

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

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DOCUMENT NO. & TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
1. letter	Ester R. to Reed re: SSI cuts, 1p (partial)	5/11/94	P6/B6

P1 National security classified information [(a)(1) of the PRA].
P2 Relating to appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA].
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA].
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA].
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA].
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA].
PRM Personal records misfile defined in accordance with 44 USC 2201 (3).

RESTRICTIONS

B1 National security classified information [(b) (1) of the FOIA].
B2 Release could disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA].
B3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA].
B4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA].
B6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA].
B7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA].
B8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(9) of the FOIA].
B9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA].

ICIR

Interfaith Coalition for Immigrants' Rights

c/o Center for Immigrants Rights, Inc.

48 St. Marks Place ♦ New York, New York 10003 ♦ (212) 505-6890

Steering Committee

August 28, 1994

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National Conference of
Christians and Jews

Yanica Chacón-López
Intercommunity Center
for Justice & Peace

Sister Marie Danaher
Intercommunity Center
for Justice & Peace

Rev. Rafael García
San Pablo United
Methodist Church

Rev. James Law
Chinese United
Methodist Church

Sister Ruth Tsui, CDP
Catholic Charities
Immigration Outreach
Program

Franklin Velázquez, Esq.
Center for Immigrants Rights

Mr. Bruce N. Reed
Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Reed:

We, the undersigned organizations, are writing to express our concern with the provisions of the Clinton administration's welfare bill, which proposes to extend sponsor deeming in Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), and Food Stamps from three to five years. We urge you to reconsider the implications of this bill, which will jeopardize the health and welfare of hundreds of thousands of immigrant families if passed.

The Interfaith Coalition for Immigrants' Rights (ICIR) was formed out of a recognition that people of faith need to respond to the recent wave of anti-immigrant sentiment which is now threatening the livelihood and well-being of hundreds of thousands of immigrants. In addition to community outreach and education, ICIR has initiated a petition drive among diverse congregations throughout the New York metropolitan and Tri-State areas to inform and mobilize communities and individuals around these concerns.

It is our understanding that Clinton's welfare bill calls for an extension in sponsor deeming--the period in which an immigrant's sponsor's income is "deemed" available to the immigrant for various purposes including food, shelter, and health care--from three years to five years for the above three Federal benefit programs. It is also our understanding that his bill proposes to restrict non-citizens' access to AFDC, SSI, and Medicaid such that eligibility for these programs is consistent with the eligibility criteria that currently exist for the Food Stamp program.

These measures have been proposed as a strategy to finance welfare reform. It seems however, that the rationale for this bill is illogical and contradictory in nature: can a policy that "takes from the poor to give to

the poor" be justified? Such a policy clearly will not provide answers to the problems of unemployment, poverty, and inadequate health care.

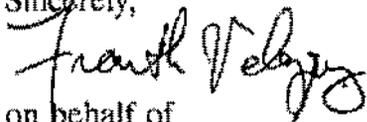
Although self-evident, it must be asserted that immigrant families are no different from their American counterparts, whose immigrant roots are the foundation upon which generations of families have built their lives in the U.S. Non-citizen workers share the same problems, and concerns as their citizen co-workers. Precarious situations and unfortunate circumstances force all families and workers to accept public entitlements as a means towards self-sufficiency; indeed, this is the rationale behind social welfare policy. Clinton's welfare bill unjustly discriminates between citizens and non-citizens, devaluing the work contributions of immigrants to the U.S. economy, and sending the implicit message that immigrant non-citizens are not as deserving of America's resources as citizens, even though both groups contribute taxes to this resource.

Clinton's bill also assumes that by cutting public benefits to legal immigrants, financial resources will be saved for the "native" population, and illegal immigration will be reduced. Additionally, it assumes that the human needs of this population will be reduced and/or eliminated as funding for these programs is phased out. Not only will this welfare policy result in increased costs for cities and states as a result of worsened health and living conditions, but it will not achieve any of its purported immigration policy objectives. Far from promoting work and independence for families, this bill will force the most indigent and vulnerable in our communities to resort to the resources of their relatives or to emergency Medicaid services. Clearly, it is unjust that immigrant non-citizens must bear a disproportionate burden of responsibility to finance welfare reform for all if this bill is passed.

As a nation of immigrants, the U.S. has governed itself in accordance with sound principles of fairness and equal treatment. Each generation of immigrants has made important economic and social contributions to our cultural landscape, by rejuvenating commercial districts and rebuilding neighborhoods, by revitalizing American industries, and by contributing as workers, consumers and taxpayers. Therefore, we believe that the discriminatory and restrictive nature of Clinton's welfare bill contradicts the basic values upon which our nation is founded.

As matters of principle and responsibility, we hope that you will consider our concerns as the bill comes up for vote. If we can be of assistance to you in this process, please call Franklin Velazquez of the Center for Immigrants' Rights at (212) 505-6890.

Sincerely,



on behalf of

The Interfaith Coalition for Immigrants' Rights

Interfaith Coalition Members:

Catholic Charities Immigration Outreach Program in Chinatown
Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights, New York
Catholic Migration Office, Brooklyn
Center for Immigrants' Rights, New York
Chinese United Methodist Church, New York
Congregation B'nai Jeshurun, New York
Fourth Avenue United Methodist Church, Brooklyn
Hamilton-Madison Settlement House, New York
Highbridge Community Life Center, Bronx
Intercommunity Center for Justice and Peace, New York
Judson Memorial Church, New York
Korean Church Coalition, New York
Lower East Side Catholic Area Conference (Pastoral Center), New York
Maryknoll Magazine (Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers), Maryknoll, New York
National Conference for Christians and Jews, New York
National Pastoral Center for the Chinese Apostolate, New York
People of the Golden Vision Interfaith Coalition, York, Pennsylvania
San Pablo United Methodist Church, Queens
Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Peace and Justice Office), Queens
St. Mary's Manhattanville Episcopal Church, Harlem
Vietnamese American Cultural Organization (VACO), New York

President Bill Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing you to protest against the proposal to eliminate SSI and other support to legal immigrants and legal residents. As an immigrant from the former Soviet Union, I am very much aware of the difficulties that this ill-concerned proposal will bring to those immigrants who are temporarily, and through no fault of their own, dependent on government help.

This proposal would force legal immigrants to choose between family reunification and poverty and it would leave many without any help in cases of disability or old age.

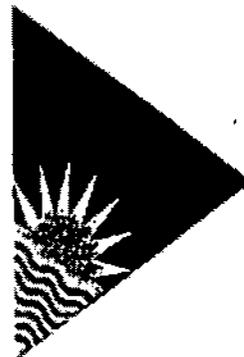
Immigrants from the Soviet Union have come very seeking protection and freedom. The vast majority of the legal immigrants are hard working, tax-paying citizens who contribute to the nation's economy and who have, in many cases, created jobs for other Americans. It would be unconscionable to have legal immigrants who are waiting for their citizenships to be deprived of support at a time they acquiring the skills that will enable them to become full members of our society.

We urge you to abandon all proposