 150 million acres of public and private lands, from the red rock canyons of Utah to the Florida Everglades. Reached agreements to protect Yellowstone from mining and save the ancient redwoods of California's Headwaters Forest.

### **Science and Technology: Leading America into the Next Millennium**

**Historic Investments in Biomedical Research** -- the FY99 budget contained the largest-ever dollar increase in funds for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), including a 14 percent increase in NIH research funding. This expansion will enable scientists to pursue a wide range of cutting edge research from cancer to AIDS. Accelerated the pace of genetic mapping, leading to a more rapid discovery of ways to prevent and treat diseases.

**Supporting University Research, Training the Next Generation of Scientists and Engineers** -- the FY99 budget contained a 7 percent increase in the National Science Foundation research budget to support science and engineering research across all fields and disciplines.

**Ensuring U.S. Leadership in Space Science and Exploration**-- increased investments in space science that supported space exploration as well as new discoveries about the creation of the universe.

**Strengthening the Economy and National Security with Information Technology** -- provided \$1 Billion investment to help ensure that America leads the world in information technologies that predict tornadoes, design life-saving drugs, and make air travel safer and more efficient, and maintain our nuclear weapons stockpile without nuclear testing.

## Foreign Policy: World's Strongest Force for Peace, Freedom and Prosperity

### *Promoting Peace and Strengthening Democracy*

- **Achieved victory and reversed ethnic cleansing in Kosovo**, by leading the 79-day NATO air campaign in Kosovo that successfully compelled Milosevic to withdraw Serb troops, permit an international security force to enter and allow refugees to return to their homes in safety.
- **Restored momentum to the Middle East peace process**, brokering the Wye River Memorandum and visiting Israel and Gaza.
- **Led efforts that produced Good Friday peace agreement in Northern Ireland**, ending decades of bloodshed.
- **Building a self-sustaining peace in Bosnia** through implementation of the Dayton Peace accords.
- **Restored democracy in Haiti**, ending military dictatorship and stopping refugee flows.
- **Helped settle Peru-Ecuador border dispute and end civil war in Guatemala**.
- **Pressing for human rights, core labor standards, religious freedom, and the elimination of child labor worldwide**.

### *Combating New Threats*

- **Protecting Americans from Weapons of Mass Destruction** by reducing Russian nuclear arsenals, ratifying the Chemical Weapons Convention, and signing the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.
- **Combating terrorism** by developing a national counterterrorism strategy and striking terrorist targets in Afghanistan and Sudan. **Addressing threats to our infrastructure** like cyberterrorism and biological and chemical weapons.
- **Containing Saddam Hussein** through diplomacy, economic sanctions and military force.
- **Preventing North Korea from developing nuclear weapons** through deterrence, diplomacy and non-proliferation.
- **Improving military readiness** through increased defense spending.

### *Strengthening Alliances and Building Partnerships*

- **Built a stronger and larger NATO** to ensure a more stable, democratic Europe and a fully-integrated Russia.
- **Deepening security alliances with Japan and South Korea**.
- **Built more constructive relationship with China** through engagement and frank dialogue on human rights, security and trade.
- **Expanding trade relations and strengthening democracy in Asia and Latin America**.
- **Building partnerships with Africa** during historic Presidential trip.

### *Expanding Prosperity*

- **Opening markets abroad** through NAFTA, GATT and 270 other free trade agreements
- **Addressing global economic crisis** by leading international relief efforts and stimulating worldwide growth
- **Leading efforts to establish world finance and trade systems** for 21st century economy that benefits ordinary citizens in all countries.

Improving the Quality of Life for America's Working Families  
*Clinton/Gore Administration Accomplishments:*

Progress By The Numbers

Jobs & The Economy:

<i>Jobs</i>	Nearly 19 million more jobs since 1993. [Bureau of Labor Statistics, 7/2/99]
<i>Unemployment</i>	4.3 percent unemployment -- the lowest peacetime rate since 1957. The unemployment rate has stayed below 5 percent for 24 months in a row. [Bureau of Labor Statistics, 7/2/99]
<i>Income</i>	Typical family income is up \$3,517 (8.6 percent) since 1993. Median family income has increased from \$41,051 in 1993 to \$44,568 in 1997. [ <u>Money Income in the United States: 1997</u> , Bureau of the Census, 9/24/98]
<i>Wages</i>	Under President Clinton and Vice President Gore, real wages have risen 6.2 percent compared to <i>declining</i> 4.3 percent during the Reagan and Bush years. After adjusting for inflation, wages have increased almost 2.7 percent in 1998 -- the fastest real wage growth in more than two decades and the third year in a row and the longest sustained growth since the early 1970s. [Bureau of Labor Statistics, 7/2/99]
<i>Tax Cuts</i>	15 million working families receive additional tax relief through the President's expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit. In 1997, the EITC lifted 4.3 million out of poverty -- that is more than double the number who were removed from poverty in 1993. Over half of the people removed from poverty by the EITC (2.2 million) were children under the age of 18. [ <u>Good News for Low Income Families: Expansions in the EITC and Minimum Wage</u> , CEA, 12/98]
<i>\$500 per-child tax credit</i>	27 million families with 45 million children will receive the \$500 per-child tax credit. [Treasury Department]
<i>Minimum Wage</i>	10 million Americans received an increase in wages thanks to the President's leadership. [ <u>Good News for Low Income Families: Expansions in the EITC and Minimum Wage</u> , CEA, 12/98]
<i>New Businesses</i>	Over 4.1 million new businesses have been created since 1993. [New Employer Firms Business Formation, Small Business Admin. 12/98, 1997 data]
<i>National Debt</i>	There is \$25,000 less debt for each family of four because the national debt will be \$1.7 trillion lower in fiscal year 1999 than was projected in 1993. [internal calculations based on: FY 2000 Budget Mid-Session Review (Table 1); OMB (1993 internal projection); Bureau of the Census]
<i>Home Ownership</i>	There are more than seven million new homeowners since 1993 -- the home ownership rate is at the highest level ever. [Bureau of the Census, 4/21/99]

## **Expanding Educational Opportunity: Elementary and Secondary Schools**

<i>Teachers</i>	30,000 new, well-prepared teachers are being hired for fall 1999, the first down payment on the President's seven-year plan to reduce class size by hiring 100,000 teachers. [Education Department, 6/99]
<i>After School Programs</i>	Approximately 400,000 school-age children in rural and urban communities have safe and educational after-school opportunities this year because of the expanded 21st Century Community Learning Centers program. In his FY 2000 budget, the President proposed to increase funding to serve approximately 1.1 million students. [Education Department]
<i>Goals 2000</i>	47 states plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico have set higher academic standards for public schools by adopting comprehensive Goals 2000 plans for education reform. [ <u>Goals 2000: Reforming Education to Improve Student Achievement</u> , Education Department, 4/20/98]
<i>Education Technology</i>	30 million children and up to 47,000 schools and libraries are being connected to the Internet through the education rate, or E-rate, created by the 1996 Telecommunications Act. [FY 2000 Budget, p. 67]
<i>Title I</i>	11 million low-income students now benefit from higher expectations and a challenging curriculum geared to higher standards. [Statement of the Secretary of Education before the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, 2/9/99]
<i>Mentoring</i>	Approximately 175,000 middle school students will be prepared for college this year through expanded mentoring efforts as part of GEAR-UP. [Education Department]

## **Expanding Educational Opportunity: Postsecondary Education and Training**

<i>HOPE Scholarships</i>	5.9 million students are expected to benefit from the \$1,500 HOPE Scholarship tuition tax credit. [Education Department, 4/2/99]
<i>Pell Grants</i>	3.8 million low-income students will receive a Pell Grant award to help them attend college. In the FY99 budget, the President increased the maximum Pell Grant award from \$3,000 to \$3,125 -- that is the largest maximum award ever. [Department of Education FY 2000 Budget Summary, 2/99]
<i>Direct Loan Program</i>	More than 3.9 million student and parent borrowers have received direct loans since the program began. [Federal Direct Loan Program, Federal Office of Student Financial Assistance, Education Department, 1/31/99]
<i>AmeriCorps</i>	More than 100,000 volunteers have earned money for college by serving their communities and their country in the AmeriCorps program since the inception of the program. [ <u>National Service News</u> (issue no. 66), 11/2/98]

<i>Lifetime Learning Tax Credit</i>	7.2 million will benefit from the lifetime learning tax credit, which offers a 20 percent tax credit for the first \$5,000 of tuition and fees paid by a student. [FY 2000 Budget, p. 69]
<i>School-To-Work</i>	470,000 high school students, 36,000 schools (K-12), and 136,000 employers, participated in school-to-work programs in 1997. [ <u>Progress Measures Survey 1997</u> , National School-to-Work Office, Education Department]
<i>Work Study</i>	Nearly one million students will be able to work their way through college this year because of the President's expansion of the Work Study Program. [FY 2000 Budget, p. 69]
<i>Dislocated Workers</i>	An estimated 689,000 American workers will benefit this year from the dislocated worker program. In his FY2000 budget, President Clinton proposed to increase funding to serve 859,000 workers. [Department of Labor Budget Overview FY 2000, 2/99]
<b><u>Crime and Public Safety</u></b>	
<i>Declining Crime Rates</i>	There has been a 21 percent drop in violent crime victimizations rate since 1993 -- to the lowest level since 1973 (the year of the survey's inception). The murder rate is down more than 25 percent since 1993, its lowest point in 30 years. [ <u>1997 National Crime Victimization Survey</u> , Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), 12/98; Justice Department Release, 1/99]
<i>Juvenile Arrests Down</i>	The nation has seen a six percent drop in the juvenile violent crime arrest between 1993 and 1997. [FBI's <u>Uniform Crime Reports for the United States 1997</u> , Justice Department]
<i>Community Policing</i>	The President's goal of funding 100,000 more community police officers for our streets was reached in May 1999 -- meeting the pledge ahead of schedule and under budget. [COPS program, 6/12/99]
<i>Brady Bill</i>	Over 400,000 felons, fugitives and stalkers have been stopped from buying guns. ["Presale Handgun Checks, 1997" Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin, 6/15/99]
<i>"Zero-Tolerance" for Guns In Schools</i>	6,093 students were expelled from public schools for bringing a firearm to school in one year under zero tolerance policies. [Final Report on State Implementation of the Gun-Free Schools Act, School Year 1996-97, Department of Education, 5/98]
<i>Domestic Violence Hotline</i>	More than 300,000 calls -- averaging a little more than 8,000 a month -- have been received by the nationwide, 24-hour domestic violence hotline President Clinton established. [Violence Against Women Office, DOJ, 6/99]

## **Families**

### *Patients' Bill of Rights*

85 million people covered by Federal health plans received patient protections -- protections included in the President's Patients' Bill of Rights legislation that Congress has yet to pass -- by executive action taken by President Clinton. [FY 2000 Budget, p. 85]

### *Health Insurance Reform*

As many as 25 million people will benefit from the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. [FY 2000 Budget, p. 83]

### *Welfare to Work*

6.5 million fewer people are receiving welfare benefits today than in 1993, a 46 percent decrease and the largest decline in the welfare rolls in history. The welfare rolls are the smallest in 30 years. [HHS Administration for Children and Families, 4/99]

### *Family & Medical Leave*

About 91 million workers are covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act -- about 70 percent of the American labor force. Millions of Americans have taken job-protected leave. [Five Years of Success: Report on FMLA, Department of Labor, 8/98 (updated number provided 7/99)]

### *Children's Health Care*

As many as 5 million more children will receive health insurance under President Clinton's Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Already 2.5 million uninsured children have enrolled in CHIP. [FY 2000 Budget, p. 85; FY 1999 Budget, p. 69]

### *Head Start*

More than 200,000 additional children are enrolled in Head Start today than in 1992. Head Start now reaches a total of 822,316, and will serve one million children and their families by the year 2002. [Head Start 1998 Fact Sheet; Administration of Children and Families, HHS]

### *WIC*

1.7 million more woman, infants, and children are now served by WIC than in 1993 -- currently reaching 7.4 million participants. [Food and Nutrition Service, USDA, 12/98]

### *Child Care*

Child care funding has increased by 70 percent under the Clinton Administration, helping pay for the care of an additional 1 million children. An average of 1.25 million children were served by states under the child care block grant in FY 1997 -- a 25 percent increase from the estimated 1 million children served in FY 1996. The 1996 welfare law increased child care funding by \$4 billion over six years. [Administration for Children and Families Fact Sheet, HHS, 11/12/98]

### *Immunization*

90 percent or more of America's toddlers received the most critical doses of each of the routinely recommended vaccines in 1996 and again in 1997 -- surpassing the President's childhood vaccination goal. [Budget of the United States Government FY 2000, p. 91-92]

<i>Child Poverty</i>	Under President Clinton the child poverty rate has dropped from 22.7 percent in 1993 to 19.9 percent in 1997 -- the biggest four-year drop in the child poverty rate in nearly 30 years. [ <u>Poverty in the United States: 1997</u> , Bureau of the Census, 9/98]
<i>Teen Pregnancy</i>	There has been a 13.8 percent decrease in the teenage birth rate -- from 60.7 in 1992 to 52.3 in 1997. [ <u>Decline in Teenage Birth Rates, 1991-97: National and State Patterns</u> , CDC, 12/98; Revised 4/99]
<i>Infant Mortality</i>	There has been a 15.2 percent decrease in the infant mortality rate -- to the lowest level in history -- from 8.5 in 1992 to 7.2 in 1997. [ <u>America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, NIII, 7/8/99</u> ]
<i>Child Support Collections</i>	There has been a 80 percent increase in child support collections from FY 1992 to FY 1998. [Administration for Children and Families, HHS]

### **Government That Works Better**

<i>Less Regulation</i>	16,000 pages of Federal regulations have been eliminated by President Clinton and Vice President Gore as part of the Vice President's National Performance Review. [Accomplishments fact sheet, National Performance Review]
<i>Smaller Government</i>	There are 365,000 fewer employees in the Federal government workforce than in 1993 -- giving us the smallest Federal workforce since the Kennedy Administration. [Budget of the U.S. Government FY 2000, "Historical Tables" (table 17.1); Budget of the U.S. Government FY 2000, "Analytical Perspectives," (table 10-1) p. 248]
<i>Lower Government Spending</i>	At 19.5 percent, Federal Government spending as a share of the Gross Domestic Product is at its lowest level in 25 years. [FY 2000 Budget Mid-Session Review (Table 1) p. 3; FY 2000 Budget Historical Tables (Table 1.3) p.23-24]
<i>Motor Voter</i>	28 million new voters registered to vote -- and voting was made easier for millions more Americans -- since 1995 because of the National Voter Registration Act. [FEC, 6/99; FEC, 6/97]

### **Environment**

<i>Toxic Waste Sites</i>	448 toxic waste dumps were cleaned up during the first six and one-half years of the Clinton Administration -- nearly three times more than the 155 dumps cleaned up in the previous twelve years. ["Superfund NPL Construction Completions Since 1/20/93 to 6/22/99," EPA]
<i>National Parks</i>	Over 3.2 million acres have been protected as national parks or monuments by President Clinton. The President has also created 13 new national park areas. [Department of Interior]

# Clinton-Gore Administration Accomplishments

Accomplishments

## Children

- **Head Start.** Under the Clinton Administration, funding for Head Start has increased 80% to \$4 billion in 1997. These additional funds have enabled Head Start to serve 180,000 more children and their families. And President Clinton's Budget Agreement with Congress continues expansion of Head Start toward the President's goal of serving 1 million children in 2002. [Paper; HHS Press Release, 3/26/96]
- **TV Ratings.** The President announced a breakthrough agreement with the media and entertainment industry to develop a television ratings system to enable parents to protect their children from violence and adult content. Today, the rating system is in place, informing parents on what their children are watching. [Statement by the President, 2/29/96]
- **Teen-Age Smoking.** President Clinton proposed the first-ever comprehensive program to protect children from the dangers of tobacco. The Food and Drug Administration has already issued rules aimed at teen-age smoking, such as making 18 the age for the purchase of cigarettes nationwide. [Food and Drug Administration Press Release, 4/15/97]
- **Immunizations.** The President has established a Childhood Immunization Initiative to ensure vaccinations and healthy futures for all children. In 1995, the immunization rate for two-year olds reached 76%, a record high. And these vaccinations are working: the number of reported cases of diphtheria, mumps, tetanus, measles, rubella, and polio continue to be at or near record low levels. [Centers for Disease Control, Press Release, 2/27/97]
- **WIC.** The Clinton Administration is committed to full funding in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), reaching 7.5 million participants by the end of FY97. This program works: Every dollar invested in WIC has been proven to save \$ 3 in preventive health-care costs. [Federal Department and Agency Documents, 2/6/97]
- **Educational Television.** Joined together with the four major television networks to support a proposal to require broadcasters to air three hours of quality educational programming each week. [AP 7/29/96; Statement by the President, 7/29/96]
- **Volunteers on Behalf of Children.** President Clinton convened the President's Summit of America's Future, along with former President Bush. At the summit, hundreds of organizations, including federal agencies, made commitments to give children the resources they need to grow up to be healthy and productive citizens -- a mentor, a healthy start, a safe place, a marketable skill through an effective education, and a chance to serve. President Clinton also announced the creation of 50,000 new scholarships to increase the reach of the AmeriCorps program.

## Families

- **Family Medical Leave Act.** More than 12 million families have taken leave since its enactment. [Commission on Family Medical Leave, A Workable Balance - Report to Congress, 1996; Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, P.L. 103-3, signed February 5, 1993]

- **Housing.** The nation's homeownership rate has grown to 65.7 percent -- the highest quarterly rate since 1980. Currently a record 67.1 million Americans are homeowners -- the highest number in U.S. history and an increase of 5.3 million since President Clinton took office in 1993. The President launched the National Homeownership Strategy in 1995 with a goal of producing eight million new homeowners by the year 2000. Since 1995, there are 3.1 million new homeowners. The homeownership rate puts the nation on track toward reaching the President's goal.
- **Greater Health Care Security for Millions of American Families.** Because President Clinton believes that we should provide more Americans with access to health care services, he fought for and signed the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, also known as Kennedy-Kassebaum. The bill limited exclusions for pre-existing conditions, ended "job-lock" by making health coverage portable, and helped individuals who lose jobs maintain insurance coverage. The Health Insurance Reform Bill President Clinton signed into law protects the health care of millions of working Americans, giving millions of families peace of mind.[Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, P.L. 104-191, signed 8/21/96]
- **Earned Income Tax Credit.** President Clinton expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit to give 15 million working families tax relief. Today, that earned income tax credit is worth about \$1,000 to a family of four with an income under \$28,000 a year.lifts full-time workers with children out of poverty.[Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, P.L. 103-66, signed August 10, 1993]
- **Increasing the Minimum Wage.** The law signed by President Clinton will increase the wages of 10 million Americans. [Small Business Job Protection Act Of 1996, P.L.104-188, Signed 8/20/96]

### Promoting Responsibility

- **Welfare and Waivers.** Nearly 90% of states have chosen to continue or build on their welfare waivers in implementing the new law.
- **Moving People From Welfare to Work.** From January 1993 to April 1997, the number of people receiving welfare benefits fell by 22%, or 3.1 million recipients - the largest decline in the welfare rolls in history and the lowest percentage of the population on welfare since 1970. This historic decline occurred in response to the Administration's grants of federal waivers to 43 states to experiment with innovative approaches to ending welfare dependency, as well as in response to a strong economy. [HHS, 4/97]
- **Mobilizing the Business Community, Civic Groups, and the Federal Government.** To make welfare reform a success and help move a million people form welfare into the workforce by the year 2000, President Clinton has enlisted the business community's leadership. At the President's urging, the Welfare to Work Partnership was launched in May 1997 to lead the national business effort to hire people from the welfare rolls. To help former welfare recipients stay in the workforce and succeed, the Vice President has created a coalition of civic groups committed to helping new workers retain jobs. The Vice President is also overseeing the federal government's hiring initiative, in which under the President's direction, federal agencies have committed to directly hire at least 10,000 welfare recipients in the next four years.[DPC Fact paper]

- **Enforcing Child Support.** The Clinton Administration collected a record \$12 billion in child support in 1996 through tougher enforcement, an increase of \$4 billion, or nearly 50%, since 1992. [Source: HHS Press release, 4/14/96] President Clinton also issued an Executive Order to help track down federal workers who fail to pay child support. [Executive Order 12953, 2/27/95]
- **Teen Pregnancy.** In response to President Clinton's 1995 challenge, the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, a private nonprofit organization, was formed. In addition, the welfare law the President signed in 1996 requires unmarried minor parents to stay in school and live at home or in a supervised setting; encourage "second chance homes" to provide teen parents with the skills and support they need; and provides \$50 million a year in new funding for state abstinence education activities. Data shows we are making progress: teen births have fallen four years in a row, by 8 percent from 1991 to 1995.
- **Largest Decline in the Welfare Rolls in History.** From January 1993 to May 1997, the number of people receiving welfare benefits fell by 24 percent, or 3.4 million recipients -- the largest decline in the welfare rolls in history and the lowest percentage of the population on welfare since 1970. And since the welfare law was signed in August 1996, welfare caseloads have dropped 1.45 million. In the President's 1997 State of the Union Address, he pledged to move an additional two million more people off welfare by 2000, at its current rate, the welfare rolls are on course to meet that goal before 2000.
- **AmeriCorps.** Thus far, 45,000 youth volunteers have earned their scholarship from AmeriCorps. The program now supports roughly 25,000 AmeriCorps volunteers per year. In addition, at the Service Summit the President announced 50,000 new Challenge Scholarships, through which AmeriCorps members earn scholarships without stipends from the government. The Corporation for National Service has already received 10,000 applications for Challenge Scholarships in the first year of the program. By the year 2000, it is estimated that 160,000 people will have served in AmeriCorps.

## Environment

- **Toxic Waste.** Cleaned Up More Sites in Four Years than Presidents Reagan and Bush Combined. The Clinton Administration has cleaned up more toxic waste dumps (290) in its first four years than were done in the previous twelve (155). Last year, the President called for an additional 500 sites to be cleaned up by the year 2000 (appropriations are pending). This would bring the total number of toxic waste dumps cleaned up to 900 sites -- more than two-thirds of the sites on EPA's national priority list of the worst toxic waste sites.
- **Safe Drinking Water.** This year, the Department of Agriculture has announced grants of \$180 million to over 44 states. In 1980, there were 2.1 million people who did not have access to a central water supply. Today, that number has been reduced to 1 million. The Department of Agriculture estimates that the number of people who do not have access to a central water supply will be down to 690,000 by the year 2000.
- **Public's Right To Know About Toxic Releases.** President Clinton required polluters to publicly disclose information about toxic releases -- nearly doubling the number of chemicals releases reported to the public and increasing by 30 percent the number of facilities that must report under right to know. [Executive Order 12969 & 12856, Public Papers of the President, 8/8/95; 8/3/93; EPA rule,

11/28/94 (AP, 11/28/94); President's remarks, (U.S. Newswire, 4/22/97)]

- **Superfund Sites.** Cleaned up as many sites in three years as the previous Administrations did in 12 years. The Clinton Administration achieved this dramatic increase in toxic waste clean-ups while dramatically cutting costs. The President and the Vice President also fought Republican attempts to gut the Superfund law that makes polluters -- rather than taxpayers -- pay to clean up toxic dumps. The President vetoed a GOP bill that would have cut Superfund clean ups by 25%. [EPA Construction Completion/Deletion Tracking System; Veto Message of H.R. 1977, Public Papers of the President, 12/18/95]
- **Toughened EPA Enforcement Programs.** The Clinton Administration has collected the largest fines in history and established a new compliance assistance program to help honest business owners comply with environmental laws. [EPA Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Accomplishments Report, 7/96]
- **Global Phaseout of Persistent Pollutants.** The Clinton Administration led the way on an agreement to phase out the use of 12 dangerous, persistent organic pollutants worldwide, such as PCBs and DDT.
- **Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument In Utah:** President Clinton created a new national monument protecting 1.7 million acres of spectacular red rock canyon-lands, artifacts from three ancient cultures, and the most remote site in the lower 48 states. [Presidential Proclamation Number 6920, 9/18/96]
- **Reduced EPA Paperwork.** With the Vice President, President Clinton changed EPA rules and procedures to reduce paperwork requirements for businesses by 15 million hours. [Best Kept Secrets In Government, p. 90]

## Crime

- **Cops on the Beat.** The Clinton Administration has funded over 64,000 police officers to date -- officers who are now, or will soon be, helping keep our neighborhoods and communities safe. And the balanced budget protects the funding (and the 100,000 police officers goal) for the COPS Initiative.
- **Brady Bill.** In the three years since its enactment, the Brady Law has stopped over 250,000 felons, fugitives and stalkers from buying hand guns.[Bureau of Justice Statistics, Press Release, 2/25/97]
- **Manufacture and importation of assault weapons.** While specifically protecting more than 50 legitimate sporting weapons. Banned 19 weapons such as cop-killing assault weapons, like the Uzi, which are the weapons of choice for drug dealers and gangs - not hunters and sportsmen.["Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994", P.L.103-322]
- **Guns to children.** The President directed the ATF to implement the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction

Initiative in 17 pilot cities.

- **Child safety locks in guns.** In an historic agreement, eight gun manufacturers have voluntarily agreed to sell new guns with child safety locking devices. [Memorandum on Child Safety Lock Devices for Handguns, 3/5/97; President's remarks, 10/9/97]
- **Illegal Immigration.** As of FY97, 6,859 border patrol agents had been funded. Legislation currently pending (if fully funded) will add another 1000 border patrol agents, bringing the total to 7,859 agents funded.
- **Drug Czar.** President Clinton is the first President to make the Director of National Drug Control Policy a Cabinet position. [U.P.I. 7/1/1993] He is also the first President to nominate a Drug Czar with drug interdiction background. And he appointed a four-star general, Barry McCaffrey, to lead our nation's fight against drugs
- **Increasing Drug Seizures.** In the last three years, the Border Patrol has seized over \$4.7 billion in drugs -- a 38 percent increase over the three prior years. The \$4.7 billion represents nearly 20,000 drug seizures -- an increase of 22 percent. On the California border alone, the Border Patrol has seized more than 110 tons of illegal drugs valued at \$618 million. [Source: Department of Justice, U.S. Border Patrol, Total Drug Seizures: Narcotics: Dollar Value of Drugs seized, 1995]
- **Crack use is declining.** The most recent data from the Drug Use Forecasting Program show a decline in crack use across the nation, a good indication that the crack epidemic that began in 1987 has finally begun to abate.
- **Overall Drug Use Is Down.** In 1996, there were half as many current illicit drug users than there were in 1979, when drug use was at its height.
- **Methamphetamine.** The President fought for and signed legislation that increases penalties for trafficking in meth and those chemicals used to produce meth. And the strategy is working. In eight key cities where meth use had been skyrocketing, it declined substantially in 1996.
- **Rate of violent crime is down.** The number of murders fell an historic 9% in 1996, while violent crime decreased 6%, and aggravated assault decreased 6%. [Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Report -10/97] Violent crime has dropped five years in a row -- the longest period of decline in 25 years. [FBI, Uniform Crime Report, 1/5/97]
- **The rate of juvenile crime is down.** Over the past two years, there has been a decline in both the rates of murders committed by young people and youth violence in general. While the juvenile violent crime arrest rate increased 62% between 1987 and 1993, it decreased 2.9% in 1995, the first decline in seven years. And in 1996, it dropped an historic 9%. [FBI, Uniform Crime Report, 1997]
- **Established nationwide 24-hour domestic violence hotline.** Provides immediate crisis intervention, counseling and referrals for those in need. Since the hotline opened, there have been over 106,000 calls. [Department of Justice, Stop the Cycle of Violence: What You Can Do"; National Domestic Violence Summary Report, 3/31/97; HHS Press Release, 5/20/97]

- **Almost tripled funding for battered women's shelters.** In 1993, the federal government spent \$20 million on battered women's shelters. In 1997, the Clinton Administration spent \$58 million. [Administration for Children and Families, 1997; HHS Press Release, 5/20/97]
- **Guns in Schools.** Thus far, 6,276 students have been expelled for bringing weapons to schools, and the vast majority of those expulsions involved guns. [Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994, enacted as part of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994, P.L. 103-382, signed on 10/20/94]
- **Illegal immigration.** Deported over 95,000 illegal and criminal aliens from October 1995 to January 1997. [Source: I.N.S. 1/97]
- **Border patrol agents.** There are now over 6,000 Border Patrol agents stemming the flow of illegal immigration. This represents an increase of over 70% since 1993. [Federal News Service, Prepared Testimony of Commissioner Doris Meissner, Immigration and Naturalization Services, 4/10/97]

## Schools

- **Standards.** The Clinton Administration's Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 overhauled Title I, which provides extra help with basic and advanced skills to disadvantaged students in elementary and secondary schools. As a result of this Act, states now hold low income students to the same high standards set for all other students in the state, and hold schools accountable for the results. More than ten million low income students now benefit from higher expectations and a challenging curriculum geared to higher standards. [Department of Education, 12/6/96, 7/8/97]
- **Expanding School-To-Work.** In 1994 and 1995, over 500,000 young people in 1,800 schools throughout the nation, as well as 135,000 employers, participated in school-to-work systems that integrate academic and vocational instruction and provide work-based learning. [Source: Department of Education, 12/96]
- **Making Schools Safe, Disciplined and Drug Free.** The Clinton Administration passed the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and successfully fought Republican efforts to cut this program, which supports school security, drug prevention and education programs in 97% of America's school districts. In addition, President Clinton signed the Gun-Free Schools Act and issued a Presidential Directive to enforce "zero tolerance" in our schools — if a student brings a gun to school, he or she does not come back for a year. [Secretary Riley accomplishments memo]
- **Reducing Unnecessary Regulations.** The Clinton Administration has reduced regulations in its elementary and secondary programs by over two-thirds. [DPC/ Department of Education]
- **Pell Grant.** President Clinton has already increased Pell Grants from \$2,300 in 1993 to \$2,700 in 1997. These grants will provide a total of 3.8 million low-income students the opportunity to attend college this year. [Source: Department of Education (Memo to President, 12/6/96)] In the 1998 budget alone, an additional 348,000 students will receive grants: 130,000 young people from moderate income families, and 218,000

low income students over the age of 24. [Source: Budget Agreement - National Economic Council]

- **Reforming Student Loans.** President Clinton cut student fees and interest rates for all borrowers, and expanded repayment options and improved service through the Direct Loan Program. [Student Loan Reform Act of 1993, P.L. 103-66] More than 2.1 million student and parent borrowers have received direct loans since the program began. [Source: Department of Education, 12/96] Under this Administration, the rate of student loan defaults within the first two years after borrowers leave college has reached an all-time low. The losses from student loan defaults fell from \$ 1.7 billion in 1992 to \$ 249 million in 1996 - an 86% drop. [Budget; Department of Education Press Release, 1/9/97]
- **Expanding Educational Opportunity Through Service.** The Clinton Administration has enabled 70,000 volunteers to earn money for college by serving their communities and their country in the AmeriCorps program since the inception of the program. [The National and Community Service Act, P.L. 103-82; U.S. Newswire, 4/28/97]
- **Charter Schools.** One charter school was in existence when the President took office. By the 96-97 school year, there were 480 charter schools in operation and by this fall, nearly 700 charter schools will be in existence. A number of states are expected to add charter school legislation over the next couple of years and many of the 17 states with caps on the maximum number of charter schools will act to lift those caps. However, at this point the Department of Education estimates that there will only be 2,000 to 2,500 charter schools by the year 2000.
- **Wiring Classrooms.** 65% of schools are connected. The President will have doubled funding for America's Technology Literacy Challenge by FY98 (if FY98 appropriations pass as expected). The fund is a part of the Educational Technology Initiative to connect every classroom to the Information Superhighway and provide all students with access to computers. As a part of this Initiative, the President has called upon parents, teachers, business people, and volunteers to hold NetDays in all 50 states, bringing together an army of volunteers to wire schools so they can network their computers and connect them to the Internet. In the fall of 1996, NetDay 96 wired schools in more than 40 states for access to the information superhighway; NetDay 97 is planned for October 1997. According to a National Center on Education Statistics report released in October of 1996, 65% of schools are wired to the Internet, while 14% of all classrooms are wired to the Internet. The number of classrooms and schools connected to the Internet is expected to rise dramatically with the approval of the "E-Rate" -- discount education rates for schools and libraries connected to the Internet. It is optimistically expected that we will reach the goal by 2000.
- **Work Study.** In FY 1997, 945,000 students received work-study money. [Department of Education FY 98 Budget]: So far, 700 colleges and universities have agreed to join the Administration's America Reads efforts to help make sure every 8-year-old can read. There is no estimation thus far on the number of students who will join the America Reads effort through the work study program.

## Reforming Government

- **The Smallest Federal Government in 30 Years.** From January 1993 to January 1997, President Clinton and Vice President Gore cut the federal civilian workforce by 309,000 positions. The size of the federal government is now at its lowest level in 30 years. President Clinton has eliminated 16,000 pages of obsolete regulations affecting the public and rewriting 31,000 more. Vice President Gore's Reinventing Government efforts have already saved \$118 billion by cutting wasteful government practices and spending. Additional recommendations will save billions more. [Office of Personnel Management, 1/97; 1996 Best Kept Secrets In Government, p. 1; p. 4]
- **Trade.** Nearly 40 Countries and more than 90% of information technology products are tariff-free. In December 1996, the Information Technology Agreement was reached (implementation began July 1, 1997) cutting to zero tariffs on computers, semiconductors and telecommunications technology by 2000. Each year, the United States sells \$100 billion in information technology that supports two million jobs in this country. Eliminating tariffs on these goods will amount to a \$5 billion cut in tariffs on American products exported to other nations.
- **Motor-Voter Bill.** President Clinton signed the National Voter Registration Act ("Motor-Voter") which registered at least nine million new voters and made voting easier for more than 20 million Americans from January 1995 to June 1996. "Motor-Voter" has already created the greatest expansion of the voter registration rolls since the 19th century. [P.L. 103-31, U.S. Newswire, 5/20/93; National Motor Voter Coalition study, 10/15/96; USA Today, 10/15/96]

## PREPARING AMERICA FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

### Clinton-Gore Administration Accomplishments

June 1997

*Accomplishments*

#### ECONOMY: The Best American Economy In A Generation

12.3 Million New Jobs...for the first time ever over 11 million jobs were created during a single Presidential term.

Deficit Cut By 80%...from \$290 billion to \$57 billion, down 5 years in a row for the first time in 50 years.

Lowest Unemployment In 24 Years...down from 7.5% in 1992 to 4.8% today, the lowest level since 1973.

Median Family Income Up \$1,600...between 1993 and 1995, the fastest growth since the Johnson Administration.

#### EDUCATION: Largest Expansion Of Educational Opportunity In 30 Years

180,000 More Kids In Head Start...which now reaches more kids than at any time since its creation in 1965.

Leading A Crusade For Voluntary National Education Standards...so that by 1999, every 4th grade student will be tested in reading and every 8th grade student will be tested in math.

Making College More Affordable...by increasing Pell Grants by 20% from \$2,300 in 1993 to \$2,700 in 1997 and creating the Direct Lending program, which has made college more affordable for more than 2.1 million students.

Biggest Investment In Higher Education Since The G.I. Bill...The balanced budget plan includes the largest overall investment in education in 30 years and biggest investment in higher education since the G.I. Bill in 1944.

#### CRIME: Declining Steadily For The First Time In 25 Years

Violent Crime Down 5 Years In A Row...the longest period of decline in 25 years. And for the first time in seven years, juvenile crime (which had been exploding) declined in 1995.

100,000 New Police On The Street...resulting in a nearly 20% increase in our nation's police force. Already 61,000 new officers have been funded.

186,000 Felons, Fugitives And Stalkers Denied Handguns...because the President signed the Brady Bill into law.

Developed Comprehensive Anti-Drug Strategy...and appointed four-star General Barry McCaffrey Drug Czar.

#### WELFARE: Largest Drop In Welfare Rolls In 50 Years

Overhauled The Welfare System...by signing bipartisan welfare reform legislation in 1996 and is now challenging private businesses to hire 1 million people, moving them from welfare to work.

2.75 Million People Moved From Welfare To Work...even before the new welfare bill took effect, the largest decline in welfare rolls in 50 years.

50% Increase In Child Support Collection...from 1992 to 1996 due to tougher enforcement of Child Support Laws. A record \$11.8 billion was collected in 1996, up \$4 billion (nearly 50%) since 1992.

#### ENVIRONMENT: Protecting Our Environment For Future Generations

Cleaned Up As Many Superfund Sites In 3 Years As Previous Administrations Did In 12.

Safer Food, Drinking Water And Air...because the President fought for and signed the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Food Quality Protection Act and issued new standards to cut toxic pollution from chemical plants by 90%.

Created New National Parks In Utah, California; \$1.5 Billion Plan To Restore The Florida Everglades.

Reduced EPA Paperwork Requirements For Businesses By 15 Million Hours.

President Clinton:  
Building Stronger Families

*"To Prepare America for the 21st Century, we must build stronger families."*

President Bill Clinton  
February 4, 1997

Strong families are vital to our children, our communities and our nation: President Clinton is meeting the challenge to strengthen our families by providing tax relief to working families, investing in our children's education, reducing crime and helping families move from welfare to work. The Clinton Administration is committed to protecting children, improving their quality of health, encouraging companies to adopt family-friendly practices and strengthening parents' capacity to nurture healthy families.

**A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:**

*Cherishing Our Children*

- **Expanding Children's Access to Health Care:** Ten million children lack health insurance -- 80% of them have working parents who pay taxes. President Clinton's Balanced Budget Agreement of 1997 expands health care for 5 million of these children. [1997 Budget Agreement]
- **Expanding Head Start to Reach 1 Million Children a Year:** For over 30 years, Head Start has helped low-income families create an environment where their children are ready to learn by taking a comprehensive approach to child development - improving children's learning skills, health, nutrition, and social competency. Under the Clinton Administration, funding for Head Start has increased 80% to \$4 billion in 1997. These additional funds have enabled Head Start to serve 180,000 more children and their families. And President Clinton's Budget Agreement with Congress continues expansion of Head Start toward the President's goal of servng 1 million children in 2002. [Paper, HHS Press Release, 3/26/96]
- **Protecting Children from TV Violence:** President Clinton gave parents greater control over what their children watch on television by requiring the installation of anti-violence screening chips ("V-chips") in all new televisions. [Telecommunications Act of 1996, P.L. 104-104, signed 2/8/96] In addition, the President announced a breakthrough agreement with the media and entertainment industry to develop a television ratings system to enable parents to protect their children from violence and adult content. Today, the rating system is in place, informing parents on what their children are watching. [Statement by the President, 2/29/96]

- **Targeting Teen-Age Smoking:** President Clinton proposed the first-ever comprehensive program to protect children from the dangers of tobacco. The Food and Drug Administration has already issued rules aimed at teen-age smoking, such as making 18 the age for the purchase of cigarettes nationwide.[Food and Drug Administration Press Release, 4/15/97]
- **Protecting Children's Health Through Increased Immunizations:** The President has established a Childhood Immunization Initiative to ensure vaccinations and healthy futures for all children. In 1995, the immunization rate for two-year olds reached 76%, a record high. And these vaccinations are working: the number of reported cases of diphtheria, mumps, tetanus, measles, rubella, and polio continue to be at or near record low levels.[Centers for Disease Control, Press Release, 2/27/97]
- **Reaching Full Participation in WIC:** The Clinton Administration is committed to full funding in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), reaching 7.5 million participants by the end of FY97. This program works: Every dollar invested in WIC has been proven to save \$ 3 in preventive health-care costs.[Federal Department and Agency Documents, 2/6/97]
- **More Educational Television:** Joined together with the four major television networks to support a proposal to require broadcasters to air three hours of quality educational programming each week.[AP 7/29/96; Statement by the President, 7/29/96]

### ***Strengthening Our Families***

- **Strengthening Families:** The first bill President Clinton signed was the Family Medical Leave Act, which enables workers to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave to care for family members without fear of losing their jobs. More than 12 million families have taken leave since its enactment. [Commission on Family Medical Leave, A Workable Balance - Report to Congress, 1996; Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, P.L. 103-3, signed February 5, 1993]
- **Greater Health Care Security for Millions of American Families:** Because President Clinton believes that we should provide more Americans with access to health care services, he fought for and signed the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, also known as Kennedy-Kassebaum. The bill limited exclusions for pre-existing conditions, ended "job-lock" by making health coverage portable, and helped individuals who lose jobs maintain insurance coverage. The Health Insurance Reform Bill President Clinton signed into law protects the health care of millions of working Americans, giving millions of families peace of mind.[Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, P.L. 104-191, signed 8/21/96]

- **Cutting taxes for millions of working families:** President Clinton expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit to give 15 million working families tax relief. Today, that earned income tax credit is worth about \$1,000 to a family of four with an income under \$28,000 a year. The Earned Income Tax Credit lifts full-time workers with children out of poverty. [Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, P.L. 103-66, signed August 10, 1993]
- **Increasing the Minimum Wage:** The President proposed and signed into law an increase in the minimum wage from \$4.25 to \$5.15 over two years. For a full-time, year-round worker at minimum wage, this 90-cent increase raises yearly income by \$1,800 -- as much as the average family spends on groceries over seven months. The law signed by President Clinton will increase the wages of 10 million Americans, giving them a chance to raise stronger families and build better futures. [Small Business Job Protection Act Of 1996, P.L. 104-188, Signed 8/20/96]

### *Ensuring Responsibility*

- **Enforcing Child Support:** The Clinton Administration collected a record \$11.8 billion in child support in 1996 through tougher enforcement, an increase of \$4 billion, or nearly 50%, since 1992. [Source: HHS Press release, 4/14/96] President Clinton also issued an Executive Order to help track down federal workers who fail to pay child support. [Executive Order 12953, 2/27/95]
- **Moving People From Welfare to Work:** During the first four years of the Clinton Administration, from January 1993 to January 1997, the number of people receiving welfare benefits fell by 20%, or 2.75 million recipients - the largest decline in the welfare rolls in 50 years. This historic decline occurred in response to the Administration's grants of federal waivers to 43 states to experiment with innovative approaches to ending welfare dependency, as well as in response to a strong economy. These waivers gave states the freedom to reform welfare on the local level, including setting time limits on benefits, requiring recipients to work or stay in school, providing child care and giving employers incentives to hire welfare recipients. [Council of Economic Advisors, Explaining the Decline in Welfare Receipt: 1992-1996, 5/9/97]
- **Overhauling the Welfare System:** Last year the President signed a bipartisan welfare plan that will dramatically change the nation's welfare system into one that requires work in exchange for time-limited assistance. The law contains strong work requirements, a performance bonus to reward states for moving welfare recipients into jobs, state maintenance of effort requirements, comprehensive child care enforcement, and supports for families moving from welfare to work -- including increased funding for child care and guaranteed medical coverage. [Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, P.L. 104-193, signed 8/22/97]

- **Breaking the Cycle of Dependency:** The Clinton Administration took executive action in May 1996 to require teenage mothers to stay in school and sign personal responsibility contracts or lose their welfare benefits. Having a baby should not be the ticket to leaving home and dropping out of school. [Memorandum from the President on the Welfare Initiative for Teen Parents, 5/10/96]

### **THE CHALLENGES AHEAD:**

America is moving in the right direction. The crime rate is down, welfare rolls and food stamp participation are falling and the teen pregnancy rate has dropped. But we still have more work to do to ensure the health, safety and futures of our children and families. The President's agenda includes:

- Expanding health insurance coverage for all children whose parents cannot afford it.
- Providing families with a \$500 per child tax credit.
- Expanding the accessibility of child care information and services to parents, expanding child care funding available to low-income working families and working with states to improve the quality of services.
- Expanding the Family Medical Leave Act to better help workers care for their families without sacrificing their work obligations. This expansion would allow workers to take up to 24 hours of unpaid leave in support of their children's education needs, older relatives' health care and other family medical obligations.

Initials: DBS Date: 10/5/96

**PRESIDENT CLINTON:**

**PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE NEW CENTURY**

*"Looking ahead, the greatest step of all -- the high threshold of the future we now must cross -- and my number one priority for the next four years is to ensure that all Americans have the best education in the world."*

President Clinton,

State of the Union, February 4, 1997

**A Commitment to Education**

President Clinton has made an unprecedented commitment to education: the President's Budget Agreement with Congress includes the largest increase in our investment in education in 30 years and the largest single boost in college aid since the G.I. Bill.

**ENSURING THAT EVERY CHILD IN AMERICA CAN LEARN**

- **Voluntary National Standards.**

Leading a National Crusade for Education Standards. President Clinton has challenged every state to adopt high national standards, so that by 1999, every 4th grade student will be tested in reading and every 8th grade reader will be tested in math. These standards will represent what all our children must know to succeed in the knowledge economy. [Already five states have joined the President's effort.]

Goals 2000. The President's National Standards effort builds upon the success of Goals 2000, a Clinton Administration initiative enacted in 1994, that helps participating States establish voluntary standards of excellence for all children and plan and implement steps to raise educational achievement. All states have now chosen to receive Goals 2000 funding. [Goals 2000: Educate America Act, P.L. 103-227; Office of Management and Budget, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 1998, 1997 ]

- **Launched America Reads.** President Clinton launched America Reads Challenge, a nationwide effort to mobilize a citizen army of a million volunteer tutors to make sure every child can read independently by the end of third grade. [The 1997 Congressional Budget Resolution] The President's Budget Agreement with Republicans includes America's Reading Corps: 25,000 reading specialists and 11,000 AmeriCorps members serving as recruiters and coordinators, to enlist an army of one million volunteer. [1997 Budget Agreement]

- **Expanding Head Start to Reach 1 Million Children a Year.** President Clinton has made Head Start an Administration priority. For over 30 years, Head Start has helped low-income families create an environment where their children are ready to learn by taking a

comprehensive approach to child development - improving children's learning skills, health, nutrition, and social competency. Under the Clinton administration, funding for Head Start has increased 80% to \$4 billion in 1997. These additional funds have enabled Head Start to serve 180,000 more children and their families. And President Clinton's Budget Agreement with Congress continues expansion of Head Start toward the President's goal of serving 1 million children in 2002. [Budget Agreement; HHS Press Release, 3/26/97]

- **Expanding School-To-Work.** The Clinton Administration is providing hundreds of thousands of students with school-to-work opportunities, where they experience work-based learning and gain access to pathways from high school to good jobs and post-secondary education. [School-to-Work Opportunities Act, P.L. 103-239] In 1994 and 1995, over 500,000 young people in 1,800 schools throughout the nation, as well as 135,000 employers, participated in school-to-work systems that integrate academic and vocational instruction and provide work-based learning. [Source: Department of Education, 12/96]
- **Expanding Opportunity for Disabled Children.** President Clinton signed legislation reauthorizing the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), strengthening and reaffirming our nation's 20-year commitment to disabled children and their parents. The IDEA demonstrates the Administration's commitment to educational opportunity for all, by helping ensure that children with disabilities are included in all facets of community life and are able to become independent and productive citizens. [Title,

#### PREPARING OUR SCHOOLS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

- **Bringing Computers to the Classroom.** The President's 1997 Budget Agreement with Congress doubles the funding for America's Technology Literacy Challenge, catalyzing private-public sector partnerships to put the information age at our children's fingertips. The President is committed to helping communities and the private sector ensure that every student is equipped with the computer literacy skills needed for the 21st century. For 1998, the budget proposes \$425 million, more than doubling the \$200 million that Congress provided in 1997. [1997 Budget Agreement]
- **Linking Children to the Internet.** The Clinton Administration is implementing a plan to create an "E-Rate," a discounted education rate for telecommunications services so schools and libraries will be able to bring technology into the classroom, set up phone lines and access the Internet at a fraction of the cost. The Federal Communications Commission has already approved a plan to make discounts worth \$2.25 billion annually available to our schools and libraries. [Source: Education Department Initiatives, 5/8/97]
- **Expanding school choice and accountability in public education.** The President has challenged every state to let parents choose the right public school for their children. The Clinton Administration is helping teachers, parents and community groups to start charter schools -- innovative public schools that stay open only as long as they produce results and meet the highest standards. The President's proposed budget doubles funding to help start

charter schools so that there will be more than 3,000 charter schools at the dawn of the 21st century. [Office of Management and Budget, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 1998, 1997]

## OPENING THE DOOR TO COLLEGE

- **Making the 13th and 14th years of education universal.**

America's Hope Scholarships The President's Budget Agreement with Congress funds these scholarships, which provide students with a \$1,500 refundable tax credit for full-time tuition in their first year and second year of college. [Office of Management and Budget, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 1998, 1997]

A targeted tax deduction of up \$10,000 a year for all tuition after high school. The President's Budget Agreement with Congress will fund this initiative as part of the \$35 billion in tax cuts for higher education. This tax cut will put college in the reach of millions of American families.

The largest increase in Pell Grants in 20 years. President Clinton has already increased Pell Grants from \$2,300 in 1993 to \$2,700 in 1997. These grants will provide a total of 3.8 million low-income students the opportunity to attend college this year. [Source: Department of Education (Memo to President, 12/6/96)] And he plans to do more. The President's Budget Agreement with Congress includes the largest increase in Pell Grants in two decades -- a funding boost of 25%. The maximum award will reach \$3,000, \$700 more than in 1993. In the 1998 budget alone, an additional 348,000 students will receive grants: 130,000 young people from moderate income families, and 218,000 low income students over the age of 24. [Source: Budget Agreement - Domestic Policy Council Background]

- **Expanding Student Loans.** President Clinton has reformed the student loan program, making college more affordable this year for millions of students through the Direct Lending program. [Student Loan Reform Act of 1993, P.L. 103-66] More than 2.1 million student and parent borrowers have received direct loans since the program began. [Source: Department of Education, 12/96] Under this Administration, the rate of student loan defaults within the first two years after borrowers leave college has reached an all-time low. The losses from student loan defaults fell from \$ 1.7 billion in 1992 to \$ 249 million in 1996 - an 86% drop. [Budget; Department of Education Press Release, 1/9/97]
- **Expanding Educational Opportunity Through Service.** The Clinton Administration has enabled 70,000 volunteers to earn money for college by serving their communities and their country in the AmeriCorps program. [The National and Community Service Act, P.L. 103-82; U.S. Newswire, 4/28/97]

## **THE AGENDA AHEAD:**

President Clinton has issued a call to action for American education in the 21st Century:

- **Set rigorous national standards**, that all states adopt, with national tests in 4th grade reading and 8th grade math to make sure our children master the basics.
- **Make sure a talented and dedicated teacher is in every classroom.** We must ensure teacher quality well into the 21st century by challenging our most promising young people to consider teaching as a career and setting high standards for entering the teaching profession.
- **Connect every classroom and library to the Internet** by the year 2000 and help all students become technologically literate.
- **Create 1,000 after-school safe havens in communities across the country.** This initiative would extend learning opportunities for children and their families at schools across the country, keeping schools open late, on weekends, and in the summer so young people will stay off the streets and out of trouble.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DRAFT

DRAFT

**PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON:  
BUILDING SAFER COMMUNITIES BY TAKING BACK OUR  
STREETS FROM CRIME, GANGS AND DRUGS**

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

*Won Passage of the Most Comprehensive Crime Bill Ever:*

In 1994, after more than six years of gridlock, a bipartisan majority in Congress passed the toughest, smartest Crime Bill in the nation's history. ["Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994," P.L. 103-322] It passed with the strong support of every major law enforcement organization in the country, as well as prosecutors, mayors, and state and local officials. The new law now provides:

- A targeted "Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out" provision to put career violent offenders behind bars for life.
- An expanded death penalty for drug kingpins, murderers of federal law enforcement officers and nearly 60 additional categories of violent felons.
- Funding for 100,000 more prison cells to help states ensure that violent offenders serve their full sentences.
- Increased penalties for sex offenders and a registration requirement for violent sexual offenders.

*More Police and Community Policing*

- **The President's plan to put 100,000 more police officers on the street through community policing represents the federal government's biggest commitment ever to local law enforcement.** The President's plan will result in an almost 20% increase in the nation's police force levels. Already, the Administration has provided funding for over 60,000 officers, who are now helping keep our neighborhoods and communities safe. [U.S.D.O.J. COPS, 6/4/97; Government Performance Results Act 1997 (attached to President's FY 98 Budget Request)]
- **The rate of violent crime is down.** The number of murders fell an historic 11% in 1996, while violent crime decreased 7%, and aggravated assault decreased 6%. These falling crime rates mark the largest one-year decline in the past 35 years. [Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Report - 1996 Preliminary Annual Release, 6/1/97]

## DRAFT

- **The rate of juvenile crime is down.** Over the past two years, there has been a decline in both the rates of murders committed by young people and youth violence in general.
  - While the juvenile violent crime arrest rate increased 62% between 1987 and 1993, it decreased 2.9% in 1995, the first decline in seven years.
  - The decrease in the juvenile murder arrest rate is even more significant, declining 15.2% in 1995 -- the largest one-year drop in more than 10 years.
  - Since 1993, the juvenile murder arrest rate has dropped an incredible 22.8%. [Department of Justice, 3/97; OJJDP, *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1997 Update on Violence*, 7/97]
  - And the rate is decreasing for other crimes as well: robberies by juveniles decreased 15% in 1995 and juvenile aggravated assaults decreased 32%. [OJJDP, *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1997 Update on Violence*, 7/97]
- **Crime rates have dropped for five straight years.** Violent crime has dropped five years in a row - the longest period of decline in 25 years. [FBI, Uniform Crime Report, 1/5/97]

### *Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Criminals*

- **Stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill** which provides for a 5-day waiting period and background checks of prospective handgun buyers. [Brady Bill, P.L. 10-159] In the three years since its enactment, the Brady Law has stopped over 186,000 felons, fugitives and stalkers from buying guns. [Bureau of Justice Statistics, Press Release, 2/25/97]
- **Banned the manufacture and importation of 19 of the deadliest assault weapons** while specifically protecting more than 50 legitimate sporting weapons. Cop-killing assault weapons, like the Uzi, are the weapons of choice for drug dealers and gangs - not hunters and sportsmen. ["Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994", P.L. 103-322]
- **The Clinton Administration has strengthened efforts to clamp down on illicit gun markets, especially those that provide guns to children.** The President directed the ATF to implement the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative in 17 pilot cities. Through this initiative, law enforcement will trace all guns used in crime that are seized by Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers, and work with that trace information to help identify illegal gun traffickers. By analyzing patterns of gun

## DRAFT

trafficking that exist in an area, our communities will develop more effective law enforcement strategies to target illegal gun traffickers for prosecution, particularly those who put guns into the hands of our nation's young people. [Memorandum on the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative to the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General, 7/8/96]

- **Placing child safety locks in guns.** The President is fighting for legislation in Congress that would require child safety locking devices as part of every gun in America. He has already signed a directive to every federal agency, requiring child safety locking devices in every handgun issued. [Memorandum on Child Safety Lock Devices for Handguns, 3/5/97]

### *Combatting Drug Use*

- **Developed a comprehensive National Drug Control Strategy** that will reduce illegal drug use through law enforcement, prevention, treatment and interdiction. [Office of National Drug Control Strategy, National Drug Control Strategy, 1997]
- **Made Drug Czar a Cabinet Position.** President Clinton is the first President to make the Director of National Drug Control Policy a Cabinet position. [U.P.I. 7/1/1993] He is also the first President to nominate a Drug Czar with drug interdiction background. And he appointed a four-star general, Barry McCaffrey, to lead our nation's fight against drugs.
- **Targeting young people with anti-drug messages.** The President's proposed FY 98 budget funds a \$175 million national advertising campaign that would rely on high-impact, anti-drug television ads to educate young people on the dangers of illegal drug use.
- **Drug seizures are up.** The Clinton Administration has increased seizures of marijuana by 50% - from 787,523 pounds in 1992 to 1,163,989 pounds in 1996. And seizures of heroin are up 32% - from 1,157 kilograms in 1992 to 1,524 kilograms in 1996. [DEA's FDSS Report, 3/11/97]
- **Increasing Drug Seizures.** In the last three years, the Border Patrol has seized over \$4.7 billion in drugs -- a 38 percent increase over the three prior years. The \$4.7 billion represents nearly 20,000 drug seizures -- an increase of 22 percent. On the California border, alone, the Border Patrol has seized more than 110 tons of illegal drugs valued at \$618 million. [Source: Department of Justice, U.S. Border Patrol, Total Drug Seizures: Narcotics: Dollar Value of Drugs seized, 1995]
- **Drug Use is Down.** Overall drug use in the United States has declined under the Clinton Administration:

## DRAFT

\* Casual drug use is down 13% among Americans between the ages of 18 and 35 since 1992. [Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse/Mental Health Agency, 8/20/96]

\* During this Administration, the number of cocaine users has dropped by 30%. The amount of money Americans spend on illicit drugs has declined by 23%. [Source: Office of National Drug Control Policy, The National Drug Control Strategy, April 1996]

- **Mandatory drug testing of state prisoners and parolees as a condition of parole.** President Clinton fought for and signed legislation requiring states to drug test prisoners and also parolees so that they can send them back to prison if they get back on drugs. [Omnibus Consolidated Appropriation Act, 1997, P.L. 104-208, Signed 9/30/97]
- **Expanding drug courts.** The Clinton Administration has established drug courts across the country, a proven and effective measure in breaking the cycles of drugs and crime. The President's FY 98 budget increases funding for this program by 150% over last year's funding. [ONDCP, The National Drug Control Strategy, 1997: Budget Summary, 1997]
- **Developed a comprehensive strategy to combat the trafficking and abuse of methamphetamine, one of the country's most dangerous drugs.** The President fought for and signed legislation that increases penalties for trafficking in meth and those chemicals used to produce meth. And the strategy is working. In the eight cities where meth use had been skyrocketing, it declined substantially in 1996.

### *Fighting to End Domestic Violence*

- **Extended the Brady bill to deny handguns to anyone convicted of domestic violence.** Under the law, anyone who commits an act of domestic violence against a spouse or child, would be prohibited from having a gun. [Omnibus Consolidated Appropriation Act, 1997, P.L. 104-208, Signed 9/30/97]
- **Bolstered local law enforcement, prosecution and victims' services to better address violence against women through \$275 million in state grants.** Over the next four years, a total of \$800 million in federal funds is scheduled to assist states as they restructure their law enforcement response to address violent crimes against women. [Violence Against Women Office Press Release, 5/24/96]
- **Established nationwide 24-hour domestic violence hotline providing immediate crisis intervention, counseling and referrals for those in need.** Since the hotline opened, there have been over 106,000 total calls. [Department of Justice, Stop the Cycle of Violence: What You Can Do": National Domestic Violence Summary Report, 3/31/97; HHS Press Release, 5/20/97]
- **Almost tripled funding for battered women's shelters.** In 1993, the federal government spent \$20 million on battered women's shelters. In 1997, the Clinton Administration spent \$58 million. [Administration for Children and Families, 1997; HHS Press Release, 5/20/97]

## DRAFT

### *Making Our Schools and Communities Safer*

- **Keeping dangerous weapons out of our children's classrooms** by enforcing a "Zero Tolerance" gun policy in schools. Thus far, 6,276 students have been expelled for bringing weapons to schools, and the vast majority of those expulsions involved guns. [Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994, enacted as part of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994, P.L. 103-382, signed on 10/20/94]
- **Encouraged schools to adopt school uniform policies** to help reduce violence while promoting discipline and respect. [Public Papers of the Presidents, Memorandum on the School Uniforms Manual, 2/23/96]
- **Helped protect families and children who live in public housing** from gangs, drugs and violent crime by instituting a "One-Strike-and-You're-Out" policy for residents who engage in criminal activity. [Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996, P.L. 104-120]
- **The Clinton Administration has targeted efforts against sexual predators.** The President fought for and signed "Megan's Law," which makes community notification concerning registered sex offenders mandatory. Megan's Law requires States to make public relevant information about child molesters and sexually violent offenders who are released from prison or placed on parole. [P. L. 104-145, Signed 5/17/96] And taking the next step, the President directed the Department of Justice to develop a plan for the implementation of a national sexual predator and child molester registration system. [Public Papers of the Presidents, Memorandum on the Development of a National Sexual Offender Registration System, 6/25/96]

### *Securing America's Borders*

- **Stood firm against illegal immigration** and deported over 95,000 illegal and criminal aliens from October 1995 to January 1997. [Source: I.N.S. 1/97]
- **More border patrol agents than ever.** There are now over 6,000 Border Patrol agents stemming the flow of illegal immigration. This represents an increase of over 70% since 1993. [Federal News Service, Prepared Testimony of Commissioner Doris Meissner, Immigration and Naturalization Services, 4/10/97]

### **The Agenda Ahead**

The President recognizes that juvenile crime will be the largest threat to our communities in the future. That is why he has proposed a bill that will be a full scale assault on juvenile crime. The President's bill:

**Declares war on gangs with new prosecutors and tougher penalties.**

## **DRAFT**

**Extends the Brady Bill** so that someone who commits a violent crime as a juvenile is barred from buying a gun as an adult.

**Requires child safety locks** be sold with every gun to keep children from hurting themselves or each other.

**Keeps schools open after hours, on weekends and in the summer** to keep children off the streets and out of trouble. The President's juvenile crime legislation funds anti-crime initiatives to keep our schools open later and on weekends so young people can stay under the watchful eye of parents, educators and community leaders.

**Ending the use of cop-killer bullets.** The President is fighting for a permanent ban on the production and use of cop-killer bullets. These armor-piercing bullets have no sporting value and serve only to endanger the police officers we ask to protect us every day. [S 112, introduced Jan. 21, 1997]

DRAFT

CONFIDENTIAL

DRAFT

Clinton-Gore Administration Accomplishments

THE ENVIRONMENT

DETERMINED TO BE AN ADMINISTRATIVE

MARKING Per E.O. 12958 as amended, Sec. 3.2

Initials: Ans 10/5/95

"We must protect our environment in every community. In the last four years, we cleaned up 250 toxic waste sites, as many as in the previous 12. Now we should clean up 500 more so that our children grow up next to parks, not poison." -- President Clinton, State of the Union address, 2/4/97

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

Ensuring Public Health

- **Expanded The Public's Right To Know About Toxic Releases:** President Clinton required polluters to publicly disclose information about toxic releases -- nearly doubling the number of chemicals releases reported to the public and increasing by 30 percent the number of facilities that must report under right to know. [Executive Order 12969 & 12856, Public Papers of the President, 8/8/95; 8/3/93; EPA rule, 11/28/94 (AP, 11/28/94); President's remarks, (U.S. Newswire, 4/22/97)]
- **Cleaned Up As Many Superfund Sites In Three Years As The Previous Administrations Did In 12 Years:** The Clinton Administration achieved this dramatic increase in toxic waste clean-ups while dramatically cutting costs. The President and the Vice President also fought Republican attempts to gut the Superfund law that makes polluters -- rather than taxpayers -- pay to clean up toxic dumps. The President vetoed a GOP bill that would have cut Superfund clean ups by 25%. [EPA Construction Completion/Deletion Tracking System; Veto Message of H.R. 1977, Public Papers of the President, 12/18/95]
- **Proposed & Signed The Safe Drinking Water Act:** President Clinton proposed and signed legislation to ensure that our families have healthy, clean drinking water. This law requires drinking water systems to protect against dangerous contaminants like *cryptosporidium*, and gives people the right to know about contaminants in their tap water. [P.L. 104-182, Public Papers of the President, 8/6/96]
- **Fought To Ensure Safe Food & Water For Our Families:** President Clinton fought attempts in Congress to roll back the progress that has been made in ensuring safe food and water for our families. The Clinton Administration also issued new standards to prevent *E. coli* bacteria contamination in meat. The President signed the Food Quality Protection Act which included special safeguards for children and the Administration cancelled dozens of hazardous pesticides while moving safer substitutes into the market more quickly. [Veto Messages, 11/13/95, 12/6/95, 12/18/95, Public Papers of the President; President's Radio address, 7/8/96; P.L. 104-170; Public Papers of President, 8/3/96]
- **Made The Air We Breathe Cleaner:** The Clinton Administration made the air we breathe cleaner by issuing new standards to cut toxic pollution from chemical plants by 90% and dangerous incinerator emissions by 98%. [EPA HON Rule (made final 3/1/94); EPA incinerator and cement kiln rule (proposed 3/20/96); L.A. Times, 3/2/94]
- **Toughened EPA Enforcement Programs To Ensure Compliance With Environmental Safeguards:** The Clinton Administration has collected the largest fines in history and established a

new compliance assistance program to help honest business owners comply with environmental laws. [EPA Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Accomplishments Report, 7/96]

- **Forged Agreement For A Global Phaseout of Persistent Pollutants:** The Clinton Administration led the way on an agreement to phase out the use of 12 dangerous, persistent organic pollutants worldwide, such as PCBs and DDT.

### *Protecting Our Natural Resources*

- **Created The Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument In Utah:** President Clinton created a new national monument protecting 1.7 million acres of spectacular red rock canyonlands, artifacts from three ancient cultures, and the most remote site in the lower 48 states. [Presidential Proclamation Number 6920, 9/18/96]
- **Improved The National Parks & Created A Large New Park In The California Desert:** President Clinton signed legislation that creates or improves almost 120 national parks, trails, rivers, and historical sites. President Clinton also created the largest new park in lower the 48 states with California Desert Protection Act. [P.L. 104-333, Public Papers of the President, 11/12/96; P.L. 103-433, Public Papers of the President, 10/31/94]
- **Fought Attempts To Close National Parks & Lift The Ban On Offshore Drilling.** [President Clinton Radio Address, 8/26/95; President Clinton Statement 6/20/95]
- **Vetoed A Republican Bill That Would Have Opened The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge To Oil & Gas Drilling.** [Veto Message on H.R. 2491, U.S. Newswire, 12/6/95; President Clinton Letter to Senator Lieberman, 10/26/95]
- **Led The Way On A Plan To Restore The Florida Everglades:** President Clinton and Vice President Gore committed \$1.5 billion over seven years to help restore the unique Florida Everglades. President Clinton signed into law the most sweeping restoration effort ever to implement his Everglades plan. [P. L. 104-127; P.L. 104-303, Public Papers of the President, 4/4/96; 10/12/96; VP Gore Statement (EDCH), 2/20/96 (statement on 2/19/96)]
- **Reached An Agreement To Halt Destructive Mining Near Yellowstone National Park.** [President Clinton statement (U.S. Newswire), 8/12/96]
- **Negotiated A Plan For California Bay-Delta Water:** The President broke through decades of conflict and negotiated a consensus plan to protect and allocate California Bay-Delta water. [President Clinton statement (U.S. Newswire), 12/15/94]

### *Common Sense Reform To Environmental Programs*

- **Working With Auto Manufacturers To Develop A "Clean Car":** This partnership program with the domestic auto industry and labor is designed to produce automobiles three times as fuel efficient as today's cars without sacrificing affordability, performance or safety. [Presidential announcement (U.S. Newswire), 9/29/93; New York Times, 10/19/94]

- **Reduced EPA Paperwork For Businesses By 15 Million Hours:** With the Vice President, President Clinton changed EPA rules and procedures to reduce paperwork requirements for businesses by 15 million hours. [Best Kept Secrets In Government, p. 90]
- **Reformed The Wetlands & Endangered Species Programs:** The President reformed wetlands and endangered species programs to lessen any adverse impact on homeowners without compromising environmental protection. The Administration completed 190 habitat conservation partnerships, compared to 14 in place when the Administration took office. [President Clinton statement (U.S. Newswire), 7/12/95; Department of the Interior]
- **Launched A Brownfields Initiative.** President Clinton proposed a targeted \$2 billion tax incentive for investors who purchase and clean up old waste sites in communities across the country -- a move that will protect public health and revitalize urban areas. [President Clinton's Remarks at Farleigh Dickinson University, 3/11/96 (Federal News Service)]
- **Helped To Increase Recycling:** President Clinton issued an Executive Order to jump start the market for recycled goods which is now stronger than ever. [Executive Order 12873, 10/20/93]

#### A RECORD TO BUILD ON:

→ Recognize & Restore Outstanding Stretches Of America's Rivers: Select ten American Heritage Rivers this year.

Expand Community Right-To-Know Laws: Expand these laws and challenge communities to use the information to work with business to cut pollution.

Clean Up Two-Thirds Of Superfund Sites By 2000 -- 500 More In Four Years: Challenging Congress to provide true reform of the Superfund program and to drop proposals to force taxpayers to pick up the tab to clean up toxic waste.

Get Tough On Criminal Polluters: This can be done by strengthening penalties for the worst environmental criminals and ensuring that courts can secure polluters' assets in order to restore the communities they victimize.

Negotiate A Global Accord To Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

Challenge Congress to provide true reform of the Endangered Species Act.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DRAFT

Clinton-Gore Administration Accomplishments

DRAFT

# POLITICAL & GOVERNMENT REFORM

"Our second piece of unfinished business requires us to commit ourselves tonight, before the eyes of America, to finally enacting bipartisan campaign finance reform... So let's set our own deadline. Let's work together to write bipartisan campaign finance reform into law and pass McCain-Feingold by the day we celebrate the birth of our democracy, July the Fourth." -- President Clinton, State of the Union, February 2, 1997

## A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

### *Reforming Our Political System*

- **Signed Motor-Voter Bill Into Law Leading To 9 Million New Voters:** President Clinton signed the National Voter Registration Act ("Motor-Voter") which registered at least nine million new voters and made voting easier for more than 20 million Americans from January 1995 to June 1996. "Motor-Voter" has already created the greatest expansion of the voter registration rolls since the 19th century. [P.L. 103-31, U.S. Newswire, 5/20/93; National Motor Voter Coalition study, 10/15/96; USA Today, 10/15/96]
- **Fought For Meaningful Campaign Finance Reform:** In 1992 Governor Clinton proposed voluntary campaign spending limits, free TV time, PAC limits, and a ban on soft money. In May 1993, President Clinton unveiled his campaign finance reform plan which Fred Wertheimer called a "strong campaign finance reform proposal." This plan was eventually killed by a Republican filibuster. In 1996, President Clinton supported the bipartisan McCain/Feingold campaign finance reform bill which was also killed by a Republican filibuster. President Clinton continues to support this legislation and has named former Senators Walter Mondale (D-MN) and Nancy Kassebaum-Baker (R-KS) to head a campaign finance reform education project. [Washington Post, 3/18/97; 5/8/93; Newsday, 7/4/96; AP, 10/3/92; 10/30/92]

### *Cracking Down On Special Interests*

- **Signed Toughest Overhaul Of Lobbying Rules In 50 Years:** President Clinton fought for and signed the Lobby Disclosure Act -- the first major overhaul of the lobbying rules in 50 years. This bill requires lobbyists to disclose who they work for and eliminated loopholes that allowed lobbying organizations to avoid disclosure. [P.L. 104-65, Public Papers of President, 12/19/95]
- **Eliminated Tax Deduction For Lobbying:** President Clinton eliminated the tax deductibility of the cost of lobbying expenses for corporations. [P.L. 103-66; Public Papers of the President, 8/10/93; New York Times, 8/27/93]
- **Fought For And Signed A Ban On Gifts From Lobbyists:** In his 1995 State-of-the-Union Address, President Clinton challenged the Congress to ban gifts, meals, travel and entertainment from lobbyists. The Congress subsequently passed the ban on November 16th, 1995. [P.L. 104-65, Public Papers of President, 12/19/95]

DETERMINED TO BE AN ADMINISTRATIVE  
MARKING Per E.O. 12958 as amended, Sec. 3.2 (c)  
Initials: [initials] Date: 10/5/95

- **Strictest White House Ethics Guidelines Ever:** On his first day in office, President Clinton imposed the strictest Administration ethics guidelines ever -- including a five-year ban on top officials lobbying their former agencies and a lifetime ban against lobbying for foreign governments. [Executive Order 12832, Public Papers of the President, 1/20/93]

### *Reinventing Government*

- **The Smallest Federal Government in 30 Years:** From January 1993 to January 1997, President Clinton and Vice President Gore cut the federal civilian workforce by 309,000 positions. The size of the federal government is now at its *lowest level in 30 years*. President Clinton has *eliminated 16,000 pages* of obsolete regulations affecting the public and rewriting 31,000 more. Vice President Gore's Reinventing Government efforts have already *saved \$118 billion* by cutting wasteful government practices and spending. Additional recommendations will save billions more. [Office of Personnel Management, 1/97; 1996 Best Kept Secrets In Government, p. 1; p. 4]
- **Washington Is Now Accountable For Abiding By The Laws It Passes:** President Clinton fought for enactment of the Congressional Accountability Act & the Presidential & Executive Office Accountability Act. These acts ensure that the Congress and the Executive Office of the President live under the same laws as the rest of the country. [P.L. 104-1, P.L. 104-331 Public Papers of the President, 1/23/95; 10/26/96]
- **Signed Bill Ending Unfunded Mandates From Washington:** In 1995 President Clinton signed a bill which restricted Congress from imposing new requirements on state and local governments without paying for them. [P.L. 104-4, Public Papers of the President, 3/22/95]
- **Signed Line Item Veto Into Law To Fight Government Waste:** President Clinton fought for and signed into law line-item veto legislation which significantly enhances the presidential authority to eliminate wasteful spending by allowing the president to cancel wasteful special interest projects and special interest tax loopholes that sneak into the budget year after year. [P.L. 104-130; Public Papers of the President, 4/9/96]

### A RECORD TO BUILD ON:

- **Pass Real Campaign Finance Reform This Year:** Pass the first truly bipartisan campaign finance reform bill (McCain-Feingold, Shays-Meehan) in a generation that will reduce the amount of money that is raised and spent on federal elections and open the airwaves to all candidates.
- **Finish The Job Of Balancing The Budget:** Since taking office in 1993, President Clinton has cut the deficit from \$290 billion to \$75 billion. President Clinton is now working to enact into law an historic bipartisan budget agreement which will balance the federal budget by the year 2002.
- **Get Gillespie To Find Something Else To Put Here:**  
entitlement reform?

DRAFT

Clinton-Gore Administration Accomplishments

FOREIGN POLICY

"To prepare America for the 21st century we must master the forces of change in the world and keep American leadership strong and sure for an uncharted time... Let us do what it takes to remain the indispensable nation, to keep America strong, secure and prosperous for another 50 years." -- President Clinton, State of the Union address, February 4, 1997

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

*Protecting American Interests*

- **Forged A Deal To Stop Russian Nuclear Missiles From Pointing At U.S.:** For the first time in over 40 years, Russian nuclear missiles are no longer pointed at America's children and Ukraine, Belarus and Kazhakstan gave up nuclear weapons altogether. [President Clinton's State of the Union address, 1/25/94]
- **Successfully Secured Bipartisan Senate Ratification Of The Start II Treaty:** This treaty reduced U.S. and Russian nuclear stockpiles by another 25%. [AP, 1/26/96]
- **Persuaded North Korea To Freeze & Eventually Dismantle Its Dangerous Nuclear Weapons Program.** [President Clinton statement, Federal News Service, 10/18/94]
- **Signed New Anti-Terrorism Legislation:** President Clinton intensified the fight against terrorism by pressing for and signing new anti-terrorism legislation imposing sanctions on Iran and Libya for state-sponsored terrorism and providing law enforcement officials with tougher tools to stop terrorists before they strike, ensuring strong penalties for the convicted. [P.L. 104-132, Public Papers of the President, 4/26/96]
- **Fought For & Secured Bipartisan Senate Ratification Of Chemical Weapons Convention:** President Clinton's leadership helped ensure passage of this treaty which will bans the production, stockpiling, and use of chemical weapons and which will reduce the threat of chemical weapons disasters. [Washington Post, 4/25/97]
- **Deployed Aircraft Carriers To Taiwan Straits To Deter China:** When China conducted provocative military exercises, in 1996, President Clinton deployed two aircraft carriers. [LA Times, 3/11/96]
- **Imposed The Toughest Sanctions Ever On Cuba:** President Clinton imposed the toughest sanctions on Castro's Cuba following the brutal killing of U.S. nationals over international waters. [President Clinton announcement, (Federal News Service), 2/26/96]
- **Shaped The New American Military For Post Cold-War Challenges:** President Clinton's leadership ensures that America remains the best-equipped, best-trained and best-prepared fighting force in the world.

DETERMINED TO BE AN ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING Per E.O. 12958 as amended, Sec. 3.2 (c)  
Initials: DS Date: 12/5/05

- **Swiftly Deployed U.S. Forces To Deter Resurgent Iraqi Threats.** [President Clinton Letter to Congressional Leaders on Iraq, 3/7/97]
- **Ordered The Reorganization Of U.S. Foreign Policy Agencies:** The President has ordered the merger of ACDA, USIA, & USAID into a new and better coordinated State Department to make the conduct of U.S. foreign policy more accountable and responsive to the challenges of the 21st century. [New York Times, 4/18/97]

### *Leading The Fight For Peace & Democracy*

- **Brokered The Dayton Peace Accords And Ended Four Years Of Bloodshed:** President Clinton's Dayton Peace accords ended four years of rape, bloodshed, and ethnic cleansing in Bosnia, America is now helping to provide a secure environment so that peace, democracy and economic reconstruction can proceed. [President Clinton letter to Senator Daschle (D-SD), Public Papers of the President, 12/11/95]
- **Negotiated Israel-Jordan Peace Treaty:** President Clinton championed peace efforts in the Middle East by negotiating the Israel-Jordan peace treaty and helping Israelis and Palestinians fulfill their historic peace agreement. [President Clinton remarks at signing of Peace Treaty, 10/26/94 (U.S. Newswire, 10/27/94)]
- **Led International Efforts To Adopt Counter-Terrorism Initiatives:** President Clinton led these efforts at the Summit of the Peacemakers in Egypt in March 1996, at the G-7 Economic Summit in France in June 1996, and at the July 1996 Paris Terrorism Ministerials. [President Clinton statements, (Public Papers of the President) 3/13/96; 6/27/96]
- **Negotiated A Written Agreement Between Syria and Israel:** This agreement ended Hezbollah attacks on Israel, restored peace, and protected civilians on both sides of the Lebanon-Israel border. [President Clinton statement, (U.S. Newswire), 4/26/96]
- **Successfully Managed Israeli Troop Withdrawal From Hebron:** The President advanced the Middle East Peace Process by successfully managing the Israeli troop withdrawal from the West Bank town of Hebron. [President Clinton statement, 1/15/97]
- **Restored Democracy To Haiti:** President Clinton stopped the flow of refugees to the U.S. and accomplished the first transfer of power from one democratically-elected president to another in Haitian history. [P.L. 103-423, Public Papers of the President, 10/25/94; President Clinton Letter to Congressional Leaders on Haiti, 3/21/96]
- **President Clinton Became The First American President To Engage Directly In The Pursuit Of A Just & Lasting Peace In Northern Ireland.** [Reuters, 8/31/94; 5/14/94]
- **Led The Way On NATO Expansion:** Expansion of the NATO alliance would help extend European security and democracy. [President Clinton's Remarks, 1/11/94; Partnership For Peace, 1/10/94; President Clinton's Remarks, (U.S. Newswire), 5/14/97]

## A RECORD TO BUILD ON:

President Clinton will continue to stand up for American values abroad. By supporting those who are taking risks for peace, we are living up to the promise of American leadership and helping secure a future of peace and prosperity for all. President is challenging the Congress and other countries to:

- **Intensify The Fight Against Terrorism & Organized Crime:** Continue to combat terrorism at home and abroad by working for tougher enforcement and more cross-border cooperation.
- **Secure A Truly Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty:**
- **Aggressively Combat International Drug-Trafficking:** Continue to aggressively fight international drug-trafficking by working closely with other countries, providing military support and initiating anti-corruption efforts to stem the flow of drugs.

Accomplishments

# PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON: MEETING AMERICA'S CHALLENGE OF CHERISHING OUR CHILDREN AND STRENGTHENING AMERICA'S FAMILIES

*"Our first challenge is to cherish our children and strengthen America's families. Family is the foundation of American life. If we have stronger families, we will have a stronger America."*  
— President Clinton, State of the Union Address  
January 23, 1996

## A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

### *Cherishing Our Children*

- Announced a breakthrough agreement with the media and entertainment industry to develop a **television ratings system** to enable parents to protect their children from violence and adult content.
- Gave parents greater control over what their children watch on television by requiring the installation of anti-violence screening chips ("**V-chips**") in all new televisions.
- Proposed targeted measures to cut off **children's access to tobacco products** and to ban **advertising directed at children**.
- Established a Childhood Immunization Initiative to ensure **vaccinations and healthy futures** for all children. The President's initiative contributed to the immunization of 75% of two-year children in 1995, an historic high.

### *Strengthening Our Families*

- Enabled **workers to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave** to care for a family member without fear of losing their jobs. (Family and Medical Leave Act)
- Provided **tax relief for 15 million working families** by increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit to allow more families to qualify for tax rebates.
- Helped families move from **welfare to work** by authorizing 37 states to bypass existing welfare rules and set time limits on benefits, require recipients to work or stay in school, provide child care and give employers incentives to hire welfare recipients. These waivers are making work and responsibility a way of life for 75% of all welfare recipients.
- Breaking the **cycle of welfare dependency** by requiring teenage mothers to live at home, stay in school and turn their lives around.

### *Ensuring Responsibility*

- Collected a record **\$11 billion in child support** in 1995 through tougher enforcement, almost a 40% increase over 1992.
- Issued an Executive Order to help track down **federal workers who fail to pay child support**.
- Worked with community, business and religious leaders to form a **national campaign to reduce teen pregnancy**.

### *Making Our Communities and Schools Safer*

- Won passage of the toughest, smartest Crime Bill ever which puts **100,000 more police officers** on the street; imposed a targeted **"Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out"** provision to put career violent offenders behind bars for life; expanded the **death penalty** to include drug kingpins, murderers of federal law enforcement officers and nearly 60 additional categories of violent felons; and provided funding for **100,000 more prison cells** to help states ensure that violent offenders serve their full sentences.
- Stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the **Brady Bill** — as a result, more than **60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals** have already been blocked from buying handguns.
- Banned the manufacture and importation of **19 of the deadliest assault weapons** while specifically protecting more than 650 legitimate sporting weapons. (Assault Weapons Ban)
- Tripled funding for **battered women's shelters** and provided **\$26 million in state grants** to bolster local law enforcement, prosecution and victims' services to better address violence against women. (Violence Against Women Act)
- Established nationwide 24-hour **domestic violence hotline** providing immediate crisis intervention, counseling and referrals for those in need.
- Keeping dangerous weapons out of our children's classrooms by enforcing a **"Zero Tolerance" gun policy in schools**.
- Reducing **violence and drug abuse in our schools** by investing in school security, drug prevention programs and counseling. (Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act)
- Encouraged schools to adopt **school uniform policies** to help reduce violence while promoting discipline and respect.

### *Making the Necessary Investments in Education*

- Increased **Head Start funding** by almost **\$800 million** to provide early education to tens of thousands of additional children in need.
- Supported the development of the **nation's first system of voluntary standards of excellence** for students while encouraging grassroots reforms to improve our schools. (Goals 2000: Educate America Act)
- Encouraged schools, colleges and employers to join in creating **school-to-work opportunities**, providing students with work-based learning and giving them new pathways from high school to good jobs and post-secondary education. (School-to-Work Opportunities Act)
- Gave schools **greater flexibility to use federal aid** and develop **effective teaching innovations** to help economically disadvantaged students achieve their full potential. (Improving America's Schools Act)

Accomplishments  
BR/ek  
WIP/atus  
RZ changes  
JAM

EXECUTIVE ACTIONS AND  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION  
DRAFT, January 9, 1998

The following data describes specific effects of some significant executive orders, memorandums, and actions. Each section briefly lists the relevant Administration program, its goals, and the results it has produced. The information is divided into the following topic areas: education; children and families; crime; welfare reform; environment; service and volunteerism; consumer protection; farming and the food supply; and aid to small businesses.

I. Education

Charter Schools

- *Advocating and Funding Charter Schools.* When President Clinton took office there was one charter school in existence, as of the 1997-1998 school year, there are more than 800 charter schools.
  - ▶ By the end of the 1997-98 academic year, there will be more than 900 charter schools in existence, with the Administration supporting more than 800 of these schools. Source: Department of Education.
  - ▶ The average size of charter schools is 200 students. With over 800 schools currently operating, there are over 160,000 students in charter schools. Source: Department of Education's National Study of Charter Schools.
  - ▶ The Administration has met approximately 70% of the estimated need for start-up funding for charter schools. These federal funds represent about 6% of the total operating costs for charter schools. Source: Department of Education.

1100  
200,000

School Uniforms

- *Memorandum on the School Uniforms Manual, Memorandum for the Secretary of Education* (February 23, 1996). Helped to deter school violence, promote discipline, and foster a better learning environment by promoting school uniforms. Disseminated *Manual on School Uniforms* to 15,000 school districts in 1996. In addition, 9,167 copies of the manual were distributed to persons who requested them.
  - ▶ In Miami, 196 out of 328 public schools now require school uniforms. Source: Department of Education.
  - ▶ In New York City, it is expected that 25% of all public schools will require school uniforms by the end of the 1997-98 school year. Source: Department of Education.
  - ▶ In Chicago, 4 out of 5 public schools require school uniforms. Source: Department of Education.
  - ▶ In Boston, out of 125 schools, 58 have voluntary school uniform policies

1/2  
1/4  
80%

and 18 have mandatory policies. Source: Department of Education

### School to Work

- *Promoting School-to-Work Programs.* Helped prepare students to succeed in the new economy by promoting programs that connect what goes on in the classroom to future careers, real work situations, and opportunities for post-secondary education training.
  - ▶ Local Partnerships report that between December 1995 and June 1996, the number of businesses participating in school-to-work partnerships increased by 50% from 135,000 to 200,000. The number of work-based learning opportunities offered by businesses increased from 53,000 in December 1995 to 119,000 in June 1996. Source: Department of Labor.
  - ▶ Of the approximately 13 million secondary school students in the country, state data indicate that one million, or 8%, participated in one or more school-based school-to-work activities between January and June 1996. Based on the national evaluation study, 250,000 of these students could be described as having participated in comprehensive school-to-work activities, *i.e.*, a career major with integrated curricula, and paid or unpaid work experience linked to school. Source: Department of Labor.
  - ▶ Of the 111,500 elementary and secondary schools in the U.S., state data indicate that 23 percent offer at least one component of school-to-work as of June 1996. Source: Department of Labor.

### Literacy

- *America Reads.* Recognizing the importance of involving all Americans in the lives of the nation's children, the President challenged colleges and universities to commit work-study students as reading tutors. Over 800 colleges and universities have already committed to provide tens of thousands of work-study students as reading tutors in the current school year as part of America Reads. # of tutors?
  - ▶ 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. 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. The Corporation for National Service is also launching a new "Seniors in Schools" initiative in nine cities using 700 senior volunteers as literacy tutors in some of the nation's poorest elementary schools.
- *Read\*Write\*Now! Summer Pilot Program*
  - ▶ The Department of Education distributed 1.5 million basic *Read\*Write\*Now!* Kits for grades K-6 as part of the program to have children read throughout the summer. In addition, 120,000 Spiderman workbooks, 63,022 Early Childhood Family Kits, and 23,121 Early Childhood Caregiver Kits were distributed. Thousands of black and white

### *Preparing Our Schools for the 21st Century*

- Proposed a **\$2 billion Technology Literacy Challenge Fund** to help communities and the private sector ensure that every student is equipped with the computer literacy skills needed for the 21st century.
- Launched an **Educational Technology Initiative** to connect every classroom to the Information Superhighway and provide all students with access to computers by the dawn of the next century.
- Challenged the technology industry to connect 20% of California's public schools to the **Information Superhighway** by the end of this school year. This challenge became a reality in March during Net Day '96.

### *Opening the Door to College*

- Reformed the **student loan program**, making college more affordable this year for **5.5 million students** and saving taxpayers billions of dollars by cutting red tape and providing loans with flexible repayment options, including pay-as-you-earn plans. (Student Loan Reform Act)
- Enabled **45,000 volunteers to earn money for college** by serving their communities and their country in the **AmeriCorps** program. (National Service Act)

### THE CHALLENGES AHEAD:

America is moving in the right direction. The crime rate is down, welfare rolls and food stamp participation are falling and the teen pregnancy rate has dropped. But, we still have more work to do to ensure the health, safety and futures of our families. That is why President Clinton has issued the following challenges:

- Congress should pass a **bipartisan welfare reform bill** that reinforces basic American values — work, responsibility and family.
- Congress should pass **meaningful health insurance reform** that allows people to keep coverage when they change jobs and prevents insurance companies from denying coverage due to pre-existing conditions.
- Families must **end domestic violence** and work harder at staying together.
- Media and entertainment industries must create movies, CD's and television shows more suitable for children.

versions of the above products were also distributed, and the kits were also available on the Internet.

There were fourteen summer pilot sites throughout the country. These sites served 85,000 children with help from schools, colleges, churches, literacy organizations, and hundreds of other community organizations.

### Prayer in School

- *Memorandum on Religious Expression in Public Schools, Memorandum for the Secretary of Education and the Attorney General* (July 12, 1995). Protected the religious expression of students by distributing a statement of principles addressing religious activity and expression in public schools. This statement of principles, *Religious Expression in Public Schools*, was sent to every public school superintendent; the leadership of private elementary and secondary schools; national religious and school organization leadership; and all chief state school officers.
  - ▶ Following the development of *Religious Expression in Public Schools*, the National School Boards Association reported that inquiries regarding how Christmas celebrations can be accommodated in public schools decreased dramatically.

### Internet-Based Education Resources

- *Promoting the Wiring of Schools*. Helping to connect every school and classroom in America to the information superhighway. A telecommunication survey in 1994 showed only 9% of schools and 3% of classrooms wired to the Internet.
  - ▶ 65% of schools and 14% of classrooms are now wired for the Internet. Source: National Center for Education Statistics.
  - ▶ 72% of schools and 29% of classrooms have access to the Internet. Source: Quality Education Data (QED).
- *Memorandum on Expanding Access to Internet-based Educational Resources for Children, Teachers, and Parents* (April 18, 1997).
  - ▶ The Department of Education is chairing an interagency effort to create a gateway to all federal educational resources that will debut in early 1998.
  - ▶ A segment of the Justice Department web page entitled *Hateful Acts Hurt Kids*, which promotes the discussion of prejudice and discrimination among children, parents, and teachers, was unveiled during the White House Conference on Hate Crimes on November 10, 1997. During its first week, the web page received nearly 10,000 hits.
- *Educational Technology: Ensuring Opportunity for all Children in the Next Century, Executive Order 12999* (April 17, 1996). Providing access to modern computers for all teachers and students. Launched the "Computers for Learning" program, which is a unique partnership between federal agencies, schools, and non-profits across the country to move more than 70,000 computers into the

nation's neediest classrooms.

- *Directive on Federal Resources OnLine in Education.* More than 30 agencies are participating in the working group and the pilot site will be unveiled in early 1998. The Department of Education's web site receives over 6 million hits a month from over 300,000 computers.
- *Internet Summit.* Assisting parents in learning about the Internet. The *Parents Guide to the Internet* was released at the Internet Summit on December 2, 1997. Approximately 200,000 copies of the guide will be distributed by the Education Department's toll-free number request service, Family Partnership for Learning members, and the Consumer Information Center.

### Student Loans and Grants

- *Direct Lending.* A total of 2.36 million borrowers have received Direct Loans. 1.86 million of these borrowers were students, 260,000 were parents, and 240,000 were borrowers consolidating their FFEL loans into Direct Consolidation Loans. Source: Department of Education Management Information Reports.
- *Reforming Student Loans.* Through the period fiscal years 1994-97, student borrowers have saved \$1.657 billion from changes in the Student Loan Reform Act. For the period fiscal years 1994 through 2002, the Department estimates total student borrower savings to be approximately \$5 billion. Source: Department of Education.
  - ▶ An estimated 374,000 borrowers have selected the income contingent repayment plan. Of those who consolidated into Direct Loans, more than one-third chose income contingent repayment. About 41 percent of consolidation loans made as of September 30, 1997, were for borrowers that had previously defaulted on a FFEL loan. Source: Department of Education.
  - ▶ During the period fiscal year 1996-98, the Department of Education will spend \$407 million for Direct Loan administration, out of a total post-secondary education management budget of \$1.8 billion. Source: Department of Education.
- *Pell Grants.* Under President Clinton's Administration, there has been the largest Pell Grant increase in 20 years. Pell Grants increased from \$2,300 in 1993 to \$2,700 in 1997. These grants provide a total of 3.7 million low-income students the opportunity to attend college. For Fiscal Year 1998, Congress adopted President Clinton's proposal to increase the maximum Pell Grant to \$3,000, which is the largest increase in two decades. Approximately 3.7 million students will receive this year's \$300 increase, and an additional 220,000 low- and moderate-income families that were not previously eligible will receive Pell Grants.

## Quality Education

- *Directive on Improved Teaching.* The Department of Education developed *Excellence and Accountability in Teaching: A Guide to U.S. Department of Education Programs and Resources*. This guide has been widely distributed, including to the Chief State School Officers and to approximately 600 individuals and organizations interested in teacher quality issues; and has been included in the Department of Education's web site.
  - *New Resources for Teachers.* Funded two new centers to improve the quality of teaching: a \$7.5 million Center for the Study of Teaching and Policy to serve as a resource to policy makers and a \$23 million Partnership for Excellence and Accountability in Teaching that will launch a comprehensive national effort to support and sustain long-term improvements in teaching and learning.
- *Keeping Schools Open Late.* Provided additional safe havens and extended learning opportunities for children and their families at schools around the country. The Department of Education has developed a guidebook of promising practices and ideas on how to start and organize after-school programs entitled *Keeping Schools Open as Community Learning Centers*. In fiscal year 1998, the Administration will be able to fund 300 after-school programs serving a total of 30,000 children.
- *Memorandum on Preparing Students to Meet National Standards of Excellence in Eighth Grade Math and Improving Math and Science Education, Memorandum to the Secretary of Education and the Director of the National Science Foundation* (March 6, 1997). Produced an action strategy for improving mathematics and science education. [The National Science Foundation and the Department of Education plan to formally submit the strategy to the White House in early 1998.]
- *Directive on Fixing Failing Schools* (October 28, 1997). By early next year, the Department of Education will make available in print and on the Department's web page, a guide for how to turn around low-performing schools.

## II. Children and Families

### Head Start

- *Head Start.* The Appropriations Act signed by the President provides nearly \$4.4 billion for Head Start, keeping on track to meet the President's goal of serving one million children. With this \$374 million increase, Head Start funding will have

increased 57% since 1993. The program will serve an estimated 836,000 children in 1998.

### Child Support

- *Tax Offset.* In 1997, over \$2.1 billion has been collected, of which over \$1.2 billion is child support debt and nearly \$950 million is federal debt. Source: Department of Treasury.
- *Memorandum on the Child Support Initiative, Memorandum for the Secretary of Health and Human Services (June 18, 1996).* Strengthened child support operations by toughening paternity establishment requirements for applicants for welfare and by enabling states to locate, and withhold wages from, obligors who have taken a job in another state -- reforms that became law along with other tough new rules as part of welfare reform. The Clinton Administration collected a record \$12 billion in child support in 1996 through tougher enforcement, an increase of \$4 billion, or nearly 50%, since 1992. In 1996, the number of child support cases with collections also rose to 4 million, an increase of 43%, from 2.8 million in 1992. In 1996, the number of paternities established rose to nearly 1 million, almost double, from 516,000 in 1992.
- *Requiring HHS and the U.S. Postal Service to implement a policy of posting "Wanted Lists" in post offices of parents who owe child support (1996).* In 1997, the following 12 states displayed "Wanted Lists" for delinquent child support offenders: California, Connecticut, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oregon, and South Dakota.
- *Child Support Enforcement System Web Site (1996).* Used the Internet to help people access the child support enforcement system more easily and effectively -- and to help find those parents who are not paying the child support they owe. In 1997, the Child Support Enforcement web page received over 238,000 hits.
- *Supporting Families: Collecting Delinquent Child Support Obligations, Executive Order 13019 (September 28, 1996).* Facilitated the collection of delinquent child support obligations from persons who may be entitled or eligible to receive certain federal payments or assistance. The first administrative offset was taken on June 10, 1997. To date, 843 payments have been offset, and \$186,581 has been collected through the Administrative Offset Program.

### Child Care

- *Memorandum on Improving the Quality of Child Care in the United States, Memorandum for the Secretary of Defense (April 17, 1997).* Directed the Department of Defense to share the expertise and lessons learned from the Military Child Development Programs with Federal, State, tribal, and local

agencies, as well as with private and nonprofit groups, that are responsible for providing child care. The October 15 Interim Report to the President on this initiative cited a variety of steps taken, including creation of a toll free number (1-888-CDP-3040) for civilian programs to order DOD training materials and training over 100 personnel to serve as speakers for the DOD Child Development Program Speakers' Bureau.

### Protecting Children

- *Memorandum on Child Safety Lock Devices for Handguns* (March 5, 1997). Required that a child safety lock device be issued to every Federal employee who carries a firearm on official duty. By October 1997, all federal agencies with law enforcement agents reported that they were in compliance with the President's directive, including approximately 30,000 Justice Department employees from the FBI, DEA, INS, and Marshals Service, and about 20,000 Treasury law enforcement personnel. Source: Department of the Treasury, Department of Justice.
  - ▶ Under the President's leadership, 8 major handgun manufacturers, who make the vast majority of handguns in the country, have agreed to provide child safety devices with each handgun sold.
- *Memorandum on the Development of a National Sexual Offender Registration System, Memorandum for the Attorney General* (July 25, 1996). Improved the safety and protection of children through creation of a national sex offender registry. As of December 1, 1997, 20 states, representing 44.2% of the U.S. population, have contributed to the national registry which now includes information on approximately 27,000 offenders.

### Balancing Work and Family

- *Memorandum on Expanded Family and Medical Leave Policies* (April 11, 1997). In April 1997, the President asked federal agencies to implement his expanded leave policy immediately for federal workers. Source: Department of Labor.
  - ▶ In years 1995 and 1996, a total of 226,554 employees took leave under FMLA at the Department of Defense, of which 134,768 (59.5%) were men and 91,786 (40.5%) were women. Source: Department of Defense.
  - ▶ In 1995, 33,218 Department of Treasury employees used 410,373 hours under FMLA for family care or bereavement purposes. In 1996, the number increased to 44,060 employees and 535,515 hours. Source: Department of Treasury.
- *Memorandum on Implementing Federal Family Friendly Work Arrangements* (June 21, 1996). Supported agencies in promoting family-friendly work arrangements including alternative work schedules, "flexiplace" (telecommuting), job sharing, career part-time employment, child care, leave sharing, transportation subsidies, and employee assistance programs.

- ▶ Approximately 46% of the Department of Commerce workforce are working under some form of alternative work schedule. Source: Department of Commerce.
- ▶ Over 50% of the Department of Defense workforce are working under some form of alternative work schedule. Over 300,000 Department of Defense employees are on flex time, and approximately 3,000 employees telecommute. Source: Department of Defense.
- ▶ Eighty-five percent of the Department of Labor's employees are on some form of alternative work schedule (flexitime or compressed schedule). In addition, 22% telecommute. Source: Department of Labor.
- ▶ Approximately 95% of the Department of Transportation's employees are eligible for some form of alternative work schedule (flexitime or compressed schedule). In addition, there are currently over 900 employees who telecommute at least once a week. Source: Department of Transportation.
- ▶ Over 70,000 employees at the Department of the Treasury use the various types of flex time. Source: Department of Treasury.

### Health Care

- *Immunization.* As a result of the President's 1993 Childhood Immunization Initiative, childhood immunization rates have reached an historic high. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 90% or more of America's toddlers in 1996 received the most critical doses of each of the routinely recommended vaccines -- surpassing the President's 1993 childhood vaccination goal.
  - ▶ *Immunization-Child Care Initiative (July 23, 1997).* Continued to improve child immunization through beginning work on an integrated immunization registry system so that when children change doctors, the new doctor will have access to the child's immunization record. In 1997, the President also announced that all children in federally-subsidized child care centers are required to be immunized.
- *Ending Drive-Thru Deliveries (1996).* Advocated and passed reforms requiring insurance companies to cover at least 48 hour hospital stays following most normal deliveries and 96 hours after a Caesarean section. [For the most part, this is being implemented by the states, and HHS will have no direct program data.]
- *Expanded FDA Review and Approval of New Drug Products.* Under the reinventing government initiative, U.S. drug approvals are now as fast or faster than any other industrialized nation. Average drug approval times have dropped since the beginning of the Administration from almost three years to just over one year. In 1997, virtually all breakthrough drugs will be approved within six months without compromising safety standards.

- *Ensuring the Safety of Medications Used To Treat Children* (August 13, 1997). Unveiled a new FDA regulation that will protect children by requiring manufacturers to study the safety and appropriate dosage levels of drugs for pediatric populations and requiring proper labeling of drugs for use in children. Many drugs commonly given to children have not been tested on children including: Ritalin, and drugs for asthma, allergic reactions, HIV/AIDS, and ear infections. These drugs, taken together, are given to over five million children each year. The percentage of drugs being tested on children decreased by over one-third between 1991 and 1996.
- *Eliminated Gag-Rules in Medicare and Medicaid* (February 20, 1997). Ensured that Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries have the right to know all their treatment options by making it illegal for health plans to prohibit doctors from discussing options with their patients. Protected 13 million Medicaid beneficiaries in managed care plans -- children, people with disabilities and elderly Americans -- and Medicare beneficiaries in managed care plans.
- *Moratorium on Home Health Providers* (September 15, 1997). Placed moratorium on home health providers to allow HHS to enact strong new regulations to keep fly-by-night providers out of the system. Home health care is the most rapidly expanding part of Medicare, with nearly 100 new home health providers entering Medicare each month.
- *Covered Millions of Uninsured American Through Medicaid Waivers*. Approved 18 Medicaid waivers to cover more than two million previously uninsured Americans.
- *Memorandum on Importation of RU-486, Memorandum for the Secretary of Health and Human Services* (January 22, 1993). Directed assessing initiatives by which the Department of Health and Human Services can promote the testing, licensing, and manufacturing in the United States of RU-486 or other antiprogestins.

#### Child Worker Labels

- *Child Worker Labels* (August 1996). Because the child labor labeling programs are relatively recent, and definitive data on costs and benefits as well as consumer demand are not available, the newest report does not attempt to make quantitative assessments of their effectiveness.

#### Adoption

- *Memorandum on Adoption and Alternative Placement of Children in the Public Child Welfare System, Memorandum for the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of*

*Commerce, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management* (December 14, 1996). Bipartisan legislation, the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997, was based largely on the recommendations of the Administration's Adoption 2002 report. The legislation will help thousands of children waiting in foster care move more quickly into safe and permanent homes. The Act makes clear that the health and safety of children must be the paramount concerns of state child welfare services.

- *Children With Special Needs.* Signed the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996, which provides a \$5,000 tax credit to families adopting children, and \$6,000 tax credit for families adopting children with special needs. Since President Clinton took office, the number of children with special needs who have been adopted with federal adoption assistance has risen by 60%.

### Teen Pregnancy

- *National Strategy to Reduce Teen Pregnancy.* Since 1993, President Clinton has supported innovative teen pregnancy strategies. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, a private non-profit organization, was formed in response to the President's 1995 State of the Union. HHS-supported programs reach about 30% or 1,410 communities in the United States. Data shows that we are making progress in reducing teen pregnancy.

- The U.S. birth rate for teenagers in 1996 was 54.7 births per 1,000 women aged 15-19 years, down 4% from 1995 (56.8). The teenage birth rate has declined by 12% since 1991 (62.1). *Source: National Center for Health Statistics, preliminary 1996 statistics (September 1997).*
- Birth rates for teenagers 15-19 years declined between 1991 and 1995 in all states and the District of Columbia, echoing the national trends during this time. Rates fell by 12% or more in 12 states; declines in 5 states exceeded 16%. *Source: National Center for Health Statistics, preliminary 1996 statistics (September 1997).*

### Domestic Violence

- *Violence Against Women.* Legislation provides for hiring more prosecutors and improving domestic violence training among prosecutors, police officers, and health and social services professionals. Established a nationwide 24-hour domestic violence hotline providing immediate crisis intervention and local shelter referral to victims that has received over 140,000 calls since February 1996. The Clinton Administration has granted states, territories, and Native American tribes nearly \$300 million to support the system of 1,400 emergency shelters, safe homes, and related services nationwide.

### Housing Opportunity

- *FHA Fees.* The President has cut FHA home mortgage insurance premiums four times. One reduction, applying to all first-time home buyers, will save home

buyers \$200 in closing costs on the average FHA mortgage of \$85,000. Another will save first-time home buyers in central cities who participate in home ownership counseling an additional \$200. In all, cuts approved by President Clinton have lowered average FHA closing costs for first-time home buyers by \$1,200 around the country and will cut closing costs by \$1,400 in central cities. Last year, FHA provided financing for 800,000 homeowners, many of whom were first-time home buyers.

- *Making It Easier to Qualify for Mortgage Loans.* The FHA has eliminated unnecessary and overly strict requirements under its loan program that made it difficult for many families to qualify for mortgage loans.

- *Financing.* Provided financing to help 40,000 rural people buy single-family homes, including the construction of 14,000 homes under the Self-Help Housing program, in which low-income people gain "sweat equity" by participating in the construction of their own homes. USDA also financed the building of 7,900 units of multiple-family housing. In total, USDA's Rural Housing Service invested more than \$2.6 billion either as loans, guaranteed loans, or grants in rural housing last year. More than 58,000 jobs were created as a result of housing construction generated by USDA programs. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.

- *Rental Assistance.* Provided \$540 million in rental assistance to help nearly 40,000 rural, low-income households obtain well-built, safe housing. Fifty percent of the rental program beneficiaries were elderly, with average annual income of less than \$7,300. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.

### III. Welfare

- *Memorandum on Government Employment for Welfare Recipients* (March 8, 1997). In seven months, 2,229 employees have been hired off of public assistance by the federal government, about one-fifth of the goal of hiring 10,000 persons by the year 2000.

**Welfare-to-Work  
Commitments and Hires through November 22, 1997  
as Reported by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management**

AGENCY	Total Commitment Thru 2000	1997 Hires Reported Thru 10-22-97	% of Total Year 2000 Commitment Hired Since 3-8-97
Commodity Futures Trading Commission	---	2	---
Department of Agriculture	375	127	34%

Department of Commerce	4180	80	2%
Department of Defense	1600	375	23%
Department of Education	21	7	33%
Department of Energy	55	12	22%
Department of Health & Human Services	300	148	49%
Department of Housing & Urban Development	200	41	21%
Department of the Interior	325	69	21%
Department of Justice	450	68	15%
Department of Labor	120	54	45%
Department of State	220	10	5%
Department of Transportation	400	106	27%
Department of the Treasury	405	57	14%
Department of Veterans Affairs	800	635	79%
Environmental Protection Agency	120	32	27%
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission	---	5	---
Executive Office of the President	6	6	100%
Federal Emergency Management Agency	125	27	22%
General Services Administration	121	50	41%
National Aeronautics & Space Administration	40	8	20%
National Credit Union Administration	---	4	---
National Labor Relations Board	---	1	---
Office of Personnel Management	25	31	124%
Railroad Retirement Board	---	1	---
Securities & Exchange Commission	10	6	60%
Small Business Administration	120	33	28%
Social Security Administration	600	218	36%
U.S. Information Agency	20	15	75%
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission	---	1	---
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10638</b>	<b>2229</b>	<b>21%</b>

• *Coalition to Sustain Success.* Vice President has led a new partnership of civic

organizations that is working with state and local government to mentor families seeking to leave welfare for work.

- *The Welfare to Work Partnership.* Mobilized over 2500 businesses to hire welfare recipients.
- *Small Business and Welfare to Work.* SBA has received 800 pledges from small businesses willing to hire former welfare recipients through the work of Small Business Development Centers.

#### Food Stamp Fraud

- *Anti-Fraud Program.* Issuance error rates for food stamps have declined in each of the past three years, resulting in total savings of \$660 million. In June 1997, the 1996 error rate dropped to 9.2% from the previous year's 9.7%, resulting in a single-year savings of more than \$85 million for the program.
- *Pre-Authorization Screening of Retailers; Tougher Post-Authorization Controls; and Stiffer Penalties for Violators.* During fiscal year 1997, the Food Stamp Program conducted 4,627 investigations of stores, and fired or disqualified 1,584 retailers for program violations. Of those, 712 retailers, with redemptions of \$79.5 million, were identified as having engaged in trafficking, or having exchanged food stamps for cash.
- *Operation Talon.* Organized a nationwide sting to arrest more than 2,100 fugitives felons who were illegally receiving food stamps. This initiative will save millions of taxpayer dollars. "Operation Talon" was made possible by the welfare reform law which permits local food stamp offices to release the addresses of fugitive felons to law enforcement officers.

#### IV. Crime

##### Guns

- *Memorandum on Implementation of the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative* (July 8, 1996). Traced approximately 93,477 guns from 27 communities (17 original sites and 10 new sites) through the use of an innovative computer software system that examines crime gun trace information and provides law enforcement officers with crucial investigative leads about the sources of these guns. Source: Department of Treasury. **Note: These numbers are updated from the numbers released in July 1997.**
- *Memorandum on Gun Dealer Licensing, Memorandum for the Secretary of the Treasury* (August 11, 1993) This initiative strengthened the system of licensing gun dealers, and assured their compliance with applicable rules. The Brady law

and the Violent Crime Act of 1994 codified the directive and further reformed the gun dealer licensing system. As of December 10, 1997, the total number of federal firearms licensees (FFLs) is 106,997, down from 279,839 in April 1994, and the total number of FFL dealers is 88,590 down from 252,799. Source: Department of the Treasury.

- *Memorandum on Enforcing the Youth Handgun Safety Act, Memorandum for the Secretary of the Treasury* (June 11, 1997). A notice of proposed rulemaking concerning warning signs on guns and juveniles to be posted by federally licensed gun dealers was published in the Federal Register on August 27, 1997. Final regulations are being drafted and are expected to be completed in early 1998.
- *Enforcing Zero Tolerance for Guns and Other Weapons in Schools.* In October 1994, President Clinton signed into law the Gun-Free Schools Act, and issued a Presidential Directive later that month to enforce "zero tolerance" for guns in schools -- if a student brings a gun to school, that student will be expelled for a year. Under the President's Zero Tolerance gun policy, preliminary estimates show that approximately 6,000 students have been expelled for bringing weapons to schools, and the vast majority of those expulsions involved guns.
- *Presidential Initiative Requiring Greater Proof of State Residency Before Purchasing a Firearm* (March 5, 1997). Following the February 23 shooting at the Empire State Building, the President asked the Secretary of the Treasury to examine what might be done to prevent unlawful firearms purchases by aliens legally in the United States. ATF responded on April 21, 1997 by amending the firearms purchase form and related regulations to require purchasers to declare their citizenship status, and to require aliens to present photo identification and documentary evidence establishing their 90-day residence in the state of purchase. [Data, however, is not available on this initiative as gun dealers are not required to report information on denial rates.]
- *Ban on Chinese Assault Weapons and Ammunition.* In 1994, the President used his authority under the Arms Export Control Act to stop the potential importation of millions of assault-type rifles (SKS) and high-capacity magazines.

## Housing

- *Memorandum on the "One Strike and You're Out" Guidelines, Memorandum for the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development* (March 28, 1996). Denied admission to applicants and evicted tenants in public housing authorities (PHAs) who have engaged in illegal drug use or other criminal activities. The guidance permits PHAs to institute and enforce tough rules to protect the safety of families living in public housing.
  - Of the 1,859 out of 3,192 (58%) total PHAs responding to the Department

of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Public and Indian Housing March 1997 survey, 1,392 PHAs had implemented "One Strike" programs. These 1,859 PHAs completed 3,847 evictions in the six months after "One Strike" took effect. [It should be noted that these evictions did not necessarily result from PHAs' One Strike practices, and no eviction statistics for prior years are available for comparison purposes. The responding PHAs also reported that 19,589 people were denied admission to public housing for criminal or drug-related activity in the six months following enactment of One Strike. Again, these actions did not necessarily result from One Strike, and no figures for comparison are available.] Source: Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Public and Indian Housing survey (March 1997).

- *Boosting Homeownership and Fighting Crime.* The "Officer Next Door" program provides incentives for police officers to live in the communities where they work by offering a 50% discount on the purchase of HUD-owned foreclosed properties in designated revitalization areas. HUD has accepted 261 sales contracts and closed 59 deals in HUD-held properties under this initiative.
- *Zero Tolerance for Waste, Fraud, and Abuse in Housing.* The "Get Tough" campaign has resulted in the debarment of nearly 90 bad landlords -- compared with only 15 in 1996; the debarment of 26 bad public housing officials -- a 100% increase over 1996; and more than 1,400 arrests for crime and drugs in public housing.
- *Memorandum on Federal Arrestee Drug Testing (December 18, 1995).* Increased drug testing of criminal defendants. In fiscal year 1997, data from 24 districts indicated that 9,308 defendants, or 56% of defendants, were tested, which is a dramatic increase over the 4,929 defendants, or 28% of defendants, tested in fiscal year 1996. 1,252 defendants received drug treatment, which is an 190% increase over the 431 defendants treated in fiscal year 1996. Source: Department of Justice.
- *National Community Policing Number of Non-Emergency Calls (311) (July 23, 1996).* Assisted in more efficient use of police resources by encouraging use of 311 for non-emergency calls. During its first year of operations in Baltimore, 911 calls for police services have declined 24.8% and 50,000 hours of police officer time has been saved. Dallas and San José, CA, have recently announced they are launching 311 systems.
- *Promoting Curfews.* Promoted increasing the number of curfews in American cities, by disseminating a bulletin entitled *Curfew: An Answer to Juvenile Delinquency and Victimization?* 71% of 1,649 respondents to the Justice Department's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's October

1997 survey of recipients of the curfew bulletin reported that they live in a jurisdiction with a curfew. Source: Justice Department Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention survey (October 1997).

- ▶ In 1997, 276 of 347 cities (80%) have a nighttime curfew, and 72 have a daytime curfew as well. In 1995, 272 of 387 cities (70%) had a nighttime curfew. Source: U.S. Conference of Mayors Survey (1997).
- ▶ 88 percent (263) of the cities reported that curfew enforcement helped make streets safer and 83% (222) reported that curfews helped curb gang violence. Source: U.S. Conference of Mayors Survey (1997).

- *Cracking Down on Truancy.* The Administration has provided a *Manual to Combat Truancy* to the 15,000 school districts in the country and to 51,000 other persons who requested copies. A copy of the manual has also been placed on the Safe and Drug Free Schools' web page.
- *Memorandum on Missing and Exploited Children* (January 19, 1996). The President's directed the heads of all Executive Branch agencies to post notices of missing children in public areas of federal buildings and facilities. To date, nearly 900 of GSA's federal buildings and 38 kiosks located in high-traffic areas now post photos of missing children. Each month, GSA downloads images of 10 missing children notices from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children via the Internet and circulates them to federal buildings across the country.
- *Prisons and Penalties for Violent Offenders.* The 1994 Clinton Crime Bill promotes penalty enhancements for serious criminals -- such as "three strikes" and "truth-in-sentencing" and provides over \$10 billion for 100,000 more state prison cells to help ensure that violent offenders serve their full sentences and to incarcerate criminal aliens. Since enactment of this historic law, over \$2 billion has been provided in state prison funding; serious criminals are serving longer sentences; and state and federal prison capacity has substantially increased.
- *100,000 Community Police Officers.* President Clinton pledged an additional 100,000 community policing officers to reduce violence and prevent crime in America's neighborhoods. The President's plan, enacted in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, represents the federal government's biggest commitment ever to local law enforcement. To date, the Administration has provided funding for over 67,000 additional officers, who are now helping to keep our neighborhoods and communities safe. Funding for the President's goal of 100,000 officers is protected in the 1997 Balanced Budget Agreement.

## V. Environment

### Parks

- *Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.* On September 18, 1996, President Clinton created the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument in Utah, thereby protecting 1.7 million acres of spectacular red rock canyon lands, artifacts from three ancient cultures, and the most remote site in the lower 48 states.
- *Saving Yellowstone from Mining.* In August 1996, President Clinton announced an agreement to protect Yellowstone National Park from a proposed mine just outside the park which would have endangered the quality and quantity of waters flowing into the park.
- *Memorandum Ordering Planning (with DOI) for Demonstration Transportation Systems in 3 Parks (April 22, 1996)* On Earth Day 1996, President Clinton asked the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Transportation to develop a plan to enhance resource protection and the quality of the visitor experience in national parks through innovative transportation planning. Plans are in place for parks at Zion, Yosemite, and the Grand Canyon.
- *Protection of the Old Growth California Redwoods.* The United States and State of California are acquiring the Headwaters Forest -- the largest privately held stand of old growth redwood trees. Together with buffer areas, the governments will preserve 7,500 acres of significant habitat for several endangered species, including the marbled murrelet and coho salmon. [Negotiations are continuing on the Habitat Conservation Plan.]
- *Everglades Restoration.* In February 1996, the Clinton Administration announced the \$1.5 billion Everglades Restoration Plan. In 1997, the Administration announced the acquisition of over 100,000 acres for restoration purposes, including the purchase of a 50,000 acre sugar plantation and 31,000 acres of prime Florida panther habitat.

### Toxics and Pesticides

- *Memorandum on Community Right-to-Know Initiatives, Memorandum for the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies (August 8, 1995).* President Clinton directed EPA to consider whether to add to the list of industries covered under the Community Right-to-Know Toxic Release Inventory reporting program. EPA published a final rule on May 1, 1997 which added seven industries to the list of industries covered under the reporting program: metal mining; coal mining; electric generating facilities that combust coal and oil; hazardous waste treatment

facilities regulated under Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Subtitle C; wholesale chemical distributors; wholesale petroleum distributors; and solvent recovery facilities.

- *Restrictions on Pesticides.* In 1993, the Clinton Administration stated its commitment to safer biological and reduced-risk pesticides. In 1996, President Clinton signed into law the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) which includes a consistent, health-based standard for pesticide residues, use of an additional safety factor to ensure protection of children, and revisions to the pesticide risk assessment process. Since FQPA was passed, EPA has registered 29 new pesticides, 20 of which were safer reduced-risk and biological pesticides.
- *Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks, Executive Order 13045 (April 21, 1997).* The executive order directed EPA to ensure that the Agency's regulatory actions address the disproportionate risks to children from environmental threats. In May 1997, Administrator Browner created the Office of Children's Health Protection. In September 1997, EPA hosted the first-ever national conference on "Preventable Causes of Childhood Cancer." In September 1997, EPA and HHS announced \$10 million in joint funding for six research centers to examine children's environmental health issues. EPA has drafted regulatory guidance for the Agency to ensure adequate protection of children from environmental threats.

## VI. Service and Volunteerism

- *Presidents' Summit for America's Future.* The 1997 Summit brought together private sector, non-profits, and state and local government in a campaign to promote service. Over 150 cities and states are holding mini-summits.
  - 77 organizations answered the President's challenge and offered to sponsor 10,000 new AmeriCorps members. In June, the Corporation approved 8,900 of these scholarships, ahead of a first-year plan for 5,000 scholarships.
- *Cell Phones for Community Watch Groups.* The President helped launch Communities on Phone Patrol (COPP) with cell phones donated by the wireless technology industry. One year later, in October 1997, 7,850 watch patrols had received almost 9,000 phones -- allowing 300,000 volunteers to use COPP phones to help protect 50 million Americans.
- *National Service Scholarships.* Awarded to over 1,600 high school students with outstanding records of community service. Next year, the Administration hopes that 10,000 high schools in the nation will participate -- almost half of all high schools.

- *Memorandum on Public-Private Partnerships for Protection of the National Parks* (April 26, 1996). In the past five years, the 376 National Park units have benefitted from hundreds of new partnerships. The National Park Service is aided by 93,000 volunteers, 65 cooperating associations, over 150 Friends groups and numerous corporate and philanthropic supporters. Overall, gifts of time and money are worth over \$100 million to the National Parks every year.
- *AmeriCorps*. Created AmeriCorps, which offers young people the chance to serve our nation in exchange for increased access to higher education. Since 1993, more than 100,000 people have enrolled in AmeriCorps. All AmeriCorps members who complete a term of full-time service are eligible for an education award of \$4,725.

## VII. Consumer Protection

### Pensions and 401(K)

- *401(k) Enforcement Initiative*. Since the Department of Labor's Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration launched an enforcement initiative aimed at protecting employees' 401(k) contributions in 1995, the agency has recovered \$35 million nationwide and opened 2,693 investigations. PWBA has closed 1,446 investigations; 603 closed cases had violations or monetary recoveries. PWBA has opened 86 criminal cases; 33 cases have resulted in criminal prosecutions of 41 persons.
- *Pension Payback Program*. The Pension Payback Program, which allowed employers to restore delinquent employee 401(k) contributions plus lost earnings to their plans without penalty during the grace period, received 170 notifications from employers in 38 states. Participating employers reported \$4.8 million in delinquent contributions and restored earnings were returned to plans during the grace period.

### Food Safety

- *Comprehensive Food Safety*. The President has implemented a comprehensive initiative to improve the safety of nation's food supply and detailed a \$43 million food safety program, including measures to improve surveillance, outbreak response, education, and research. Other significant actions:
  - August, 1996 -- Signed Safe Drinking Water Act of 1996. The law requires drinking water systems to protect against dangerous contaminants like cryptosporidium, and gives people the right to know about contaminants in their tap water.
  - July, 1996 -- Announced new regulations that modernize the nation's meat and poultry inspection system for the first time in 90 years. New standards help prevent E.coli bacteria contamination in meat.

- ▶ December, 1995 – Issued new rules to ensure seafood safety. Utilizes HACCP regulatory programs to require food industries to design and implement preventive measures and increase the industries' responsibility for and control of their safety assurance actions.

### Consumer Health

*Amendment to Executive Order 13017, Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry, Executive Order 13040 (March 25, 1997).* Established the President's Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry which promotes and assures consumer protection and health care quality.

- ▶ *Report.* On November 20, 1997, the Commission issued its Interim Report outlining a proposed Consumer Bill of Rights and Responsibilities.
- ▶ *Federal Compliance.* Directed the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor, the Department of Defense, the Department of Veteran Affairs, and the Office of Personnel Management to review the programs they administer and the plans they oversee to ensure they are consistent with the consumer bill of rights recommended by the President's Health Care Quality Commission. These agencies will report back on the status of this directive by February 1998.

### Increasing Seatbelt Use

- *Memorandum on Increasing Seatbelt Use, Memorandum for the Secretary of Transportation (January 23, 1997).* Requires seat belt use by federal employees on-the-job.
  - ▶ The Department is developing a Report to Congress to reflect the activity to date on the Presidential Initiative for Increasing Seat Belt Usage Nationwide. The Report will include the progress made towards reaching the new national seat belt and child safety seat goals.
  - ▶ In 1997, three primary seatbelt laws went into affect (Maryland, Oklahoma, and the District of Columbia) bringing the total to 13 states and Puerto Rico that allow a driver to be stopped primarily because the seatbelt was not being used. Source: Department of Transportation.

## VIII. Food and Farming

### Nutrition and Hunger Programs

- *Goal for WIC Program to Reach Full Participation of 7.5 million.* Participation in WIC has expanded nearly 30%, from 5.7 million at the start of fiscal year 1993 to almost 7.4 million at the end of fiscal year 1997. Source: U.S. Department of

## Agriculture

- *Reducing WIC Costs.* WIC state agencies have contracted with infant formula manufacturers to obtain rebates on infant formula. These competitively-bid contracts have reduced food costs, increasing WIC participation without increasing WIC appropriations. In fiscal year 1997, this resulted in \$1.2 billion in savings, permitting service to 1.6 million additional participants. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- *Promoting Gleaning.* Helped to feed the hungry through the promotion of food recovery and gleaning.
  - ▶ A joint USDA-Department of Defense initiative, announced in September 1997, has recovered over \$1.4 million worth of food, and channeled it through 29 state agencies. An additional \$10 million of food is anticipated to be recovered over the next 18 months. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.
  - ▶ Over 15,000 pounds of food have been recovered from USDA's farmers' markets for distribution to food banks. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.

## Assisting Agricultural Communities

- *Promoting Alternative Products.* The Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization (AARC) Corporation works to expand rural development and job creation opportunities through increasing the use of agricultural materials in new industrial uses. In Fiscal Year 1997, the AARC Corporation invested \$6.9 million, matched by \$25.8 million from private partners, in 27 projects located in 15 states to promote new, innovative and environmentally friendly uses for farm and forestry materials or animal by-products. It is expected that this investment will immediately create 200 jobs with further job creation/retention in the future.
- *Loan Guarantees.* Provided loans and loan guarantees totaling \$2.3 billion to over 27,000 family-sized farmers. Direct operating loans totaling \$65 million were provided to over 1,900 socially-disadvantaged farmers (SDA), exceeding the initial targeted allocation for SDA farmers by 22%. Direct operating loans made to SDA farmers increased by 11% from fiscal year 1996. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- *Emergency Aid.* Provided \$3.5 million to nearly 4,000 farmers in North and South Dakota whose livestock were in danger of perishing due to severe winter storms. Provided over \$22 million in cost share assistance for emergency livestock feed to approximately 30,000 farmers in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- *Expanded Crop Insurance and Crop Revenue Coverage.*
  - ▶ Expanded the crops covered under the crop insurance program. For the

1997 (1998 citrus) crop year, 29 different crops with permanent programs established were added to the crop insurance program in 343 counties in 25 states. For the 1998 (1999 citrus) crop year, coverage will be expanded on 25 different crops in 144 additional counties in 16 states. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) Board of Directors approved the expansion of Crop Revenue Coverage (CRC) for the 1997 and 1998 crop years for corn, cotton, grain sorghum, and wheat. CRC is now available on almost 90% of the corn, wheat, cotton, soybeans, and grain sorghum acres in the U.S.

### Creating Rural Jobs

- *Rural Business-Cooperative Service.* Financed the start-up or expansion of 1,183 rural businesses or cooperatives, creating or preserving more than 53,000 jobs in the process. About \$936 million was extended by USDA's Rural Business-Cooperative Service as loans, guaranteed loans, or grants to rural businesses and cooperatives. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- *Rural Empowerment Zones.* Invested more than \$60 million in the nation's three rural Empowerment Zones and 33 rural Enterprise Communities. As a result of these efforts, over 7,000 jobs have been created or saved; 1,100 public service facilities have been built or renovated; and more than 700,000 rural citizens are now receiving additional services. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- *Telecommunications and Rural Americans.* Loaned \$380 million for 79 rural telecommunications projects that provided improved service to more than 211,000 rural households and businesses, including more than 43,000 new customers. These investments created over 8,700 new jobs. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.

### **IX. Helping Small Business**

- *Increasing Small Business Access to Capital and Credit.* In 1997, SBA achieved the highest program level ever in its 7(a) business loan guarantee program. SBA guaranteed \$9.5 billion in loan guarantees. SBA's combined 7(a) business loan and 504 economic development loan approvals were also the highest ever at \$10.9 billion. A total of 49,419 small businesses received assistance in 1997.
- *Small Business Investment Companies.* SBICs invested a record \$2.4 billion in 1997. SBICs financed 2,733 small business, with more than 90% of the investments in the form of equity. Industry analysts estimate that the number of SBA supported investments is 28% more than those made by private venture capital firms.
- *SBA's One-Stop Capital Shops.* SBA now administers 15 One-Stop Capital Shops in low-income communities across the country. Small business owners and individuals hoping

to start a new business can walk in the door and have access to a range of governmental services, business information, counseling and assistance, and lending services.

- *Microloans.* SBA has provided over 6,300 microloans totaling \$65 million through 103 intermediary lenders and 22 non-lending technical assistance providers.
- *Regulatory Reform.* SBA revised all of its regulations, converting them to plain English and eliminating more than half of the pages. SBA has eliminated more than two-thirds of the total pages in the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), from 25,000 pages to 8,000 pages.
- *Improving Customer Service.* SBA's PRO-Net system – an on-line service to link small businesses with federal procurement opportunities – has gone operational with more than 171,000 small businesses listed on the system. SBA has created ACE-Net – an on-line service that links investors with emerging small businesses seeking equity investments. Eight non-profit operators located throughout the country are now operating the system. The goals are to have an operator in each of the 50 states as issues of consistency with state securities laws are resolved.

'97 DEC 19 PM 1:1

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 18, 1997

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN  
12-30-97

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT  
FROM RAHM EMANUEL  
SUBJECT EXECUTIVE ACTIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Attached is the document that you requested concerning all executive actions and legislative accomplishments. Please let me know if you feel there is any initiative missing from this list and if you believe there is something else we should do in this document.

*Handwritten in a circle:*  
- Tobacco  
- Pension

*Handwritten:*  
This is good  
Great document too  
much information  
We left a few things  
out - but it's  
good - need to discuss  
how to proceed

*Handwritten:*  
Also including on  
Pensions - DOJ (K)  
+ Pension Protections  
Set other notes on  
Pensions

*Handwritten:*  
Copied  
Emanuel  
Bowler

*Handwritten:*  
Rien Deux  
P1

**EXECUTIVE ACTIONS AND  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION**  
DRAFT, December 19, 1997

The following data describes specific effects of significant executive orders, memorandums, and actions. Each section briefly lists the relevant Administration program, its goals, and the results it has produced. The information is divided into the following topic areas: education; children and families; crime; welfare reform; environment; service and volunteerism; consumer protection; farming and the food supply; and aid to small businesses.

**I. Education**

Charter Schools

- *Advocating and Funding Charter Schools.* When President Clinton took office there was one charter school in existence, as of the 1997-1998 school year, there are more than 800 charter schools.
  - ▶ By the end of the 1997-98 academic year, there will be more than 900 charter schools in existence, with the Administration supporting more than 800 of these schools. Source: Department of Education.
  - ▶ The average size of charter schools is 200 students. With over 800 schools currently operating, there are over 160,000 students in charter schools. Source: Department of Education's National Study of Charter Schools.
  - ▶ The Administration has met approximately 70% of the estimated need for start-up funding for charter schools. These federal funds represent about 6% of the total operating costs for charter schools. Source: Department of Education.

School Uniforms

- *Memorandum on the School Uniforms Manual, Memorandum for the Secretary of Education (February 23, 1996).* Helped to deter school violence, promote discipline, and foster a better learning environment by promoting school uniforms. Disseminated *Manual on School Uniforms* to 15,000 school districts in 1996. In addition, 9,167 copies of the manual were distributed to persons who requested them.
  - ▶ In Miami, 196 out of 328 public schools now require school uniforms. Source: Department of Education.
  - ▶ In New York City, it is expected that 25% of all public schools will require school uniforms by the end of the 1997-98 school year. Source: Department of Education.
  - ▶ In Chicago, 4 out of 5 public schools require school uniforms. Source: Department of Education.
  - ▶ In Boston, out of 125 schools, 58 have voluntary school uniform policies.

and 18 have mandatory policies. Source: Department of Education

### School to Work

- *School-to-Work Program.* Helped prepare students to succeed in the new economy by connecting what goes on in the classroom to future careers, real work situations, and opportunities for post-secondary education training.
  - ▶ Local Partnerships report that between December 1995 and June 1996, the number of businesses participating in school-to-work partnerships increased by 50% from 135,000 to 200,000. The number of work-based learning opportunities offered by businesses increased from 53,000 in December 1995 to 119,000 in June 1996. Source: Department of Labor.
  - ▶ Of the approximately 13 million secondary school students in the country, state data indicate that one million, or 8%, participated in one or more school-based school-to-work activities between January and June 1996. Based on the national evaluation study, 250,000 of these students could be described as having participated in comprehensive school-to-work activities, i.e., a career major with integrated curricula, and paid or unpaid work experience linked to school. Source: Department of Labor.
  - ▶ Of the 111,500 elementary and secondary schools in the U.S., state data indicate that 23 percent offer at least one component of school-to-work as of June 1996. Source: Department of Labor.

### Literacy

- *America Reads.* Recognizing the importance of involving all Americans in the lives of the nation's children, the President challenged colleges and universities to commit work-study students as reading tutors. Over 800 colleges and universities have already committed to provide tens of thousands of work-study students as reading tutors in the current school year as part of America Reads.
  - ▶ 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. 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. The Corporation for National Service is also launching a new "Seniors in Schools" initiative in nine cities using 700 senior volunteers as literacy tutors in some of the nation's poorest elementary schools.

#### *Read\*Write\*Now! Summer Pilot Program*

- The Department of Education distributed 1.5 million basic *Read\*Write\*Now!* Kits for grades K-6 as part of the program to have children read throughout the summer. In addition, 120,000 Spiderman workbooks, 63,022 Early Childhood Family Kits, and 23,121 Early Childhood Caregiver Kits were distributed. Thousands of black and white versions of the above products were also distributed, and the kits were also

available on the Internet.

There were fourteen summer pilot sites throughout the country. These sites served 85,000 children with help from schools, colleges, churches, literacy organizations, and hundreds of other community organizations.

### Prayer in School

- *Memorandum on Religious Expression in Public Schools, Memorandum for the Secretary of Education and the Attorney General (July 12, 1995).* Protected the religious expression of students by distributing a statement of principles addressing religious activity and expression in public schools. This statement of principles, *Religious Expression in Public Schools*, was sent to every public school superintendent; the leadership of private elementary and secondary schools; national religious and school organization leadership; and all chief state school officers.

- ▶ Following the development of *Religious Expression in Public Schools*, the National School Boards Association reported that inquiries regarding how Christmas celebrations can be accommodated in public schools decreased dramatically.

### Internet-Based Education Resources

- *Promoting the Wiring of Schools.* Helping to connect every school and classroom in America to the information superhighway. A telecommunication survey in 1994 showed only 9% of schools and 3% of classrooms wired to the Internet.
  - ▶ 65% of schools and 14% of classrooms are now wired for the Internet. Source: National Center for Education Statistics.
  - ▶ 72% of schools and 29% of classrooms have access to the Internet. Source: Quality Education Data (QED).
- *Memorandum on Expanding Access to Internet-based Educational Resources for Children, Teachers, and Parents (April 18, 1997).*
  - ▶ The Department of Education is chairing an interagency effort to create a gateway to all federal educational resources that will debut in early 1998.
  - ▶ A segment of the Justice Department web page entitled *Hateful Acts Hurt Kids*, which promotes the discussion of prejudice and discrimination among children, parents, and teachers, was unveiled during the White House Conference on Hate Crimes on November 10, 1997. During its first week, the web page received nearly 10,000 hits.
- *Educational Technology: Ensuring Opportunity for all Children in the Next Century, Executive Order 12999 (April 17, 1996).* Providing access to modern computers for all teachers and students. Launched the "Computers for Learning" program, which is a unique partnership between federal agencies, schools, and non-profits across the country to move more than 70,000 computers into the nation's neediest classrooms.

- *Directive on Federal Resources OnLine in Education.* More than 30 agencies are participating in the working group and the pilot site will be unveiled in early 1998. The Department of Education's web site receives over 6 million hits a month from over 300,000 computers.
- *Internet Summit.* Assisting parents in learning about the Internet. The *Parents Guide to the Internet* was released at the Internet Summit on December 2, 1997. Approximately 200,000 copies of the guide will be distributed by the Education Department's toll-free number request service, Family Partnership for Learning members, and the Consumer Information Center.

### Student Loans

- *Direct Lending.* A total of 2.36 million borrowers have received Direct Loans. 1.86 million of these borrowers were students, 260,000 were parents, and 240,000 were borrowers consolidating their FFEL loans into Direct Consolidation Loans. Source: Department of Education Management Information Reports.
- *Reforming Student Loans.* Through the period fiscal years 1994-97, student borrowers have saved \$1.657 billion from changes in the Student Loan Reform Act. For the period fiscal years 1994 through 2002, the Department estimates total student borrower savings to be approximately \$5 billion. Source: Department of Education.
  - ▶ An estimated 374,000 borrowers have selected the income contingent repayment plan. Of those who consolidated into Direct Loans, more than one-third chose income contingent repayment. About 41 percent of consolidation loans made as of September 30, 1997, were for borrowers that had previously defaulted on a FFEL loan. Source: Department of Education.
  - ▶ During the period fiscal year 1996-98, the Department of Education will spend \$407 million for Direct Loan administration, out of a total post-secondary education management budget of \$1.8 billion. Source: Department of Education.

### Quality Education

- *Directive on Improved Teaching.* The Department of Education developed *Excellence and Accountability in Teaching: A Guide to U.S. Department of Education Programs and Resources.* This guide has been widely distributed, including to the Chief State School Officers and to approximately 600 individuals and organizations interested in teacher quality issues; and has been included in the Department of Education's web site. [The Department of Education will soon release a publication that describes the most promising practices in teacher recruitment, preparation, initial licensing, ongoing professional development, teacher recognition, and accountability measures in teaching. In addition, the Department will issue a biennial report on teacher quality beginning next year to report on the nation's progress.]

• *New Resources for Teachers.* Funded two new centers to improve the quality of teaching: a \$7.5 million Center for the Study of Teaching and Policy to serve as a resource to policy makers and a \$23 million Partnership for Excellence and Accountability in Teaching that will launch a comprehensive national effort to support and sustain long-term improvements in teaching and learning.

• *Keeping Schools Open Late.* Provided additional safe havens and extended learning opportunities for children and their families at schools around the country. The Department of Education has developed a guidebook of promising practices and ideas on how to start and organize after-school programs entitled *Keeping Schools Open as Community Learning Centers.* In fiscal year 1998, the Administration will be able to fund 300 after-school programs serving a total of 30,000 children.

• *Memorandum on Preparing Students to Meet National Standards of Excellence in Eighth Grade Math and Improving Math and Science Education, Memorandum to the Secretary of Education and the Director of the National Science Foundation (March 6, 1997).* Produced an action strategy for improving mathematics and science education. [The National Science Foundation and the Department of Education plan to formally submit the strategy to the White House in early 1998 and to publicly release it shortly thereafter.] NSF and the Department of Education have each requested an additional \$40 million for fiscal year 1999 to support the initiatives laid out in the action strategy.

• *Directive on Fixing Failing Schools (October 28, 1997).* By early next year, the Department of Education will make available in print and on the Department's web page, a guide for how to turn around low-performing schools.

Pell  
H. Stunt

## II. Children and Families

### Child Support

- *Tax Offset.* In 1997, over \$2.1 billion has been collected, of which over \$1.2 billion is child support debt and nearly \$950 million is federal debt. Source: Department of Treasury.
- *Memorandum on the Child Support Initiative, Memorandum for the Secretary of Health and Human Services (June 18, 1996).* Strengthened child support operations by toughening paternity establishment requirements for applicants for welfare and by enabling states to locate, and withhold wages from, obligors who have taken a job in another state -- reforms that became law along with other tough new rules as part of welfare reform. The Clinton Administration collected a record \$12 billion in child support in 1996 through tougher enforcement, an

increase of \$4 billion, or nearly 50%, since 1992. In 1996, the number of child support cases with collections also rose to 4 million, an increase of 43%, from 2.8 million in 1992. In 1996, the number of paternities established rose to nearly 1 million, almost double, from 516,000 in 1992.

- *Requiring HHS and the U.S. Postal Service to implement a policy of posting "Wanted Lists" in post offices of parents who owe child support (1996).* In 1997, the following 12 states displayed "Wanted Lists" for delinquent child support offenders: California, Connecticut, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oregon, and South Dakota.
- *Child Support Enforcement System Web Site (1996).* Used the Internet to help people access the child support enforcement system more easily and effectively -- and to help find those parents who are not paying the child support they owe. In 1997, the Child Support Enforcement web page received over 238,000 hits.
- *Supporting Families: Collecting Delinquent Child Support Obligations, Executive Order 13019 (September 28, 1996).* Facilitated the collection of delinquent child support obligations from persons who may be entitled or eligible to receive certain federal payments or assistance. The first administrative offset was taken on June 10, 1997. To date, 843 payments have been offset, and \$186,581 has been collected through the Administrative Offset Program.

#### Child Care

- *Memorandum on Improving the Quality of Child Care in the United States, Memorandum for the Secretary of Defense (April 17, 1997).* Directed the Department of Defense to share the expertise and lessons learned from the Military Child Development Programs with Federal, State, tribal, and local agencies, as well as with private and nonprofit groups, that are responsible for providing child care. The October 15 Interim Report to the President on this initiative cited a variety of steps taken, including creation of a toll free number (1-888-CDP-3040) for civilian programs to order DOD training materials and training over 100 personnel to serve as speakers for the DOD Child Development Program Speakers' Bureau.

#### Protecting Children

- *Memorandum on Child Safety Lock Devices for Handguns (March 5, 1997).* Required that a child safety lock device be issued to every Federal employee who carries a firearm on official duty. By October 1997, all federal agencies with law enforcement agents reported that they were in compliance with the President's directive, including approximately 30,000 Justice Department employees from the FBI, DEA, INS, and Marshals Service, and about 20,000 Treasury law

*P. Babin  
Manning  
Children*

enforcement personnel. Source: Department of the Treasury; Department of Justice.

- ▶ Under the President's leadership, 8 major handgun manufacturers who make the vast majority of handguns in the country, have agreed to provide child safety devices with each handgun sold.

- *Memorandum on the Development of a National Sexual Offender Registration System, Memorandum for the Attorney General (July 25, 1996).* Improved the safety and protection of children through creation of a national sex offender registry. As of December 1, 1997, 20 states, representing 44.2% of the U.S. population, have contributed to the national registry which now includes information on approximately 27,000 offenders.

### Balancing Work and Family

- *Memorandum on Expanded Family and Medical Leave Policies (April 11, 1997).* In April 1997, the President asked federal agencies to implement his expanded leave policy immediately for federal workers. Source: Department of Labor.

- ▶ In years 1995 and 1996, a total of 226,554 employees took leave under FMLA at the Department of Defense, of which 134,768 (59.5%) were men and 91,786 (40.5%) were female. Source: Department of Defense.

- ▶ In 1995, 33,218 Department of Treasury employees used 410,373 hours under FMLA for family care or bereavement purposes. In 1996, the number increased to 44,060 employees and 535,515 hours. Source: Department of Treasury.

- *Memorandum on Implementing Federal Family Friendly Work Arrangements (June 21, 1996).* Supported agencies in promoting family-friendly work arrangements including alternative work schedules, "flexiplace" (telecommuting), job sharing, career part-time employment, child care, leave sharing, transportation subsidies, and employee assistance programs.

- ▶ Approximately 46% of the Department of Commerce workforce are working under some form of alternative work schedule. Source: Department of Commerce.

- ▶ Over 50% of the Department of Defense workforce are working under some form of alternative work schedule. Over 300,000 Department of Defense employees are on flex time, and approximately 3,000 employees telecommute. Source: Department of Defense.

- ▶ Eighty-five% of the Department of Labor's employees are on some form of alternative work schedule (flexitime or compressed schedule). In addition, 22% telecommute. Source: Department of Labor.

- ▶ Approximately 95% of the Department of Transportation's employees are eligible for some form of alternative work schedule (flexitime or compressed schedule). In addition, there are currently over 900 employees who telecommute at least once a week. Source: Department of Transportation.

Over 70,000 employees at the Department of the Treasury use the various types of flex time. Source: Department of Treasury.

### Health Care

- *Immunization.* As a result of the President's 1993 Childhood Immunization Initiative, childhood immunization rates have reached an historic high. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 90% or more of America's toddlers in 1996 received the most critical doses of each of the routinely recommended vaccines -- surpassing the President's 1993 childhood vaccination goal.
  - ▶ *Immunization-Child Care Initiative (July 23, 1997).* Continued to improve child immunization through beginning work on an integrated immunization registry system so that when children change doctors, the new doctor will have access to the child's immunization record. In 1997, the President also announced that all children in federally-subsidized child care centers are required to be immunized.
- *Ending Drive-Thru Deliveries (1996).* Spearheaded legislation requiring insurance companies to cover at least 48 hour hospital stays following most normal deliveries and 96 hours after a Caesarean section. [For the most part, this is being implemented by the states, and HHS will have no direct program data.]
- *Expanded FDA Review and Approval of New Drug Products.* Under the reinventing government initiative, U.S. drug approvals are now as fast or faster than any other industrialized nation. Average drug approval times have dropped since the beginning of the Administration from almost three years to just over one year. In 1997, virtually all breakthrough drugs will be approved within six months without compromising safety standards.
- *Ensuring the Safety of Medications Used To Treat Children (August 13, 1997).* Unveiled a new FDA regulation that will protect children by requiring manufacturers to study the safety and appropriate dosage levels of drugs for pediatric populations and requiring proper labeling of drugs for use in children. Even though many drugs affect children differently than adults, most drugs have not been tested on pediatric populations. Many drugs commonly given to children have not been tested on children including: Ritalin, and drugs for asthma, allergic reactions, HIV/AIDS, and ear infections. These drugs, taken together, are given to over five million children each year. The percentage of drugs being tested on children decreased by over one-third between 1991 and 1996.
- *Eliminated Gag-Rules in Medicare and Medicaid (February 20, 1997).* Ensured that Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries have the right to know all their treatment options by making it illegal for health plans to prohibit doctors from

discussing options with their patients. Protected 13 million Medicaid beneficiaries in managed care plans -- children, people with disabilities and elderly Americans -- and 5.7 million Medicare beneficiaries in managed care plans.

- *Moratorium on Home Health Providers* (September 15, 1997). Placed moratorium on home health providers to allow HHS to enact strong new regulations to keep fly-by-night providers out of the system. This action was consistent with strong evidence that the best way to stop fraud and abuse in Medicare program is to prevent bad providers from entering the program. Home health care is the most rapidly expanding part of Medicare, with nearly 100 new home health providers entering Medicare each month.
- *Covered Millions of Uninsured American Through Medicaid Waivers*. Approved 18 Medicaid waivers to cover more than two million previously uninsured Americans.
- *Memorandum on Importation of RU-486, Memorandum for the Secretary of Health and Human Services* (January 22, 1993). Directed assessing initiatives by which the Department of Health and Human Services can promote the testing, licensing, and manufacturing in the United States of RU-486 or other antiprogestins. On September 18, 1996, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued an approval letter to the Population Council for mifepristone (commonly referred to as RU-486), when used in combination with misoprostol, for the termination of early pregnancy. The Population Council has not yet submitted the manufacturing control or chemistry information identified as required in the approval letter. When the FDA receives all the information identified in the approval letter, it will have up to six months to make a decision on the application.

#### Child Worker Labels

- *Child Worker Labels* (August 1996). Because the child labor labeling programs are relatively recent, and definitive data on costs and benefits as well as consumer demand are not available, the newest report does not attempt to make quantitative assessments of their effectiveness.

#### Adoption

- *Memorandum on Adoption and Alternative Placement of Children in the Public Child Welfare System, Memorandum for the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Commerce, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management* (December 14, 1996). Bipartisan legislation, the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997, was based largely on the recommendations of the Administration's Adoption 2002

report. The legislation will help thousands of children waiting in foster care move more quickly into safe and permanent homes. The Act makes clear that the health and safety of children must be the paramount concerns of state child welfare services.

- *Children With Special Needs.* Signed the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996, which provides a \$5,000 tax credit to families adopting children, and \$6,000 tax credit for families adopting children with special needs. Since President Clinton took office, the number of children with special needs who have been adopted with federal adoption assistance has risen by 60%.

### Teen Pregnancy

- *National Strategy to Reduce Teen Pregnancy.* Since 1993, President Clinton has supported innovative teen pregnancy strategies. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, a private non-profit organization, was formed in response to the President's 1995 State of the Union. HHS-supported programs reach about 30% or 1,410 communities in the United States. Data shows that we are making progress in reducing teen pregnancy.
  - ▶ The U.S. birth rate for teenagers in 1996 was 54.7 births per 1,000 women aged 15-19 years, down 4% from 1995 (56.8). The teenage birth rate has declined by 12% since 1991 (62.1). Source: National Center for Health Statistics, preliminary 1996 statistics (September 1997).
  - ▶ Birth rates for teenagers 15-19 years declined between 1991 and 1995 in all states and the District of Columbia, echoing the national trends during this time. Rates fell by 12% or more in 12 states; declines in 5 states exceeded 16%. Source: National Center for Health Statistics, preliminary 1996 statistics (September 1997).

### Domestic Violence

- *Violence Against Women.* Legislation provides for hiring more prosecutors and improving domestic violence training among prosecutors, police officers, and health and social services professionals. Established a nationwide 24-hour domestic violence hotline providing immediate crisis intervention and local shelter referral to victims that has received over 140,000 calls since February 1996. The Clinton Administration has granted states, territories, and Native American tribes nearly \$300 million to support the system of 1,400 emergency shelters, safe homes, and related services nationwide.

### Housing Opportunity

- *FHA Fees.* The President has cut FHA home mortgage insurance premiums four times. One reduction, applying to all first-time home buyers, will save home buyers \$200 in closing costs on the average FHA mortgage of \$85,000. Another will save first-time home buyers in central cities who participate in home ownership counseling an additional \$200. In all, cuts approved by President

Clinton have lowered average FHA closing costs for first-time home buyers by \$1,200 around the country and will cut closing costs by \$1,400 in central cities. Last year, FHA provided financing for 800,000 homeowners, many of whom were first-time home buyers.

- *Making It Easier to Qualify for Mortgage Loans.* The FHA has eliminated unnecessary and overly strict requirements under its loan program that made it difficult for many families to qualify for mortgage loans.
- *Financing.* Provided financing to help 40,000 rural people buy single-family homes, including the construction of 14,000 homes under the Self-Help Housing program, in which low-income people gain "sweat equity" by participating in the construction of their own homes. USDA also financed the building of 7,900 units of multiple-family housing. In total, USDA's Rural Housing Service invested more than \$2.6 billion either as loans, guaranteed loans, or grants in rural housing last year. More than 58,000 jobs were created as a result of housing construction generated by USDA programs. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- *Rental Assistance.* Provided \$540 million in rental assistance to help nearly 40,000 rural, low-income households obtain well-built, safe housing. Fifty percent of the rental program beneficiaries were elderly, with average annual income of less than \$7,300. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.

### III. Welfare

- *Memorandum on Government Employment for Welfare Recipients* (March 8, 1997). In seven months, 2,229 employees have been hired off of public assistance by the federal government, about one-fifth of the goal of hiring 10,000 persons by the year 2000. These numbers have not been released yet.

**Welfare-to-Work  
Commitments and Hires through November 22, 1997  
as Reported by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management**

AGENCY	Total Commitment Thru 2000	1997 Hires Reported, Thru 10-22-97	% of Total Year 2000 Commitment Hired Since 3-8-97
Commodity Futures Trading Commission	---	2	---
Department of Agriculture	375	127	34%
Department of Commerce	4180	80	2%
Department of Defense	1600	375	23%
Department of Education	21	7	33%

Department of Energy	55	12	22%
Department of Health & Human Services	300	148	49%
Department of Housing & Urban Development	200	41	21%
Department of the Interior	325	69	21%
Department of Justice	450	68	15%
Department of Labor	120	54	45%
Department of State	220	10	5%
Department of Transportation	400	106	27%
Department of the Treasury	405	57	14%
Department of Veterans Affairs	800	635	79%
Environmental Protection Agency	120	32	27%
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission	—	5	—
Executive Office of the President	6	6	100%
Federal Emergency Management Agency	125	27	22%
General Services Administration	121	50	41%
National Aeronautics & Space Administration	40	8	20%
National Credit Union Administration	—	4	—
National Labor Relations Board	—	1	—
Office of Personnel Management	25	31	124%
Railroad Retirement Board	—	1	—
Securities & Exchange Commission	10	6	60%
Small Business Administration	120	33	28%
Social Security Administration	600	218	36%
U.S. Information Agency	20	15	75%
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission	—	1	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10638</b>	<b>2229</b>	<b>21%</b>

- *Coalition to Sustain Success.* Vice President has led a new partnership of civic organizations that is working with state and local government to mentor families seeking to leave welfare for work.
- *The Welfare to Work Partnership.* Mobilized over 2500 businesses to hire

welfare recipients.

- *Small Business and Welfare to Work.* SBA has received 800 pledges from small businesses willing to hire former welfare recipients through the work of Small Business Development Centers.

#### Food Stamp Fraud

- *Anti-Fraud Program.* Issuance error rates for food stamps have declined in each of the past three years, resulting in total savings of \$660 million. In June 1997, the 1996 error rate dropped to 9.2% from the previous year's 9.7%, resulting in a single-year savings of more than \$85 million for the program.
- *Pre-Authorization Screening of Retailers; Tougher Post-Authorization Controls; and Stiffer Penalties for Violators.* During fiscal year 1997, the Food Stamp Program conducted 4,627 investigations of stores, and fired or disqualified 1,584 retailers for program violations. Of those, 712 retailers, with redemptions of \$79.5 million, were identified as having engaged in trafficking, or having exchanged food stamps for cash.
- *Operation Talon.* Organized a nationwide sting to arrest more than 2,100 fugitive felons who were illegally receiving food stamps. This initiative will save millions of taxpayer dollars. "Operation Talon" was made possible by the welfare reform law which permits local food stamp offices to release the addresses of fugitive felons to law enforcement officers.

#### IV. Crime

##### Guns

- *Memorandum on Implementation of the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative* (July 8, 1996). Traced approximately 93,477 guns from 27 communities (17 original sites and 10 new sites) through the use of an innovative computer software system that examines crime gun trace information and provides law enforcement officers with crucial investigative leads about the sources of these guns. Source: Department of Treasury. **Note: These numbers are updated from the numbers released in July 1997.**
- *Memorandum on Gun Dealer Licensing, Memorandum for the Secretary of the Treasury* (August 11, 1993) This initiative strengthened the system of licensing gun dealers, and assured their compliance with applicable rules. The Brady law and the Violent Crime Act of 1994 codified the directive and further reformed the gun dealer licensing system. As of December 10, 1997, the total number of federal firearms licensees (FFLs) is 106,997, down from 279,839 in April 1994, and the total number of FFL dealers is 88,590 down from 252,799. Source: Department of the Treasury.

**Note: We don't think these numbers have been released.**

- *Memorandum on Enforcing the Youth Handgun Safety Act, Memorandum for the Secretary of the Treasury* (June 11, 1997). A notice of proposed rulemaking concerning warning signs on guns and juveniles to be posted by federally licensed gun dealers was published in the Federal Register on August 27, 1997. Final regulations are being drafted and are expected to be completed in early 1998.
- *Enforcing Zero Tolerance for Guns and Other Weapons in Schools*. In October 1994, President Clinton signed into law the Gun-Free Schools Act, and issued a Presidential Directive later that month to enforce "zero tolerance" for guns in schools -- if a student brings a gun to school, that student will be expelled for a year. Under the President's Zero Tolerance gun policy, preliminary estimates show that approximately 6,000 students have been expelled for bringing weapons to schools, and the vast majority of those expulsions involved guns.

*Presidential Initiative Requiring Greater Proof of State Residency Before Purchasing a Firearm* (March 5, 1997). Following the February 23 shooting at the Empire State Building, the President asked the Secretary of the Treasury to examine what might be done to prevent unlawful firearms purchases by aliens legally in the United States. ATF responded on April 21, 1997 by amending the firearms purchase form and related regulations to require purchasers to declare their citizenship status, and to require aliens to present photo identification and documentary evidence establishing their 90-day residence in the state of purchase. [Data, however, is not available on this initiative as gun dealers are not required to report information on denial rates.]

- *Ban on Chinese Assault Weapons and Ammunition*. In 1994, the President used his authority under the Arms Export Control Act to stop the potential importation of millions of assault-type rifles (SKS) and high-capacity magazines.

### Housing

- *Memorandum on the "One Strike and You're Out" Guidelines, Memorandum for the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development* (March 28, 1996). Denied admission to applicants and evicted tenants in public housing authorities (PHAs) who have engaged in illegal drug use or other criminal activities. The guidance permits PHAs to institute and enforce tough rules to protect the safety of families living in public housing.
  - ▶ Of the 1,859 out of 3,192 (58%) total PHAs responding to the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Public and Indian Housing March 1997 survey, 1,392 PHAs had implemented "One Strike" programs. These 1,859 PHAs completed 3,847 evictions in the six months after "One Strike" took effect. [It should be noted that these evictions did

not necessarily result from PHAs' One Strike practices, and no eviction statistics for prior years are available for comparison purposes. The responding PHAs also reported that 19,589 people were denied admission to public housing for criminal or drug-related activity in the six months following enactment of One Strike. Again, these actions did not necessarily result from One Strike, and no figures for comparison are available.] Source: Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Public and Indian Housing survey (March 1997).

- *Boosting Homeownership and Fighting Crime.* The "Officer Next Door" program provides incentives for police officers to live in the communities where they work by offering a 50% discount on the purchase of HUD-owned foreclosed properties in designated revitalization areas. HUD has accepted 261 sales contracts and closed 59 deals in HUD-held properties under this initiative.
- *Zero Tolerance for Waste, Fraud, and Abuse in Housing.* The "Get Tough" campaign has resulted in the debarment of nearly 90 bad landlords -- compared with only 15 in 1996; the debarment of 26 bad public housing officials -- a 100% increase over 1996; and more than 1,400 arrests for crime and drugs in public housing.
- *Memorandum on Federal Arrestee Drug Testing (December 18, 1995).* Increased drug testing of criminal defendants. In fiscal year 1997, data from 24 districts indicated that 9,308 defendants, or 56% of defendants, were tested, which is a dramatic increase over the 4,929 defendants, or 28% of defendants, tested in fiscal year 1996. 1,252 defendants received drug treatment, which is an 190% increase over the 431 defendants treated in fiscal year 1996. Source: Department of Justice.
- *National Community Policing Number of Non-Emergency Calls (311) (July 23, 1996).* Assisted in more efficient use of police resources by encouraging use of 311 for non-emergency calls. During its first year of operations in Baltimore, 911 calls for police services have declined 24.8% and 50,000 hours of police officer time has been saved. Dallas and San Jose, CA, have recently announced they are launching 311 systems.
- *Promoting Curfews.* Promoted increasing the number of curfews in American cities, by disseminating a bulletin entitled *Curfew: An Answer to Juvenile Delinquency and Victimization?* 71% of 1,649 respondents to the Justice Department's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's October 1997 survey of recipients of the curfew bulletin reported that they live in a jurisdiction with a curfew. Source: Justice Department Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention survey (October 1997).
  - ▶ In 1997, 276 of 347 cities (80%) have a nighttime curfew, and 72 have a daytime curfew as well. In 1995, 272 of 387 cities (70%) had a nighttime

12-30-97

curfew. Source: U.S. Conference of Mayors Survey (1997).

88 percent (263) of the cities reported that curfew enforcement helped make streets safer and 83% (222) reported that curfews helped curb gang violence. Source: U.S. Conference of Mayors Survey (1997).

- *Cracking Down on Truancy.* The Administration has provided a *Manual to Combat Truancy* to the 15,000 school districts in the country and to 51,000 other persons who requested copies. A copy of the manual has also been placed on the Safe and Drug Free Schools' web page.

V. Environment

Parks

- *Saving Yellowstone from Mining.* In August 1996, President Clinton announced an agreement to protect Yellowstone National Park from a proposed mine just outside the park which would have endangered the quality and quantity of waters flowing into the park.
- *Memorandum Ordering Planning (with DOI) for Demonstration Transportation Systems in 3 Parks* (April 22, 1996) On Earth Day 1996, President Clinton asked the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Transportation to develop a plan to enhance resource protection and the quality of the visitor experience in national parks through innovative transportation planning. Plans are in place for parks at Zion, Yosemite, and the Grand Canyon.

Knowledge than  
all out for Everglades  
Redwood treatment  
Everglades ✓

*Protection of the Old Growth California Redwoods.* The United States and State of California are acquiring the Headwaters Forest -- the largest privately held stand of old growth redwood trees. Together with buffer areas, the governments will preserve 7,500 acres of significant habitat for several endangered species, including the marbled murrelet and coho salmon. [Negotiations are continuing on the Habitat Conservation Plan.]

Toxics and Pesticides

- *Memorandum on Community Right-to-Know Initiatives, Memorandum for the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies* (August 8, 1995). President Clinton directed EPA to consider whether to add to the list of industries covered under the Community Right-to-Know Toxic Release Inventory reporting program. EPA published a final rule on May 1, 1997 which added seven industries to the list of industries covered under the reporting program: metal mining; coal mining; electric generating facilities that combust coal and oil; hazardous waste treatment facilities regulated under Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Subtitle C; wholesale chemical distributors; wholesale petroleum distributors; and solvent

recovery facilities.

- *Restrictions on Pesticides.* In 1993, the Clinton Administration stated its commitment to safer biological and reduced-risk pesticides. In 1996, President Clinton signed into law the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) which includes a consistent, health-based standard for pesticide residues, use of an additional safety factor to ensure protection of children, and revisions to the pesticide risk assessment process. Since FQPA was passed, EPA has registered 29 new pesticides, 20 of which were safer reduced-risk and biological pesticides.
- *Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks, Executive Order 13045 (April 21, 1997).* The executive order directed EPA to ensure that the Agency's regulatory actions address the disproportionate risks to children from environmental threats. In May 1997, Administrator Browner created the Office of Children's Health Protection. In September 1997, EPA hosted the first-ever national conference on "Preventable Causes of Childhood Cancer." In September 1997, EPA and HHS announced \$10 million in joint funding for six research centers to examine children's environmental health issues. EPA has drafted regulatory guidance for the Agency to ensure adequate protection of children from environmental threats.

## VI. Service and Volunteerism

- *Presidents' Summit for America's Future.* The 1997 Summit brought together private sector, non-profits, and state and local government in a campaign to promote service. Over 150 cities and states are holding mini-summits.
  - 77 organizations answered the President's challenge and offered to sponsor 10,000 new AmeriCorps members. In June, the Corporation approved 8,900 of these scholarships, ahead of a first-year plan for 5,000 scholarships.
- *Cell Phones for Community Watch Groups.* The President helped launch Communities on Phone Patrol (COPP) with cell phones donated by the wireless technology industry. One year later, in October 1997, 7,850 watch patrols had received almost 9,000 phones -- allowing 300,000 volunteers to use COPP phones to help protect 50 million Americans.
- *National Service Scholarships.* Awarded to over 1,600 high school students with outstanding records of community service. Next year, the Administration hopes that 10,000 high schools in the nation will participate -- almost half of all high schools.
- *Memorandum on Public-Private Partnerships for Protection of the National*

12-30-97

*Parks* (April 26, 1996). In the past five years, the 376 National Park units have benefitted from hundreds of new partnerships. The National Park Service is aided by 93,000 volunteers, 65 cooperating associations, over 150 Friends groups and numerous corporate and philanthropic supporters. Overall, gifts of time and money are worth over \$100 million to the National Parks every year.

*Atul Singh*

## VII. Consumer Protection

### Food Safety

- *Comprehensive Food Safety.* The President has implemented a comprehensive initiative to improve the safety of nation's food supply and detailed a \$43 million food safety program, including measures to improve surveillance, outbreak response, education, and research. Other significant actions:

- August, 1996 -- Signed Safe Drinking Water Act of 1996. The law requires drinking water systems to protect against dangerous contaminants like cryptosporidium, and gives people the right to know about contaminants in their tap water.
- July, 1996 -- Announced new regulations that modernize the nation's meat and poultry inspection system for the first time in 90 years. New standards help prevent E.coli bacteria contamination in meat.
- December, 1995 -- Issued new rules to ensure seafood safety. Utilizes HACCP regulatory programs to require food industries to design and implement preventive measures and increase the industries' responsibility for and control of their safety assurance actions.

### Consumer Health

- *Amendment to Executive Order 13017, Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry, Executive Order 13040* (March 25, 1997). Established the President's Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry which promotes and assures consumer protection and health care quality.

- *Report.* On November 20, 1997, the Commission issued its Interim Report outlining a proposed Consumer Bill of Rights and Responsibilities.
- *Federal Compliance.* Directed the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor, the Department of Defense, the Department of Veteran Affairs, and the Office of Personnel Management to review the programs they administer and the plans they oversee to ensure they are consistent with the consumer bill of rights recommended by the President's Health Care Quality Commission. These agencies will report back on the status of this directive by February 1998.

### Increasing Seatbelt Use

- *Memorandum on Increasing Seatbelt Use, Memorandum for the Secretary of Transportation* (January 23, 1997). Requires seat belt use by federal employees on-the-job.
  - ▶ The Department is developing a Report to Congress to reflect the activity to date on the Presidential Initiative for Increasing Seat Belt Usage Nationwide. The Report will include the progress made towards reaching the new national seat belt and child safety seat goals.
  - ▶ In 1997, three primary seatbelt laws went into affect (Maryland, Oklahoma, and the District of Columbia) bringing the total to 13 states and Puerto Rico that allow a driver to be stopped primarily because the seatbelt was not being used. Source: Department of Transportation.
  - ▶ [There are no new data at this time to reflect a change in safety belt usage as a result of the Presidential Initiative for Increasing Seat Belt Usage Nationwide. Safety belt usage data will not be available until early 1998.]

## VIII. Food and Farming

### Nutrition and Hunger Programs

- *Goal for WIC Program to Reach Full Participation of 7.5 million.* Participation in WIC has expanded nearly 30%, from 5.7 million at the start of fiscal year 1993 to almost 7.4 million at the end of fiscal year 1997. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture
- *Reducing WIC Costs.* WIC state agencies have contracted with infant formula manufacturers to obtain rebates on infant formula. These competitively-bid contracts have reduced food costs, increasing WIC participation without increasing WIC appropriations. In fiscal year 1997, this resulted in \$1.2 billion in savings, permitting service to 1.6 million additional participants. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- *Gleaning.* Helped to feed the hungry through the promotion of food recovery and gleaning.
  - ▶ A joint USDA-Department of Defense initiative, announced in September 1997, has recovered over \$1.4 million worth of food, and channeled it through 29 state agencies. An additional \$10 million of food is anticipated to be recovered over the next 18 months. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.
  - ▶ Over 15,000 pounds of food have been recovered from USDA's farmers' markets for distribution to food banks. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.

12-30-97

Assisting Agricultural Communities

- *Loan Guarantees.* Provided loans and loan guarantees totaling \$2.3 billion to over 27,000 family-sized farmers. Direct operating loans totaling \$65 million were provided to over 1,900 socially-disadvantaged farmers (SDA), exceeding the initial targeted allocation for SDA farmers by 22%. Direct operating loans made to SDA farmers increased by 11% from fiscal year 1996. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- *Emergency Aid.* Provided \$3.5 million to nearly 4,000 farmers in North and South Dakota whose livestock were in danger of perishing due to severe winter storms. Provided over \$22 million in cost share assistance for emergency livestock feed to approximately 30,000 farmers in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- *Expanded Crop Insurance and Crop Revenue Coverage.*
  - Expanded the crops covered under the crop insurance program. For the 1997 (1998 citrus) crop year, 29 different crops with permanent programs established were added to the crop insurance program in 343 counties in 25 states. For the 1998 (1999 citrus) crop year, coverage will be expanded on 25 different crops in 144 additional counties in 16 states. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.
  - The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) Board of Directors approved the expansion of Crop Revenue Coverage (CRC) for the 1997 and 1998 crop years for corn, cotton, grain sorghum, and wheat. CRC is now available on almost 90% of the corn, wheat, cotton, soybeans, and grain sorghum acres in the U.S.

Creating Rural Jobs

- *Rural Business-Cooperative Service.* Financed the start-up or expansion of 1,183 rural businesses or cooperatives, creating or preserving more than 53,000 jobs in the process. About \$936 million was extended by USDA's Rural Business-Cooperative Service as loans, guaranteed loans, or grants to rural businesses and cooperatives. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- *Rural Empowerment Zones.* Invested more than \$60 million in the nation's three rural Empowerment Zones and 33 rural Enterprise Communities. As a result of these efforts, over 7,000 jobs have been created or saved; 1,100 public service facilities have been built or renovated; and more than 700,000 rural citizens are now receiving additional services. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- *Telecommunications and Rural Americans.* Loaned \$380 million for 79 rural telecommunications projects that provided improved service to more than 211,000 rural households and businesses, including more than 43,000 new customers.

Ag Summit  
 Return Product

These investments created over 8,700 new jobs. Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.

## **IX. Helping Small Business**

- *Increasing Small Business Access to Capital and Credit.* In 1997, SBA achieved the highest program level ever in its 7(a) business loan guarantee program. SBA guaranteed \$9.5 billion in loan guarantees. SBA's combined 7(a) business loan and 504 economic development loan approvals were also the highest ever at \$10.9 billion. A total of 49,419 small businesses received assistance in 1997.
- *Small Business Investment Companies.* SBICs invested a record \$2.4 billion in 1997. SBICs financed 2,733 small business, with more than 90% of the investments in the form of equity. Industry analysts estimate that the number of SBA supported investments is 28% more than those made by private venture capital firms.
- *SBA's One-Stop Capital Shops.* SBA now administers 15 One-Stop Capital Shops in low-income communities across the country. Small business owners and individuals hoping to start a new business can walk in the door and have access to a range of governmental services, business information, counseling and assistance, and lending services.
- *Microloans.* SBA has provided over 6,300 microloans totaling \$65 million through 103 intermediary lenders and 22 non-lending technical assistance providers.
- *Regulatory Reform.* SBA revised all of its regulations, converting them to plain English and eliminating more than half of the pages. SBA has eliminated more than two-thirds of the total pages in the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), from 25,000 pages to 8,000 pages.
- *Improving Customer Service.* SBA's PRO-Net system – an on-line service to link small businesses with federal procurement opportunities – has gone operational with more than 171,000 small businesses listed on the system. SBA has created ACE-Net – an on-line service that links investors with emerging small businesses seeking equity investments. Eight non-profit operators located throughout the country are now operating the system. The goals are to have an operator in each of the 50 states as issues of consistency with state securities laws are resolved.

MEMORANDUM FOR JOHN PODESTA

SYLVIA MATHEWS  
SID BLUMENTHAL  
RAHM EMANUEL  
ANN LEWIS  
STACIE SPECTOR  
MIKE MCCURRY  
BRUCE REED  
GENE SPERLING  
ELENA KAGAN  
DOUG SOSNICK  
MICHAEL WALDMAN  
BARRY TOIV  
JOE LOCKHART

FROM: PAUL BEGALA  
DATE: DECEMBER 12, 1997  
RE: END-OF-YEAR TALKING POINTS

---

Please find attached our End-of-Year Talking Points.

## End of Year Storyline

The President's accomplishments of 1997, and his agenda for 1998, all revolve around one goal: **preparing America for the 21st Century.** That is his mission, his mandate and his message.

Every Presidency is ultimately judged by how it responds to the great challenges of its time. In our time, when President Clinton took office, the challenges were indeed great. Our **economy** was flat on its back, our **deficit** was spiraling out of control; **crime** was up, **welfare** rolls were exploding and our **economic competitors** around the world were laughing at us.

President Clinton took an economic policy that was failing us and a social policy that was dividing us, and turned them around. Today our economy is the strongest in a generation -- the lowest unemployment in a quarter-century, interest rates low, inflation low, growth strong and steady, and 14 million new American jobs have been created. This did not happen by accident. President Clinton outlined and executed a three-part strategy to revive our economy -- reduce the deficit, invest in people, and expand markets. And around the world, the American economy is the envy of our global competitors.

The Clinton strategy on America's other great issues is working too. The President's commitment to restoring fiscal discipline to Washington has reduced the deficit by more than 90% -- and we're on our way to the first balanced budget in decades. His tough-smart crime bill is helping communities hire more police, and the crime rates are down. Welfare reform has caused the biggest drop in welfare rolls in history -- moving people off welfare and into jobs, not onto the streets.

1997 was a year of historic accomplishments. The President's agenda for 1998 is designed to continue to lead us on the journey into the 21st Century -- to give our children a future even brighter than the good times we enjoy today. That means entering the next century with our **budget balanced**, with programs to help keep Americans ahead in the **new economy**, with improvements in **public education**, a **health care** policy that protects kids from tobacco and patients from unfair practices, a **crime** policy that focuses on guns, gangs and punishing violent offenders, an **environmental** policy that punishes polluters and cleans up the air and water, policies that make it easier to **balance work and family** -- from **child care** to securing **retirement** -- and policies to make the most of our diversity, and truly make our nation **One America** in the 21st Century.

## The Specifics:

### 1997 Retrospective: A Year of Historic Accomplishments

- **Balanced Budget:** Cannot overstate its importance, economically, politically and psychologically. The culmination of the President's multi-year economic plan that has simultaneously strengthened the economy, expanded the private sector and reduced government even as it has vastly increased investments in those things that make us smarter, stronger, safer. It includes:
  - \* Health insurance for 5 million poor children. Think about the significance of Bill Clinton forcing a Republican Congress to pass the greatest expansion of health care since LBJ and a Democratic Congress created Medicaid;
  - \* The greatest increase in the nation's commitment to public education in 30 years. Including HOPE Scholarships, lifetime learning, increased Pell Grants, K-12 support, and policies that make community college or junior college virtually free for any American who wants to attend one;
  - \* Funding of the President's Brownfields Initiative to reclaim blighted urban pollution zones;
- Amazingly, the political class in Washington has already discounted an accomplishment they'd earlier dismissed as impossible. In the most astonishing case of "what have you done for me lately?", some pundits are looking for more. They needn't look far. The President spent the balance of 1997 taking on the toughest issues of our time:
- **Global Climate Change:** Technically complex, politically dangerous, and with a time-line far beyond the scope of the political system. Still the President and the VP insisted that the US must lead, and we are leading the way;
- **NATO Expansion:** Skillfully guided history's most successful military alliance through its most challenging year of change;
- **Chemical Weapons Treaty:** Won Senate ratification of this important treaty;
- **Tobacco:** Rather than simply rubber-stamp the proposed state settlement, or micromanage the legislative process with a thousand-page proposal, the President outlined his principles, focusing on teen smoking, and will press the Congress to enact them into law;
- **Race:** The President's Initiative on Race is the first attempt by a President to summon the nation to confront the issue of race at a time when there are no riots and there is no civil

war. The Initiative is advancing policy proposals on education (Education Opportunity Zones), the economy, and the role of youth. It has produced PSA's, identified scores of "Promising Practices" across America, and engaged thousands of Americans in both dialogue and action;

- **Education:** Preserved his national standards proposal, adopting common-sense changes like expanding the role of the non-partisan and respected NAGB;
- **Campaign Finance Reform:** Boldly threatened to keep the Congress in session over this; forced a showdown and won a commitment to a vote by March 11;
- **Moved to end abuses of child labor and sweatshops** with the cooperation of industry and labor groups;
- **IRS Reform:** Won bipartisan consensus in the House for reforms that professionalize, not politicize, the IRS;
- **Census:** Advanced the goal of having the most accurate possible count by securing support for sampling, which will be part of the "dress rehearsal" of 1998;
- **Land Mines:** Showed real political courage in the face of massive pressure by making the US a leader in removing "dumb" antipersonnel land mines, while preserving our right to defend our troops with self-destructing "smart" mines, that pose no threat to civilians;

### **1998: The Best Is Yet to Come**

- The crowd that says the President is now coasting is the same crowd who said he'd never survive the New Hampshire primary of 1992; that he'd never pass his economic plan in '93; that he'd never recover from the Congressional defeat of '94; that he'd back down to the Republican government shutdown in '95, and that he'd lose re-election in '96. So if you want to count him out in '97...take a number.
- The President is immersed in the details of the budget process and the policy review that drives the State of the Union Address. Without trumping our boss, there are a few things that we can disclose, or that have been reported already that reveal his intention to propose a bold agenda for change in 1998:
- **Education:** The President will propose new initiatives to strengthen public education, and stand firm against attempts to undermine it. He has already proposed creating Educational Opportunity Zones, which reward poor inner-city and rural school districts for agreeing to adopt the President's reform agenda which includes ending social promotion, removing bad teachers, reconstituting failing schools, and adopting public school choice policies. He has expressed strong interest in proposals to reduce class size, test new teachers,

rebuild and repair decaying schools, expand public school choice and charter schools.

- **Health Care:** The Consumer Bill of Rights the President will propose will empower doctors and protect patients. It is the result of a remarkable consensus the President assembled on his Commission on Managed Care -- representing providers, patients and businesses. And yet the House Majority Leader has promised to fight this proposal, thinking the President won't want a fight on health care after what happened in 1994. He's wrong.
- **Child Care:** The White House Conference on Child Care demonstrated the President's strong commitment on this important issue. While we're not ready to trump our boss, it's safe to say you'll be seeing serious policy proposals on this issue in the State of the Union.
- **Crime:** The President wants to focus on juvenile crime, and will propose ideas to control guns, gangs and violent youthful offenders, and crack down on drunk driving.
- **Environment:** In addition to the massive effort on global climate change, you can look for new proposals on clean water, toxic clean-up, national parks and making polluters pay.
- **Equal Opportunity:** Bill Lann Lee is the fight of today, and the President is fully committed to that fight. And he has additional plans to bolster EEOC enforcement of the current laws, as Sec. Cuomo has done so successfully at HUD.
- **Entitlements:** The President has appointed a commission on Medicare, and there have been press accounts that he is considering a proposal to allow under-65-year-olds to buy into Medicare, to provide access to health insurance for those who retire early or lose their job late in life. The President has also expressed a deep interest in ensuring the solvency of the Social Security Trust Fund well into the 21st Century.
- **Balancing the Budget:** The President is committed to standing firm for the principle that we cannot spend money we do not have. While some on the Left want to spend more on social programs and some on the right want to give more away in tax cuts, the President will not allow them to spend money we don't have. We don't actually have a surplus -- just better-than-forecast reductions in the deficit -- and the President will continue to stand for fiscal responsibility so we can actually have a surplus to fight over.
- **And Always, Always, The Economy:** The President is committed to policies that continue to boost our thriving economy, while ensuring that every American is fully prepared to compete and win in the new economy. That means continuing to invest in our people -- giving them new ways to find security in a changing world -- and open foreign markets to create American jobs.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 2, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR: PAUL BEGALA  
SID BLUMENTHAL  
RAHM EMANUEL  
RON KLAIN  
MIKE McCURRY  
BRUCE REED  
SECRETARY RUBIN  
DOUG SOSNIK  
GENE SPERLING

FROM: JOHN HILLEY

SUBJECT: FOR YOUR INFORMATION

November 20, 1997

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT**

**FROM: JOHN HILLEY**

**SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR THE FIRST  
SESSION OF THE 105th CONGRESS**

**I. Measures Enacted Into law**

**1. Balanced Budget Agreement**

**Balanced Budget:** After months of negotiations, the Administration produced an agreement leading to the first balanced budget since 1969. The budget contains roughly \$900 billion in net 10 year deficit savings while making the largest investment in higher education since the G.I bill in 1945 and the largest single investment in health care for children since 1965. The deficit you inherited in 1993 was \$290 billion and projected to grow to over one-half trillion dollars in 2002. In conjunction with the 1993 economic plan, the 1997 balanced budget agreement is expected to produce a budget surplus no later than 2002. Strict, enforceable appropriations caps, coupled with critical long-term entitlement reforms will ensure that the budget will stay in balance over the next decade.

Ten year Medicare savings of between \$400 million to \$450 billion will extend the life of the Medicare trust fund for at least a decade at the same time new preventive benefits are added and while protecting the premium of low-income Medicare beneficiaries. Longer term reforms (particularly those with substantial and complex impacts on beneficiaries) will be considered in the context of the Medicare Commission.

Critical domestic appropriation priorities including funding for education, training, environment, and crime are protected under the budget agreement. Key investments in entitlement programs, including welfare to work and restoration of benefits for legal immigrants are also included.

## 2. Middle Class Tax Relief

**Tax Relief:** The tax cut legislation also enacted as part of the balanced budget agreement includes all of the elements contained in your proposed Middle Class Bill of Rights and subsequent tax proposals made in 1995/96. The major provisions of the legislation include:

- A \$500 per child tax credit for approximately 27 million families with 45 million children under 17;
- A \$1,500 HOPE scholarship to make the first two years of college universally available as well as a 20% tuition tax credit for upperclassmen and for working Americans pursuing lifelong learning; and
- An expanded IRA which allows for tax-free withdrawals for undergraduate, post-secondary vocational, and graduate education expenses. Additionally, taxpayers are given the opportunity to deposit \$500 into an education IRA. Earnings will accumulate tax-free and no taxes will be due upon withdrawal for an approved purpose.

## 3. Education

**Pell Grants:** The FY98 Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations bill provides \$7.345 billion for Pell Grants, an amount sufficient to provide a \$3000 maximum award and additional support for independent students. This represents the largest Pell Grant increase in two decades.

**America Reads:** The Administration worked to insure that the Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations bill provided \$91 million for America Reads--\$52 million for the Department of Education in FY98 and \$39 million for National Service. The America Reads program also received a \$210 million advance appropriation for FY99, pending authorization before July 1, 1998.

**Head Start:** The Administration secured an increase in funding for Head Start that keeps us on the road to achieving the enrollment of 1 million children by 2002.

**Individuals with Disabilities Education Act:** The Congress passed H.R. 5, the IDEA Improvements Act of 1997. The Administration worked to craft a bi-partisan bill reauthorizing IDEA, which improves education for children with disabilities. The bill provides for greater participation by parents and makes it clear that educational services may not be terminated for any child with a disability. The bill also eliminates unnecessary paper work and provides other financial relief through new cost-sharing

provisions including a change in the funding formula from a per capita basis to state population and poverty levels.

**Job Corps:** We secured the \$579 million increase the Administration requested in the FY98 budget for Training and Employment Services, including Job Corps.

**National Endowment of the Arts:** Despite attempts by Republican opponents, the Administration secured \$98 million in funding for the National Endowment of the Arts.

#### 4. Health Care

**Medicare:** The budget agreement preserves and strengthens the Medicare program, saving \$115 billion over five years and extending the life of the Medicare Trust Fund for a decade. The Budget Agreement also provides structural reform that will give Medicare beneficiaries more informed choices among competing health plans, authorizes a number of new anti-fraud provisions, and establishes a wide array of new preventative benefits.

**FDA Reform:** Congress passed S. 830, the FDA Reform Act of 1997 to speed FDA approval of new drugs and medical devices. The measure reauthorizes the Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA); streamlines the drug approval process; updates food labeling regulations; and overhauls the FDA regulation of medical devices. The bill also allows states to retain much of their oversight of cosmetics and settles the question of jurisdiction between the FDA and individual states over the manufacturing of customized medication.

**Medicare Commission:** As the Administration worked to strengthen and preserve the Medicare program, it successfully established a 17-member Medicare Commission containing eight Democrats and eight Republicans and a Chair who will be selected jointly by the President and the Congressional leadership. The Commission will release a report in 1999 on the long-term performance and solvency of the Medicare system. The Commission is required to have an 11 of 17 majority to ensure that its recommendations are bipartisan.

#### 5. Environment

**Climate Change:** The FY98 Energy and Water Appropriations bill provides a \$35 million funding increase for the alternative energy programs of DOE that help save money, create jobs, and reduce the emission of climate change gases. This increased funding is consistent with your climate change proposal and includes such programs as solar power and alternative fuel research. In the Senate Robert Byrd (D-WVA) and Chuck Hagel (R-NE) sponsored a Sense of the Senate Resolution, S. Res. 98, which passed 95 - 0 and warns the Executive Branch that any treaty establishing targets and

timetables for the United States must include a commitment from developing countries before ratification.

**Headwaters Forest:** The Administration worked to protect funding for several key Administration priorities in the Interior Appropriations bill, including \$250 million for the purchase of the Headwaters forest in California. The purchase of this forest eliminates the risk of environmental damage by commercial timber operations to the largest privately held stand of ancient redwoods in northern California.

**New World Mine:** The Administration also worked to secure \$65 million for the purchase of the New World Mine near Yellowstone, Montana. The purchase of this land eliminates the opportunity for commercial mining operations which would have had a devastating environmental impact on this historic and nationally significant area.

**Everglades Restoration:** The Administration more than doubled funding (\$156 million) for the Everglades Restoration project which supports our efforts to restore this rare and delicate ecosystem through wildlife replenishment and environmental clean-up.

**Brownfields:** The FY98 Interior Appropriations bill provides \$25 million in direct funding for Brownfields clean-up projects. The Administration worked vigorously to secure the Brownfields tax incentive within the Tax Relief package. This three year tax incentive will reduce the cost of cleaning up numerous contaminated and abandoned sites in economically distressed areas by permitting clean-up costs to be deducted immediately for tax purposes.

**Dolphin-Safe Tuna:** The Congress passed legislation amending the Marine Mammal Protection Act to lift the embargo against countries fishing for tuna by encircling purse seine nets around dolphins, as long as they fish in the prescribed manner. The bill also changes the definition of the label "dolphin safe." The legislation implements the Panama Declaration, an international agreement signed by the United States and 11 other countries who fish for tuna in the Eastern Tropical Pacific.

**Wildlife Refuge Bill:** You signed legislation amending the National Refuge System Administration Act to include a strong conservation mission, a new process for determining compatible uses of refuges and a requirement for preparing comprehensive conservation plans. The legislation recognizes that wildlife-dependent recreational uses involving hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, and environmental education are priority public uses of the Refuge System.

**GLOBE:** Despite opposition to the GLOBE program, the Administration was able to prevent it's elimination and secure \$5 million for FY98. However, this amount is still \$2 million below your request. The program provides students throughout the world with an

opportunity to discuss various environmental issues with renowned scientists.

## 6. Child Initiatives

**Children's Health:** The balanced budget agreement provides \$24 billion in additional Medicaid funding to supply health care coverage to as many as five million of the nation's ten million uninsured children. This measure guarantees that states use this money to cover uninsured children and not replace existing public or private spending, and provides adequate cost-sharing protections for families. The measure also ensures that 30,000 disabled children losing SSI benefits because of tighter eligibility criteria keep their Medicaid coverage.

**Adoption:** The Congress passed H.R. 867, the Adoption Promotion Act providing states with financial incentives to increase the number of children who are adopted, make changes in federal law that will make it easier for local authorities to permanently remove children from abusive homes, and move children more rapidly out of foster care and into permanent adoptive homes. The compromise version authorizes \$100 million over five years, including \$60 million for the Family Preservation Program and rewards states for increased adoptions with a bonus of \$3,000 for each adoption of a foster care child and \$6,000 for each adoption of a special-needs child.

**Youth Opportunity Grants:** The Administration ensured an advance appropriation of \$250 million for employment programs for out-of-school youth in selected high-poverty urban and rural areas, including designated empowerment zones and enterprise communities in the FY98 Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations bill.

**Community Learning Center:** The FY98 Labor/HHS/Education bill dramatically expands support for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program, providing \$40 million to support hundreds of after-school centers in rural and urban schools across the country that will provide academic enrichment, tutoring, and other learning opportunities while giving students a safe haven during the often-dangerous after-school hours.

**Trigger Locks:** While no legislative action was taken on this initiative, the introduction of your Anti-Gang and Youth Violence Act of 1997 led to a consensus agreement between Smith and Wesson, the world's largest gun manufacturer, and the Master Lock Company, to voluntarily install child safety locks on all handguns sold for commercial use. The Administration continues to work vigorously to get all federally-licensed gun dealers to provide safety locks with every handgun sold.

## 7. Economic Opportunity

**Welfare Tax Credit:** The Middle Class Tax Relief legislation provides a credit equal to 35% of the first \$10,000 in wages in the first year of employment and 50% of the first \$10,000 in the second year paid to new hires who have received welfare for an extended period.

**Welfare to Work:** The balanced budget agreement included your proposal to create the \$3 billion Welfare to Work Jobs Challenge which moves long-term welfare recipients into lasting, unsubsidized jobs. These funds can be used for job creation, job placement and retention efforts, including wage subsidies to private employers, and other critical post-employment support services. The Labor Department will provide oversight but the dollars will be placed in the hands of the localities who are on the front lines of the welfare reform effort.

**Community Development Financial Development:** The FY98 Interior Appropriations bill provides \$80 million for Community Development Financial Institutions representing a significant increase over FY97 levels.

**Drug Free Communities Act:** The Office of National Drug Control Policy and White House Legislative Affairs worked to perfect and ultimately enact this legislation which will make federal grants available to community-based coalitions working to reduce substance abuse. In addition to passing this authorizing legislation, adequate funding for the measure was successfully obtained in the current appropriations cycle.

**Export-Import Bank Reauthorization Conference Report:** The Congress passed legislation restoring the bank's authorization, which expired September 30, until September 30, 2001.

**Small Business Administration Reauthorization:** The Administration worked vigorously to ensure that Congress passed legislation reauthorizing the Small Business Administration. The legislation authorizes small business loans which assist thousands of small businesses each year, programs include the Section 504 Development Company Loan, the Microloan program, and the National Women's Business Council which funds Women's Business Centers.

## 8. Immigrant Issues

**SSI and Medicaid Benefits for Legal Immigrants:** The Administration worked to correct several unacceptable provisions of the Welfare Reform bill of 1996, particularly the restoration of Medicaid and SSI benefits for legal immigrants. The balanced budget agreement provided \$12 billion for the restoration of disability and health benefits for

350,000 legal immigrants in 2002 who are currently receiving assistance or become disabled, ensuring that they will not be turned out of their apartments or nursing homes or otherwise helpless.

**Central Americans:** During the last week of this session Congress passed legislation largely based on an Administration proposal designed to avert the deportation of certain Central Americans and others who fled their homes during civil unrest. The measure passed by Congress allows Guatemalans, El Salvadorians and refugees from the former Eastern Bloc countries to have their cases heard by an immigration judge under the more lenient standards that were in effect prior to last year's immigration law. Additionally, Congress upped the ante on the Administration's original bill by granting Nicaraguan refugees and certain Cuban refugees amnesty. Unfortunately, Congress refused to extend Administration-proposed relief to Haitians and other certain non-Central Americans. We anticipate work on the Haitian relief legislation early in the second session.

**Immigration and Naturalization Act:** Section 245(I) of the Immigration and Naturalization Act allows immigrants with pending applications for permanent visas to remain in the country while awaiting approval of the visa. While the Senate had approved an Administration-backed permanent extension of Section 245(I), House Republicans were determined to kill the provision. The Administration won provisions that will provide a two month extension of the program and grandfather all currently eligible immigrants. These provisions will provide a more orderly phase out of the program and allow many more families to use 245(I) to remain together during the visa application process.

**Refugees and Asylees:** The balanced budget agreement extends the SSI and Medicaid eligibility period for refugees and asylees from 5 years after entry to 7 years to give these residents more time to naturalize.

## 2. Transportation

**Amtrak:** The Administration reached a compromise with Republicans in the House and Senate who were insisting on their extreme labor and liability reforms. The measure places an aggregate \$200 million cap on the civil settlements with passengers after any accident. Second, the passage of the reform bill triggered the release of \$2.3 billion in capital funding provided for in the tax portion of the balanced budget agreement. Third, the bill solidified the collective bargaining agreement reached by Amtrak management and labor. Under this new labor-management agreement the following provisions were repealed: the ban on outside contracting of jobs and services; and the statutory guarantee which required Amtrak to provide 6-years of severance to any employee who loses their position due to a route change/elimination or a frequency reduction 3 times week. Finally, the measure contains compromise language on the Amtrak Reform Board. The Reform Board will consist of seven members to be appointed by the President and

confirmed by the Senate.

**Airport and Airway Trust Fund:** The Congress passed legislation reinstating the three aviation taxes: (i) the 10% excise tax on domestic air passengers tickets; (ii) the \$6-per-person international air passenger departure tax; and (iii) and the 6.25% domestic air freight excise tax. The \$2.7 billion that would be raised would replenish the Airport and Airway Trust fund, which pays for such construction and aviation safety projects as new airport runways and improved radar systems.

## 10. Foreign Policy

**Chemical Weapons Convention:** The Administration gained Senate passage of the CWC Treaty to prevent production, stockpiling and distribution of chemical weapons. The Treaty took effect in April and awaits further congressional action on its implementation legislation.

**Mexico Drug Certification:** The Senate reaffirmed the President's decision to certify Mexico as an ally in combating drug trafficking.

**China MFN:** On Tuesday, June 24, the House rejected (173--259) H.J.Res. 79, a resolution which would overturn your May 29 decision to extend most-favored-nation trading status for China. Thirty-five members who voted no in a similar 1996 vote (141--286) switched to yes, while seven members switched from yes to voting with the Administration. Congress has agreed to extend the trading status, which applies to all but a handful of renegade nations, for 16 years in a row.

**Foreign Operations Appropriations:** The Administration increased funding in the bill by about \$900 million over 1997 levels. The following programs received increased funding under the measure: Foreign military financing loans and grants are \$18 million above the \$3,340 million request, primarily to allow for an increase in grants to Jordan; AID developmental assistance is \$26 million above the \$1,698 million requested; and Export-Import Bank subsidies are increased by \$51 million above the request to \$683 million. In addition, the bill includes language effectively extending key elements of the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act by giving you 12 month waiver authority.

## 11. Science and Technology

**NASA:** The FY98 VA/HUD Appropriations bill provides full funding for NASA's science and aeronautics programs, Mission to Planet Earth, aeronautics and space transportation research and mission support services. The measure provides a total of \$2.351 billion for the International Space Station program, which includes \$230 million of the \$430 million additional funding needed in FY98 to ensure the Station effort remains on schedule. The additional funds are necessary because of the Russian

Federation's default on their Mir obligations.

**Technology Innovation Challenge Grants.** The FY98 Labor/HHS/Education bill includes \$106 million--an 86 percent increase over last year's level of \$57 million--to support up to 30 new projects, including 15 focused specifically on delivering the most effective training for teachers in using educational technologies, as well as 62 existing projects involving a wide range of innovative strategies for improving teaching and learning and increasing student access to technology.

**Technology Literacy Challenge Fund.** The FY98 Labor/HHS/Education bill provides \$425 million, more than twice as much as the \$200 million appropriated last year, to help States, communities, and schools acquire hardware, software, and connectivity linkages; provide professional development in the integration of technology into the curriculum; and apply technology to support school reform efforts and opportunities for all students.

## 12. Other Legislative Affairs Activities

**Nominations:** In 1997, the Senate confirmed 75% of all Presidential nominees (362 out of 484) including 41 judicial nominees. This represents a 30 percentage point increase from 45% in 1996 (154 out of 342--22 Judicial). In 1995, the Senate confirmed 71% of your nominees (327 out of 461--62 Judicial). The Administration was also successful in confirming nine Cabinet Secretaries in often contentious confirmation processes (Secretaries Pena, Slater, Herman, Cuomo, Daley, Barshefsky, Richardson, Cohen, Albright).

**Legislative Correspondence:** Our Correspondence office continues to develop substantive Presidential responses to Congressional inquiries, author letters stating official Administration legislative policy and track Cabinet-level response to Congressional inquiries. Throughout the session, this office was directed to consolidate Administration opinion and develop Presidential letters to the House and Senate leadership regarding pending legislative matters. During an average week while in session, Congressional receipts are as follows:

1. Substantive policy letters requiring response - 100
2. Member requests for Presidential event messages - 50
3. Member requests for Presidential greeting letters - 350

This office also provides requesting Members with redline copies of bills signed into law, monitors the distribution of signing pens to designated Members and regularly generates thank-you letters to Members who support the Administration on major votes.

**Scheduling:** Since January 1997, you have had over 70 meetings with Members of Congress, more than nine of these were with the House and Senate Leadership. You

have also met with the Senate Democratic Caucus, the House Democratic Caucus, the Congressional Black Caucus, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, the Congressional Women's Caucus, and are scheduled to meet with the Congressional Asian Pacific Caucus before the end of the year.

In addition to these meetings, there have been eight public signing ceremonies for major bills, such as the Balanced Budget Act and Taxpayer Relief Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Adoption Promotion Act, and a ceremony is scheduled for the and the Food and Drug Administration Modernization and Accountability Act. Additionally, Members have been prominent in all four of the White House conferences held this year. Members have also been involved in a great majority of your official travel in 1997, including four of the five foreign trips.

## II. Unacceptable Republican Provisions That Were Successfully Contested

### 1. Education

**D.C. Appropriations Voucher Proposal Defeated:** This proposal would have appropriated \$7 million to be used to create 2,000 vouchers valued at \$3,200 each to attend public, private or religious schools. It would also have authorized \$500 after-school tutoring vouchers. The House approved the D.C. Appropriations bill with this provision by a vote of 203 to 202 on October 9, 1997. However, when an identical provision supported by Senators Lieberman and Coats was included in the Senate D.C. Appropriation bill, the Senate failed to invoke cloture by a vote of 58 to 41. The provision was eventually dropped from the final bill.

**Coverdell/Archer K-12 IRA Proposal Defeated:** This proposal would have not only allowed taxpayers to make tax-free withdrawals from education individual retirement accounts to pay for elementary and secondary school expenses but it would have also increased the maximum annual contribution from \$500 to \$2,500 per beneficiary. The withdrawals could have been used to pay for tuition, fees, tutoring, special needs services, books, supplies, equipment, transportation and supplementary expenses required for the enrollment or attendance at a public, private religious, or private nonsectarian school, or for home schooling. This provision was removed from the tax portion of the balanced budget agreement after the President threatened to veto the entire tax bill if it remained. Later, the full House approved H.R. 2646, a newer version of the "Coverdell" provision. However, the Senate failed to invoke cloture by a vote of 56 to 44.

**Education Block Grants:** The Administration successfully forced the removal of an education block grant proposal which sought to consolidate \$2.5 billion worth of programs currently run by the Department of Education, including Goals 2000, school-to-work programs, educational technology programs, and the Safe and Drug-Free School program into block grants to the states.

### 2. Environment

**Native American Riders:** The Administration worked to remove or denude many anti-environmental and anti-Native American riders from the Interior bill, including amendments weakening tribal sovereignty and prohibiting tribal compacts.

**Nuclear Waste Legislation:** While the bill was not stopped, the Senate provided enough votes to sustain the President's veto.

**Ethanol:** Administration efforts prevented Ways and Means Chairman Archer from reducing the tax benefits available to ethanol producers.

### 3. Foreign Policy

**Bosnia:** The Administration successfully prohibited Congress from legislating a date certain for troop withdrawal from Bosnia. Troops withdrawal amendments restricting troops to remain in Bosnia past June 1998 were resolved in the Defense Appropriations Bill and the Defense Authorization Bill Conferences by granting the President with a National Security waiver for troop withdrawal.

**Religious Persecution:** The Administration helped prevent the House International Relations Committee from reporting out H.R.2431, Freedom from Religious Persecution Bill sponsored by Senator Specter and Representative Wolf. The bill included restrictions on exports, visas, foreign assistance and international financial institution voting. The bill would create a confusing bureaucratic structure for dealing with religious freedom that would fragment foreign policy decision-making. We can expect to see an effort to move this bill as soon as Congress returns

**Mexico City:** The Administration successfully stopped enactment of Mexico City policy and removed the obligation delay in the 1997 bill and kept the funding at 1997 levels.

### 4. Social Issues

**Partial Birth Abortion Veto Override:** As a result of Administration efforts, final action was delayed because the Senate could not muster a veto-proof majority. Such a Majority already exists in the House. Despite significant defection (Senator's Leahy, Daschle, Specter, Hollings changed their votes) the Administration, in conjunction with the women's community, was able to thwart Republican efforts to gain veto-override strength in the Senate.

**Tabling Affirmative Action Legislation:** Earlier this month the House Judiciary Committee voted to table H.R. 1909, legislation by Congressman Canady (R-FL) that would eliminate all federal affirmative action programs. All the Committee Democrats and four Committee Republicans, led by George Gekas (R-PA), voted to table the measure in large part because of the Administration's work with Committee Democrats, and outside interest groups, to successfully portray the measure as extremist. It is almost certain that House Republican leadership will have to significantly narrow the scope of this legislation to appease Republican moderates if they want to move it forward. However, such a move could cause conservative Republicans to abandon the efforts altogether.

**Legal Services Corporation:** The Administration successfully prevented Republican opponents of the Corporation from significantly limiting its funds in the FY98 appropriations bill. The Administration achieved an increase in the funding level for the

Legal Services Corporation from the \$141 million level proposed in the House Committee passed bill to \$283 million, which is identical to last year's level.

5. Additional Legislative Items

**Balanced Budget Amendment:** The Administration defeated the balanced budget constitutional amendment in the Senate by a vote of 34 to 66.

**Decennial Census:** Under an agreement reached as part of the FY98 Commerce/Justice/State Appropriations bill, the Census Bureau would be allowed to proceed with a test next year on the use of statistical sampling. The agreement promotes an expedited Supreme Court review of the use of sampling. Funds are appropriated for an expanded dress rehearsal to test direct enumeration techniques in the event of Supreme Court decision banning the use of certain forms of sampling. The agreement also calls for an eight member monitoring board to review the dress rehearsal and the Census Bureau plans for 2000, including sampling. The board, split equally between Republicans and Democrats, would need a quorum of five.

**Beck Provisions:** Earlier this fall Senate Democrats successfully filibustered Senate Republican campaign finance legislation to require that all union members affirmatively permit the use of their dues for political campaign spending. By working with reformers, Senate Democrats and by adroitly positioning the Administration, Senate Republicans, not Senate Democrats, were largely blamed for the defeat of campaign finance reform this fall. Additionally, Senate Democrats were able to successfully sustain a subsequent filibuster and win a commitment for further consideration of campaign finance legislation by next March.

**Curios and Relics:** Twice during the past several months pro-gun Congressmen have attempted to enact legislation that would require the Administration to approve applications for the importation of certain guns known as curios and relics. This legislation would have allowed back into the U.S. millions of semi-automatic rifles and pistols (many of which would be easily convertible to fully automatic weapons) that were given by the U.S. to foreign military forces. The Administration worked closely with Congressional allies to kill this legislation by defeating both attempts to attach this legislation to pending appropriations bills.

cc: The Vice-President  
Erskine Bowles  
John Podesta  
Sylvia Mathews

November 26, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JOHN HILLEY

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE OUTLOOK FOR THE SECOND SESSION OF THE  
105TH CONGRESS

This memorandum highlights significant legislative issues likely to be considered during the second session of the 105th Congress--those that were under consideration in the first session of the 105th Congress or might receive significant legislative attention prior to the 1998 elections.

1. Budget Issues

**Appropriations:** The 1999 appropriations bills will be constrained by the discretionary caps adopted in the Balanced Budget Agreement. The 1999 caps, which contains a "firewall" between defense and non-defense funds, provide for a slight increase over 1998 levels (an additional \$2.8 billion in budget authority for defense and an additional \$3 billion for nondefense).

A Bosnia supplemental bill is expected early next year. This will become the first appropriation vehicle and may be used to revisit 1998 appropriation issues and for other purposes.

**Budget Surplus:** Shortly after the balanced budget agreement was signed, some members of Congress turned their attention to the intended use of the budget surplus. For some of these proposals, "budget surplus" had been defined as the \$135 billion five year difference between the revenue projections at the time of the bipartisan budget agreement and CBO's latest projections. Others define "budget surplus" more traditionally, as the period in which revenues exceed outlays. Four major purposes for the surplus have been discussed: 1) federal debt reduction; no further legislative action would be required (Senator Moynihan); 2) tax relief (Representative Boehner, with 32 cosponsors including Majority Leader Arme); 3) additional spending on highways or other purposes (Senator Byrd, Senator Warner, and Representative Shuster); and 4) a combination of the above (Representative Neumann). This issue will be vigorously debated in the context of the 1999 budget resolution next year.

**Military Construction Line Item Veto Override:** The House passed (352-64) and the Senate adopted by unanimous consent a disapproval motion fully overturning your line item vetoes of 38 military construction projects. Upon return, Congress will likely take up your veto of the motion of disapproval unless a negotiated solution is achieved before then.

## 2. Taxes

**Tax Cuts:** While Republicans will be constrained by the budget, Speaker Gingrich has said that he would like the Congress to enact a tax cut every year. Some potential proposals include: repeal of the capital gains tax; increasing the exemption on the estate tax; and possible repeal of the marriage penalty tax.

**Tax Simplification and Reform:** The Republicans' strategy for IRS and taxes is expected to include dispensing with the income tax and substituting either a flat tax or some form of a national retail sales tax. House Majority Leader Arney and Representative Tauzin are currently promoting their individual tax code proposals. Arney favors the flat tax, while Archer and Tauzin are strong proponents of the national sales tax.

Minority Leader Gephardt has proposed a plan which is essentially a variant of the 1986 Tax Reform Act in which many exemptions and deductions would be eliminated and rates would be lowered. At this point, there is no announced agenda for Congressional consideration of these tax proposals.

**IRS Reform:** Passage of the House-passed and Administration-endorsed version of the IRS restructuring legislation has been slowed by Finance Chairman Roth. Roth has announced plans to hold additional hearings, suggesting he is unsatisfied with a number of the proposals, and promised to produce his own version of the bill sometime "early" next year. Senators Kerrey and Grassley have introduced legislation that falls somewhere between the House version and the Administration's original plan.

## 3. Education

**National Standards and Testing:** The FY98 Labor/HHS Appropriations bill provides the NAGB with authority over developing and administering national exams. While field testing will not proceed until FY99, the Department of Education has provided the Board with \$16 million in discretionary funds to begin the development of these exams and has proposed a 5 year, \$65 million contract for the future development and administration of national exams. The ability to go forward with pilot tests in 1999 is not restricted by the need for authorization. We anticipate challenges to our current approach from conservative Republicans as well as some Members of the Black and Hispanic Caucuses.

This NAGB reauthorization will provide an opportunity for Chairman Goodling to revisit the issue of the national test in his House Education and the Workforce Committee. The

makeup of the Committee is such that the test could have a difficult time making it through without significant limitations. Senate Committee Chairman Jeffords supports the test but he will most likely wait for Goodling before he proceeds.

**America Reads:** Shortly before adjournment, the House passed H.R. 2614, Chairman Goodling's literacy authorization bill. The Administration supported the legislation in the interest of moving a bill forward despite concerns about voucher language. Senators Jeffords and Kennedy have made a commitment to Secretary Riley to develop a bipartisan Senate bill next year.

**Charter Schools:** The House passed H.R. 2616, the Charter Schools Amendments Act authorizing \$100 million in FY98, nearly double the \$51 million provided in FY97. The measure would channel appropriations to states that provide charter schools a high degree of autonomy over their budgets; increase the number of charter schools; and conduct reviews to determine whether charter schools are meeting or exceeding academic requirements and goals. The bill awaits Senate action.

**School Vouchers:** The Coverdell/Archer K-12 IRA proposal which was defeated last year in the Senate may resurface in the second session. This proposal would allow taxpayers to make tax-free withdrawals from education IRAs to pay for elementary or secondary school expenses, and also increase the maximum annual IRA contribution from \$500 to \$2,500 per beneficiary. The withdrawals could be used to pay for tuition, fees, tutoring, special needs services, books, supplies, equipment, transportation and supplementary expenses required for the enrollment or attendance at a public, private religious, or private nonsectarian school, or for home schooling. A growing number of Senate Democrats support some version of this legislation.

**Higher Education Reauthorization:** Authorization for the Higher Education Act, which provides for federal student aid, among other things, expires in FY98. The Administration has been sending its legislative proposals to the Hill in sections with almost all items slated to arrive by the end of December. A few major items might be held back if they can be announced at the State of the Union Address.

#### 4. Environment

**Superfund:** Republicans continue to indicate that Superfund reform will be legislative priority next session. In the week prior to the recess Commerce Subcommittee Chair Mike Oxley (R-OH) introduced a bill with seven Democratic sponsors (mostly Blue Dogs) and stated his intentions to hold hearings early next year. Transportation Subcommittee Chair Sherwood Bohmert (R-NY) shares jurisdiction and has a bill which he intends to mark-up early next year. The Senate has been in ongoing bipartisan negotiations but those discussions broke down late in the year. There may be an effort to revive these discussions based on progress in the House. The Administration supports Superfund reform and has a set of principles which represent our position. The issue of polluter liability remains the key stumbling block.

**Nuclear Waste Policy:** The House approved (307-120) H.R. 1270, the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1997 during the first session. You will veto the measure because it would undermine the credibility of the Nation's nuclear waste disposal program by designating a specified site for an interim storage facility before the viability of the site as a permanent geological repository has been assessed. Additionally, the House passed version of the measure does not contain adequate budgetary offsets: if the bill were enacted, a sequester of mandatory spending would occur in each of FY99 through FY2001. The Senate passed the bill (65-34) with a sufficient number of votes to sustain your veto. The two houses are likely to go to conference in the second session.

**Climate Change:** If an agreement is reached in Kyoto in December, 1997, the treaty will need to be ratified in the Senate. If implementing legislation is sent to the Hill with the treaty, it could be 1999-2001 before consideration of ratification is possible. The FY98 Energy and Water Appropriations bill provides a \$35 million funding increase for the alternative energy programs of DOE that are efficient and reduce the emission of climate change gases. This increased funding is consistent with your climate change proposal and includes such programs as solar power and alternative fuel research.

**PM/Ozone:** Under the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Act (SBREFA), the Congress will have the right to consider legislation overturning the rules well into 1998. In the House, Representatives Ron Klink and Fred Upton have introduced legislation. The Republican Leadership, however, is unlikely to bring the legislation up for a vote. House supporters of the Administration's position claim to have a veto-sustaining margin.

**American Heritage Rivers:** Representative Chenoweth (R-ID) introduced a bill which terminates further implementation of the American Heritage Rivers Initiative. The measure was cleared by the House Resources Committee and should be vetoed in the unlikely event it passes both Houses.

**Endangered Species Act Reauthorization:** The Administration has indicated support for the ESA reauthorization in testimony before the Environment and Public Works Committee. The bill codifies many of Secretary Babbitt's new policies in the management of endangered and threatened species, including exemption for small land owners, greater management flexibility for the DOI Secretary, procedures for delisting a species, a "no surprises" protection for the property owner using a Habitat Conservation Plan for threatened and endangered species, and liability protection for private land owners who voluntarily enter into protection agreements.

**Regulatory Reform:** Led by OMB, CEQ, and Legislative Affairs, the Administration has worked with Senators Glenn, Levin, and Thompson on their bipartisan draft legislation. Conservative Republicans have already complained that the draft does not adequately limit agency discretion in rulemaking or sufficiently streamline the rulemaking process. Groups on the left, principally environmental, argue that the draft bill hamstringing the Administration in its ability to protect health and safety. If the Administration's concerns

are addressed and we can support the measure, the bill should pass with broad bipartisan support.

**Takings Legislation:** H.R. 1534, sponsored by Congressman Gallegly, would greatly narrow both Federal ripeness and abstention doctrines with respect to takings law, thereby allowing real estate developers to seek relief in Federal court if state and local courts prove unfriendly. The measure was strongly opposed by the Administration which successfully worked to solidify Democrats and pro-environment Republicans against the bill. The resulting House floor vote of 248-178 represents a strong bipartisan veto-sustaining margin that significantly strengthens our prospects of defeating the measure or striking an acceptable compromise in the Senate.

## 5. Health

**Consumer Bill of Rights:** During the week of November 17, you endorsed the "consumer bill of rights and responsibilities" recommended by the Advisory Commission on Quality and Consumer Protections. There are already a number of consumer protection bills on the Hill that have received broad, bipartisan support. The bill that has received the most attention was introduced by Congressman Norwood (R-GA) and already has over 205 cosponsors in the House, including over 85 Republicans. Senator D'Amato has introduced a companion bill in the Senate. The Norwood/D'Amato bill differs from the Quality Commission in some areas, particularly those that focus on provider protections. Some of these provisions could notably increase the cost of health plans. For example, their bill requires a mandatory point-of-service option which would raise premiums for health plans that do not currently offer this option.

In addition, Congressman Dingell and Senator Kennedy have introduced companion bills, which emphasize consumer (more than provider) protections. Senator Jeffords has indicated his intent to introduce a bipartisan bill with Senator Kennedy, which is much more likely to reflect many of the Quality Commission's recommendations. Senator Lott is pressuring Jeffords not to introduce a bill on this issue; however, the Administration remains cautiously optimistic that progress will be made.

**Child Nutrition Act Reauthorization:** This Act will expire in 1998. USDA is drafting legislation providing the authority for school lunch, school breakfast, child and adult care, and other child nutrition programs. The legislation will provide local cooperators with increased resources to reach unserved populations; simplify program operations and education opportunities; and make significant reductions in the reporting and record-keeping burdens currently associated with child nutrition programs.

**Medicare Subvention:** Both the House and Senate Committees on Veterans Affairs passed a bill that would allow for a three year demonstration project in which certain veterans could choose to use their Medicare benefits for health care at VA hospitals, allowing Veterans Affairs to be reimbursed by Medicare. The bill was referred to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committees respectively

because of jurisdictional oversight of Medicare. The bills have not been acted on in either Committee. Representative Thomas opposes the bill because he does not want the Medicare trust fund to pay for veterans health care. This bill may see action in the House early next spring, with the Senate to act thereafter.

**Food Safety Enforcement:** The Administration has submitted a bill which would provide the Secretary of Agriculture with the authority to issue mandatory recalls of adulterated food products, impose civil fines against companies that repeatedly violate food safety regulations, and require companies to notify the Department when they initiate a product recall. The Senate Agriculture Committee held a hearing this fall, but came to no resolution.

## 6. Crime

**Juvenile Justice Reform Legislation:** Senate Majority Leader Lott has already indicated that S. 10, juvenile justice reform legislation, will be one of the first bills on the Senate's agenda next session. The measure as reported by the Senate Judiciary Committee provides for a number of reforms in the prevention, enforcement and punishment of juvenile crime. The House has already passed a much narrower bill but it is expected that a House-Senate conference on the bill will produce a comprehensive measure. It is likely that many key Administration priorities including: increased funding for state and local courts and prosecutors; tougher penalties for those who use juveniles to commit drug and gun crimes; and better protections for witnesses and victims of juvenile crime will be included in the final legislation. More problematic will be winning juvenile crime prevention funding.

**Victims Rights Constitutional Amendment:** Senators Feinstein and Kyl will likely renew their push to amend the Constitution. The Department of Justice has been leading the negotiations on the Hill on behalf of the Administration. While the idea has popular appeal, the momentum has been tempered by Members' reservations about amending the Constitution. Chairman Hatch has been extremely cautious in his approach to this matter.

## 7. Government Reform

**Campaign Finance Reform Legislation:** Earlier this fall, the Senate leaders agreed to take up campaign finance reform legislation by early March. Under the agreement, Senators McCain and Feingold will be allowed to offer a bill or amendment for an up or down vote as an amendment to a Senate Republican campaign finance bill that will be drafted early next year. Following the vote on the McCain-Feingold substitute, further consideration of this and any other modification would potentially face a filibuster.

In the House, the Republican leadership has agreed to consider campaign finance reform legislation on the House floor in February or March, without a commitment on which bill might be brought to the floor. Congressman Shays is circulating a campaign finance discharge petition in the House which currently has almost 190 signatures as "an

insurance policy" to guarantee that the Republican leadership allows a House vote on a bipartisan, consensus reform bill.

Within the context of the campaign finance reform debate, Republicans can be expected to push two contentious provisions: 1) language requiring union members to affirmatively consent to having their dues used for political activities (the so-called Beck issue); and, 2) provisions that would require voters to prove their citizenship at the polls (also known as voter fraud prevention).

**White House Chief Financial Officer Legislation:** H.R. 1962, sponsored by Congressman Horn, would require the President to designate a Chief Financial Officer (CFO) in the Executive Office of the President. The bill as originally introduced was seriously flawed. It has since been successfully negotiated by the Administration to give the President full discretion in determining the appointment, the duties, and the placement of CFO within the Executive Office of the President. The Senate may consider the measure early in the next session.

## 8. Social Issues

**Haitian Refugee Relief Legislation:** It became clear during recent Congressional consideration of legislation to provide relief to certain Central American immigrants that comparable relief should be provided to similarly situated Haitian immigrants. Bipartisan legislation was introduced in the both the House and the Senate to provide amnesty for many of the Haitians who fled civil unrest in Haiti during the early 1990's. The Attorney General has agreed to refrain from deporting any Haitians covered by the proposed legislation until Congress has a chance to act on the measure.

**Tobacco Initiative:** Hearings were held in both the House and Senate during the fall. Any tobacco bill will have to make its way through a tangle of overlapping committee jurisdictions and agendas. At least six committees in the Senate and four in the House can lay claim to some piece of this legislation, and dozens of members in both parties have a longstanding interest in tobacco from the standpoint of reducing teen smoking or protecting tobacco farmers.

**Affirmative Action:** During the first session, legislation (H.R. 1909) sponsored by Congressman Canady eliminating all federal affirmative action programs was tabled in Committee as a result of the Administration's work with Committee Democrats and outside interest groups. It is almost certain that Republicans will push for its consideration again next year. The House Republican Leadership, however, will have to significantly narrow the scope of this legislation to appease Republican moderates if they want to move the bill forward. Such a move could cause conservative Republicans to abandon the effort altogether.

**Employment Non-Discrimination Act:** The Administration's strong support for this legislation has given its proponents on the Hill renewed momentum. It has also given the opposition on the right another issue to rally around. Senators Jeffords, Kennedy, and Lieberman remain firmly committed to trying to move this bill next session.

**School Prayer:** The House Judiciary Constitution Subcommittee has marked up a proposed constitutional amendment on religious freedom that would secure that right to pray "on public property, including schools." The full House Judiciary Committee is likely to consider and report out the measure next spring. The measure is strongly opposed by both the House Democratic leadership and many rank and file Democrats which should ensure that the measure will fail to receive the necessary approval of two-thirds of the House.

**Flag Burning:** Earlier this year the House overwhelmingly passed a proposed constitutional amendment that would allow Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the United States flag. The measure is currently pending in the Senate where supporters admit they are short of the necessary two-thirds for passage. It is likely, however, that the Senate Republican leadership will want to schedule a vote prior to the election.

## 9. Business Issues

**Products Liability Reform Legislation:** The Administration has successfully negotiated with Senator Rockefeller a narrowly-crafted reform bill that is consistent with objections raised in your veto of the products liability reform legislation in the last Congress. Senator Rockefeller is currently discussing his draft legislation with Senator Gorton. While it is likely that Senator Gorton will attempt to gain additional concessions for his support, Senator Rockefeller has remained committed to his agreement with the Administration. Majority Leader Lott has signaled that this legislation will be one of his top priorities in the new session and it is likely that the House will await the outcome of the current Senate discussions.

**Energy, Restructuring:** It is possible that 1998 may see movement on this issue. The Administration is still finalizing its position, which should influence the pace of activity on the Hill. Legislation has been introduced by a wide range of Members. The key questions will be the pace of deregulation, whether to mandate a deregulated environment by a date certain, how to recover the sunk cost of the high-cost power plants (i.e nuclear), and how to deal with the environmental effects of a deregulated industry.

**Financial Modernization:** While the House Banking and Commerce Committees passed different bills, compromise could not be reached to allow floor consideration. There is no bill under consideration in the Senate. Senator D'Amato has stated that he would like to take up a bill as early as February, but it is likely that legislation will remain stalled until well into the second session. Treasury is taking the lead on resolving two key issues: (1) reconciling the position of the banks and the insurance industry on bank sales of

insurance and (2) allowing operating subsidiaries of national banks to engage in the same range of services enjoyed by affiliates of bank holding companies.

**Encryption:** There are currently five different encryption bills pending in the House. To date, the Leadership has been unable to reach agreement with the respective Committee Chairman on which of the bills to send to the Rules Committee. Three of the measures favor the software industry; the two others support law enforcement and national security equities. In the Senate, the Administration supported McCain-Kerrey-Hollings bill has been marked up by the Senate Commerce Committee, but has not been reported out because McCain and Kerrey are worried about losing control of the bill to other Committees, principally Judiciary. McCain and Kerrey are tightening their control over the bill in an effort to resolve industry concerns over excessive regulation within the law enforcement provisions of the bill. Action on this bill can be expected shortly after Congress returns.

**CBI:** The Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) is a program to further the economic development and political stability of countries in the Caribbean and Central America. Defeated in the House last session, H.R. 2644, the United States-Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act would provide North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) parity benefits for CBI countries in order to restore benefits eroded by NAFTA implementation, and would preserve and attract investment in the region. There is considerable disagreement on the textile, worker rights and environmental protection provisions of the proposal. There is also disagreement on how to proceed with the negotiations.

**Fast Track Trading Authority:** On Tuesday, November 4, the Senate voted (68--32) to invoke cloture motion on S. 1269, Fast Track Trading Authority legislation. The House took no action on the bill because certain Republicans attempted to link their vote on the measure to the resolution of the Mexico City issue in the FY98 Foreign Operations Appropriations bill. The Administration is expected to submit a narrower Fast Track proposal.

## 10. Transportation

**ISTEA:** In lieu of a multi-year bill, Congress sent to the President legislation that would enable spending for highway, transit, and highway safety programs through May 1, 1998. Senator Lott has said that it is his desire to begin floor consideration of S. 1173, the multi-year ISTEA Reauthorization early in the second session. However, pressure can be expected to increase for further delay until it is clear whether increased funding will be available through the budget process. The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee advocates this approach. A number of controversial amendments are expected to be considered, including an effort to repeal DOT's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program, to repeal Davis-Bacon, and to weaken environmental initiatives including the Congestion Mitigation and Environmental Quality program (CMAQ).

**Aviation Authorization:** The House passed H.R. 1271, the FAA Research, Engineering, and Development Authorization Act of 1997 during the first session. This legislation would authorize \$672 million through fiscal 2000 for research, engineering and development programs, a 4% increase from fiscal 1997 appropriations levels. The measure was reported out of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee and now awaits floor action. Congress is also expected to consider legislation in 1998 to extend the authorization for the Airport Improvement Program (AIP), which along with other Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) programs, is funded through aviation taxes that are credited to the Airport and Airway Trust Fund. After last year's battle on airline ticket taxes, the focus next year will be on the appropriate level of funding for AIP and language to implement the recommendations of the National Civil Aviation Review Commission (NCARC)--principally concerning the way the FAA is funded to include a combination of user fees, ticket taxes, and general funds, and to transfer the safety regulatory aspects of the FAA to a separate Performance Based Organization (PBO).

## 11. Labor

**FLSA:** The Administration expects that Republicans will once again try to develop legislation to exempt welfare recipients on workfare from the Fair Labor Standards Act and/or FICA taxes. This fall's efforts fell apart after Representative Clay Shaw was unable to fashion a proposal that satisfied both House Republicans and a bipartisan group of Governors, but the issue will come up again next year.

**TEAM Act:** The Teamwork for Employees and Management Act (TEAM) would amend the National Labor Relations Act to allow employers to create and influence employee organizations that deal with the employer on the traditional subjects of collective bargaining--wages, hours, and working conditions. You vetoed the TEAM Act in 1996, and no attempt was made to override the veto. The Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee reported the bill last April, but neither the House or Senate took action during the first session.

## 12. Science and Technology

**Civilian Space Authorization:** On April 24, the House passed H.R. 1275, the Civilian Space Authorization Act. This measure would authorize \$13.8 billion for fiscal 1998 and \$13.9 billion in fiscal 1999 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; \$376 million above the your budget request for fiscal 1998 and \$516 million above the budget request for fiscal 1999. This measure awaits Senate action.

**Commercial Space Act:** The Administration-supported legislation passed the House last session and is currently pending in the Senate Commerce Committee. The measure would require two market studies on the potential use of the International Space Station by commercial entities and would allow the Secretary of Transportation the authority to grant licenses for commercial space uses.

### 13. Foreign Policy

**Bosnia:** Members can be expected to introduce bills and offer amendments for troop withdrawal and possibly to pursue legislation regarding war criminals. The Administration will send Congress an Appropriations supplemental on Bosnia next spring. Administration efforts to gain congressional approval for this supplemental may attract both criticism and unfavorable amendments with regard to our Bosnia policy.

**NATO Enlargement:** The spectrum of concerns over NATO enlargement range from liberal Senators who believe that adding new members to the alliance will provoke Russian nationalism and weaken the democratic reform movement in that country to conservative Senators who fear that, in order to assuage Russia, NATO will give Moscow or it's "surrogates" the ability to "veto" Alliance decisions. Senators appear to be skeptical over the Administration's cost estimates associated with enlargement, believing the U.S. will be expected to pay far more than what the Administration estimates.

**United Nations Arrears/IMF Funding for the New Arrangements to Borrow Initiative/Foreign Affairs Reorganization:** Intransigence on Mexico City family planning policy by certain Republican House members resulted in the Republican Leadership's decision not to include these measures as part of the appropriations bills moving at the end of the first session. We will try to move these critical pieces of legislation at the beginning of the year.

**Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty:** On September 20, 1997, you transmitted the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty to the Senate for advice and consent. The Administration is working with Senator Domenici, whose support will be key to its ratification, to ensure that the DoE is adequately funded in their Stockpile Stewardship Program.

**National Missile Defense:** Senator Lott's bill (the measure mandates a deployment date of 2003 and contains ABM Treaty withdrawal provisions) has been reported out of the Senate Armed Services Committee. Senator Lugar has an alternative bill much closer to the Administration's position, yet no action has been taken as of yet.

**Start II:** This treaty will not be considered in the Senate until the Russian Duma ratifies START II, possibly in February 1998. START III negotiations are expected to begin late next year.

**CWC Implementation:** The Senate passed legislation in May 1997 that would implement the international treaty to ban the use and production of chemical weapons. The House held the Senate passed bill until Congress was ready to recess and then attached H.R. 2709, an Administration-opposed bill intended to isolate businesses and countries, particularly Russia, suspected of transferring missiles or missile technology to Iran. The bill passed by voice vote in the House. Under this legislation, specific economic sanctions would be imposed on any entity that violates the ban. The bill would allow the

President to waive this requirement on national security grounds. The Administration has issued a veto threat out on the measure. The Administration is negotiating at the staff level to try to separate the two measures. We expect the Senate to attempt to move the legislation early in the second session, probably by February 15.

**Religious Persecution:** The legislation, sponsored by Senator Specter and Representative Wolf, is currently in the House International Relations Committee. The bill is stalled, however, awaiting resolution of the concerns regarding automatic sanctions against countries committing religious persecution. Both chambers are expected to consider the measure next year.

**13. Housing**

**Public Housing:** The House passed H.R. 2, the Housing Opportunity and Responsibility Act of 1997, on May 14 by a vote of 293 to 132. S. 462, the Public Housing Reform and Responsibility Act of 1997, passed the Senate on September 26. Many of HUD's proposals were incorporated in the House and Senate bills. Major outstanding issues include public housing and Section 8 income targeting and fungibility, home rule flexible grant, Accreditation Board, rent provisions, community work requirements, and repeal of the 1937 Housing Act. While the two Housing Subcommittee chairmen (Senator Mack and Representative Lazio) had serious discussion of these issues in November, no progress was made.

cc: The Vice President  
Erskine Bowles  
John Podesta  
Sylvia Mathews



*cc. [unclear] [unclear]*

Office of

U.S. Senator John F. Kerry  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

DATE:

*12-9-97*

FAX TO:

*Bruce Reed*

FAX NUMBER:

*456-2878*

FROM:

*David Kass*

COMMENTS:

NUMBER OF PAGES TO FOLLOW:

*2*

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

December 9, 1997

Mr. Franklin Raines, Director  
Office of Management and Budget  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Frank:

We would like to follow up our productive meeting with you by restating that we strongly encourage the Administration to be bold in its FY99 budget request for early childhood development. We must make our youngest children our top priority by including sufficient funding in the Administration's FY99 budget request to implement the provisions of the bipartisan Kerry-Bond Early Childhood Development bill.

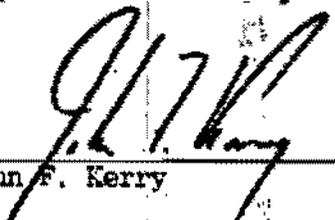
As you know, families are having a tougher time giving young children the stimulation they need. Mothers and fathers are not always home; more than half of the mothers of children under age three work outside the home. And those parents who work cannot always afford quality child care. These problems are even greater for the one in four children who live in poverty.

To address these problems, we are asking the Administration to budget at least \$2 billion per year -- for a total of \$10 billion over the next five years -- in new funds for early childhood development. The \$2 billion should include \$250 million for communities to build on successful local efforts for young children, \$1.5 billion to expand quality child care, and \$250 million to expand the Early Head Start program.

In last year's budget request, the Administration asked for \$10 billion over five years in additional money for children's health. The President can build on this success and establish a real legacy for children by requesting the same amount for the equally pressing problem of early childhood development.

As leaders in the Senate and House, we look forward to working with you to provide essential support to our youngest children and their families so we can ensure that all children begin school ready to learn.

Sincerely,

  
John F. Kerry  
John D. Rockefeller, IV

*Robert G. Torricelli*

Robert G. Torricelli

*Tim Johnson*

Tim Johnson

*Mary L. Landrieu*

Mary L. Landrieu

*Rosa L. DeLauro*

Rosa L. DeLauro

*Tim McGovern*

Tim McGovern

*Steny H. Hoyer*

Steny H. Hoyer

# PRESIDENT CLINTON'S ECONOMIC REPORT CARD:

MAY 7, 1997

*Q&A*

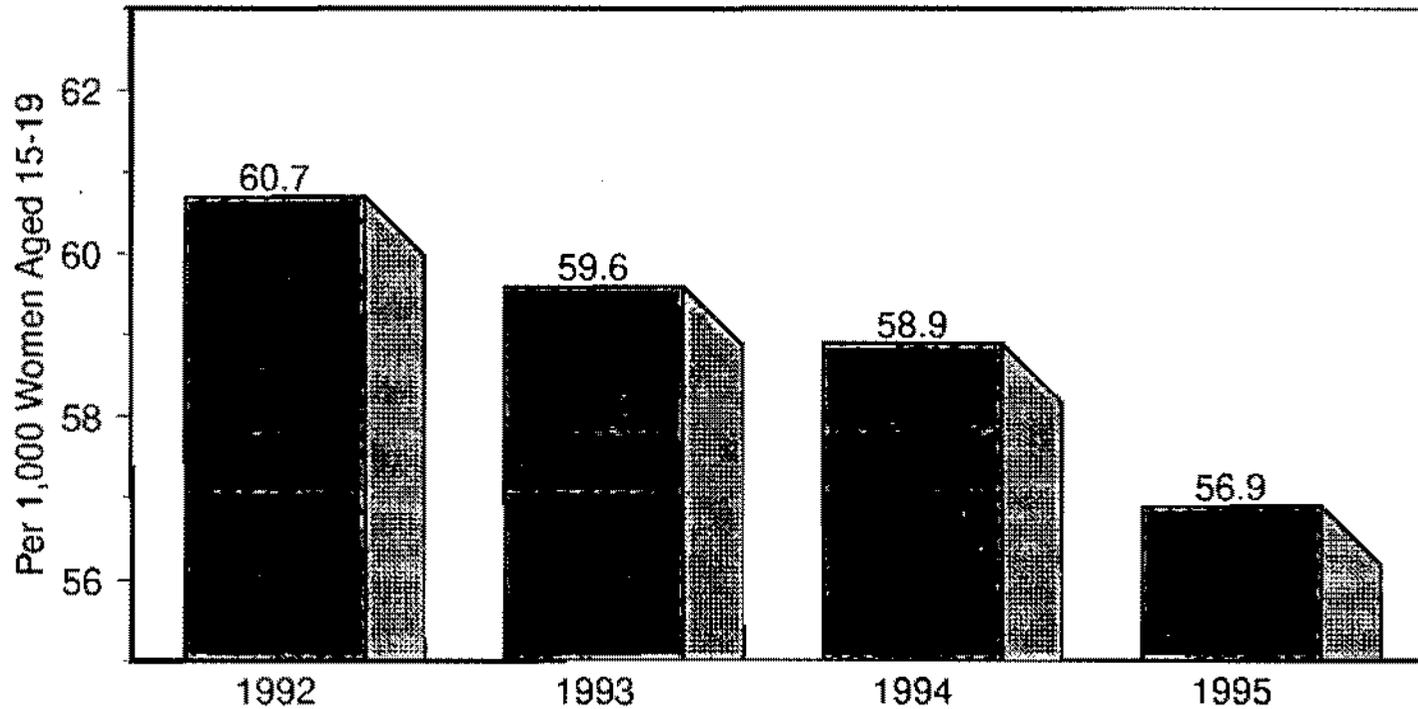
*Clinton Administration*

*Best Since*

*Related Facts*

	<i>Clinton Administration</i>	<i>Best Since</i>	<i>Related Facts</i>
✓ Unemployment and Inflation	Combined rate: 8.7 percent	Lowest average since Johnson	Unemployment fell from 7.5 percent in 1992 to 4.9 percent in April 1997 -- the lowest in 24 years -- and has remained under 6 percent for 32 months.
✓ Inflation	2.8 percent per year	Lowest average since Kennedy	Underlying inflation -- excluding volatile food and energy components -- was lowest since the Kennedy Administration.
✓ Employment	12.1 million new jobs	Only Administration to exceed 11 million	93 percent of the net new jobs were in the private sector. Over two-thirds of recent employment growth has been in industry/occupation groups paying above-median wages.
✓ Construction Jobs	1.1 million new jobs	Fastest growth since Truman	Real construction output has grown 5.7 percent per year -- the fastest rate since the Kennedy Administration.
✓ Consumer Sentiment	Increased 14 percent from January 1993 to April 1997	Highest average since Eisenhower	Reached its highest level in over 30 years.
✓ Deficit Reduction	From 4.7 percent of GDP in 1992 to 1.4 in 1996. Expected to be under 1 percent in 1997	Largest fall since Truman	Deficit narrowed for four years in a row under one President for the first time since before the Civil War.
✓ Business Investment	Grew 10.5 percent per year	Fastest growth since Kennedy	Business investment averaged 7.7 percent of GDP -- the highest share for any Administration since World War II.
✓ Homeownership	Rose from 63.7 to 65.4 percent of households	Largest increase on record	Reached its highest level in 15 years.
✓ Stock Market	The Dow Jones rose from 3242 on 1/20/93 to 6844 on 1/20/97	Fastest growth since World War II	The real growth rate was higher than for any Administration since World War II.
✓ Poverty Rate	Declined from 15.1 in 1993 to 13.8 in 1995	Largest drop since Johnson	Real income for the bottom 20 percent of households has grown 6.8 percent between 1993 and 1995 -- after declining by 7.7 percent between 1979 and 1993.
✓ Median Family Income	Up \$1,600 between 1993 and 1995	Fastest growth since Johnson	Real net worth per household grew 3.2 percent per year after falling over the previous 4 years.

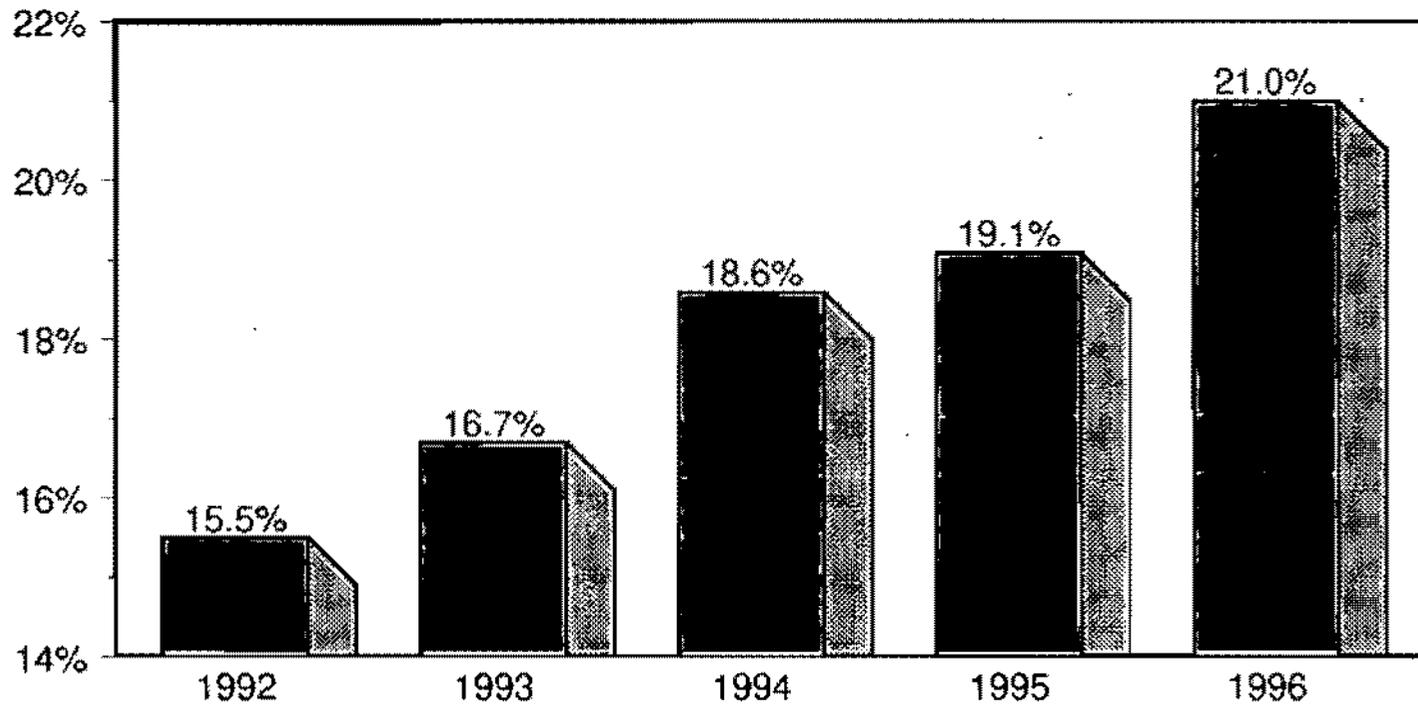
# Teen Birth Rates Have Declined Under the Clinton Administration\*



Source: "Birth and Deaths: United States, 1995" Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Vol. 45, No. 3, October 4, 1996

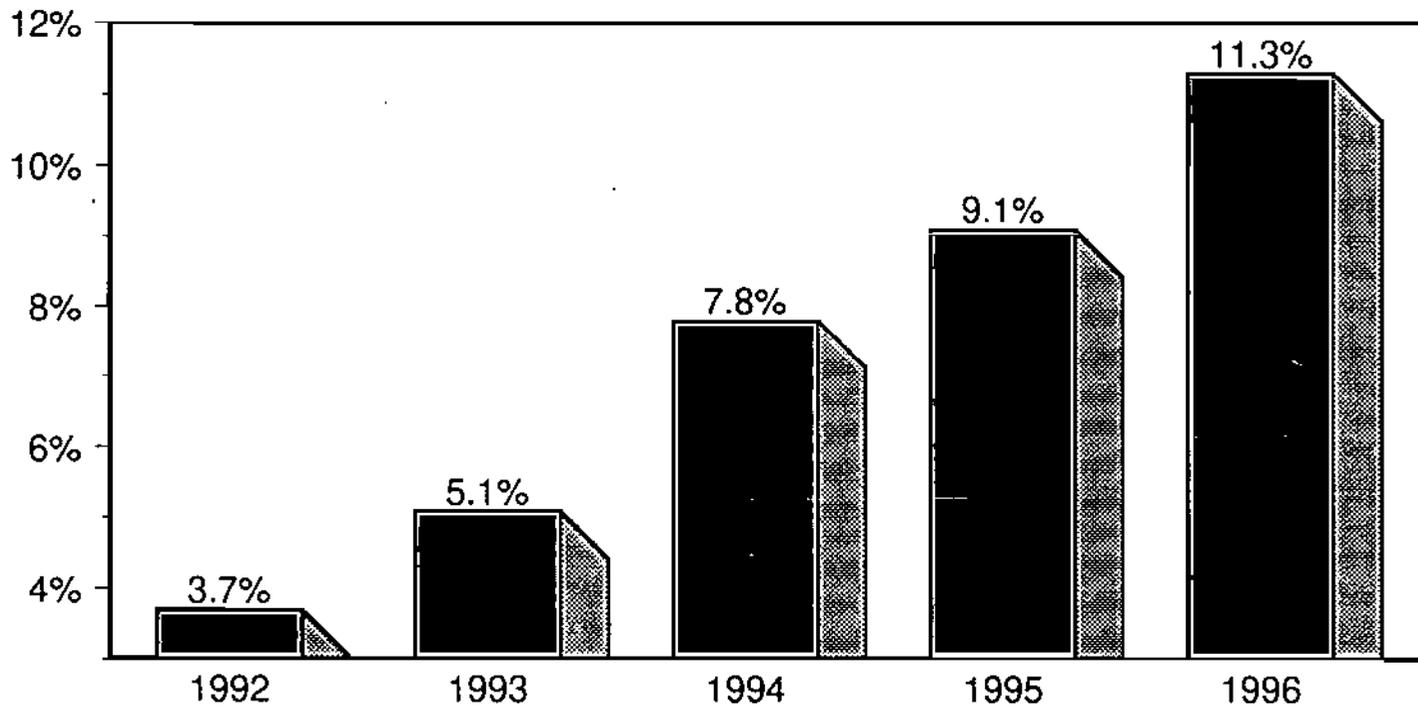
\* Live births per 1,000 women aged 15-19

# Past-Month Cigarette Use Among Eighth-Graders



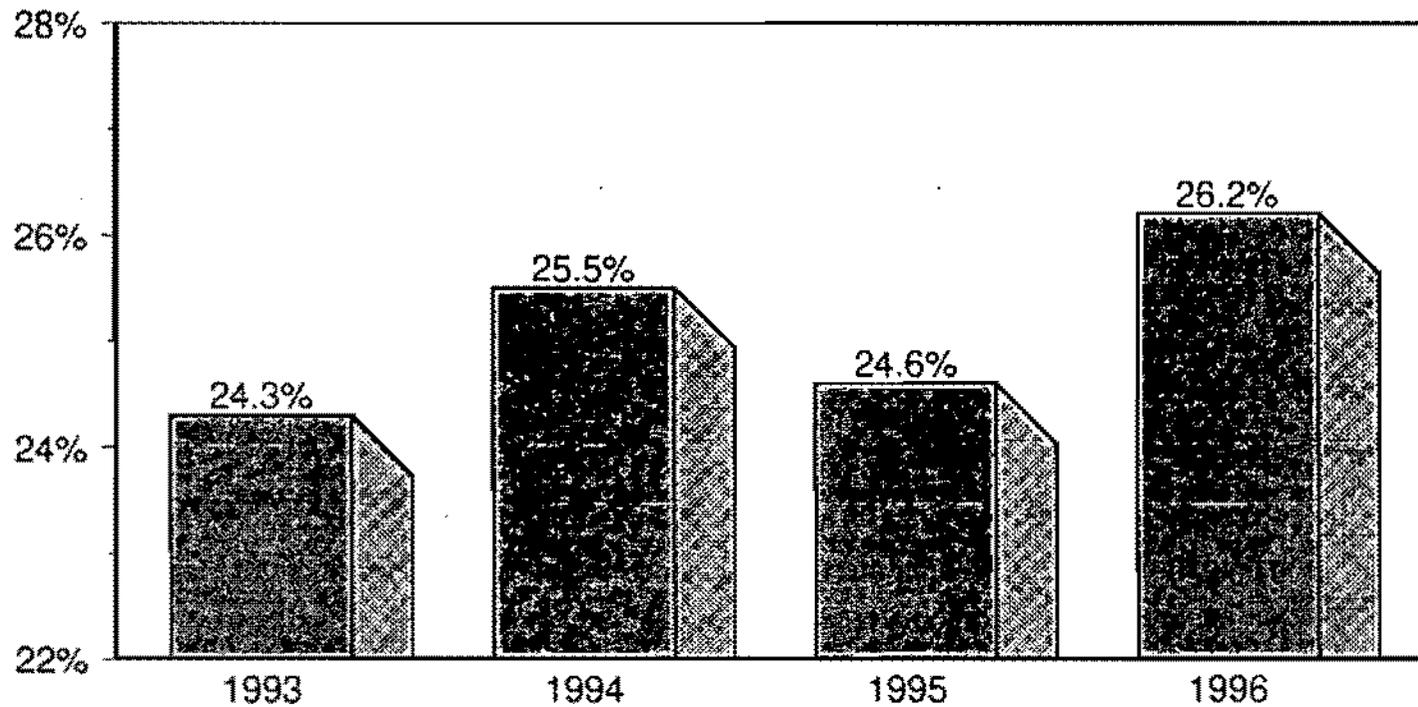
Source: 1996 Monitoring the Future Study, National Institute on Drug Abuse, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

# Past-Month Marijuana Use Among Eighth-Graders



Source: 1996 Monitoring the Future Study, National Institute on Drug Abuse,  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

# Past-Month Alcohol Use Among Eighth-Graders



Source: 1996 Monitoring the Future Study, National Institute on Drug Abuse,  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

# The Record Nobody Knows

Even without health care, Clinton's doing well domestically

BY JONATHAN ALTER

**E**VEN THE PRESIDENT'S SUPPORTERS DON'T REALLY support him. The slice of the public that approves of his Haiti policy, for instance, largely credits Jimmy Carter for it. The press is hostile, the comedians merciless, the voters primed to turn November into a Democratic dung heap. Much of the abuse is justified: American foreign policy is a feckless mess, and its helmsman an amateur in the essential art of projecting strength.

But there's a slight problem with this ceaseless rap: in less than two years, Bill Clinton has already achieved more domestically than John F. Kennedy, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter and George Bush combined. Although Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan often had their way with Congress, Congressional Quarterly says it's Clinton who has had the most legislative success of any president since Lyndon Johnson. Inhale that one:

Kennedy built the Peace Corps and cut taxes. Ford mostly vetoed. Carter turned education into a cabinet-level department and made adjustments in energy policy and civil service. Bush won a new Clean Air Act. Those are their highlights on the domestic side.

Clinton—with help from Hillary and Congress—bungled health-care reform, his biggest initiative. But he's right to assert that his domestic record is much stronger than the public knows. The standard for measuring results domestically should not be the coherence of the process but how actual lives are touched and changed. By that standard, he's doing well.

Let's stipulate that the relative strength of the economy is beyond Clinton's control, though he would certainly be blamed were it weak. Let's assume that he missed a historic chance to restrain entitlements and cut the budget deficit deeply, though he cut it more deeply than any of his hypocritical GOP predecessors (the deficit will go down three years in a row for the first time since the 1950s). Let's set aside NAFTA, though it provides real evidence that he's no old-style Democrat. Let's concede that by going slow on campaign-finance reform Clinton missed a chance to co-opt the Perot agenda, though a plan to crack down hard on lobbyists was poised for passage last week. Let's even agree that the huge crime bill won't accomplish much, though Clinton—the man repeatedly accused of having no core convictions—is the first president ever to stand up to the National Rifle Association.

Instead, cast a glance at what are known unfortunately as "second tier" issues. They don't get the media attention of health care or welfare reform (some form of Clinton's proposed two-year welfare limit, by the way, will almost certainly be approved in 1995). But less-noticed changes—like allowing American workers time off to care for sick relatives without being fired—also affect millions of people.

Last week a tiny news brief announced the passage of procure-

ment reform. The press says: ZZZZZ... But this bill totally overhauls the way the government does business. The era of the \$500 hammer or toilet seat is over: now bureaucrats are authorized to go buy them without the asinine paperwork—a reform Americans have been demanding for years.

Clinton and his advisers have been almost comically out to lunch on the political dividends of "reinventing government." For a total of one week in 1993, he emphasized it. His numbers shot up, and he promptly dropped it. But despite much foot-dragging in Congress, Al Gore's project is already a big success. So far, more than 70,000 federal jobs have been eliminated (well en route to 252,000, at a projected savings of more than \$40 billion). By 1997, the federal work force will be smaller than at any time since Johnson. Yet nearly 78 percent of voters in a recent Washington Post poll thought Clinton had made "little or no progress" in this area.



With Americorps: Bigger than the Peace Corps

*The standard should be how the lives of Americans are touched and changed*

Good bills: Journalists shouldn't gush. But guarding against gushing has often kept valid accomplishments from being fully reported. For instance, the rare stories on Clinton's national-service plan have featured mostly jibes that it is smaller than he promised. Fair enough: Clinton hyped it. But with 20,000 volunteers, Americorps is already bigger than the Peace Corps at its peak. By 1997, it will be six times bigger than the Peace Corps. How many people know that? How many know that the strong new structure of the student-loan program saves money, eases debt pressure and allows students to choose low-paying community work the country needs? This will affect more than 2 million young Americans. But because these changes are uncontroversial, they are defined by the press as insignificant.

Consider the doubling of the Earned Income Tax Credit, a program whose name is so boring that few have bothered to figure out that it is the most important income transfer in a generation. Most of the blame here rests with the White House, which could never rename the thing or otherwise convey that the president is in the process of pulling 14 million more working poor families (mostly under \$20,000 a year) out of poverty. There's no incentive anymore to give up a low-income job to go on welfare—a huge change. Because it had bipartisan support and no new bureaucracy (it's done by the IRS), the EITC never became a political story and thus was barely defined as "news." But it's a hell of a lot more relevant to assessing Clinton's real record than, say, gays in the military.

A few good bills don't make a president. Clinton's thematic are weak, and themes—consistently applied, compellingly explained—are the sinews of presidential leadership. But the press has endlessly covered communication, character, tone, style, running shorts. Now how about a look at the record?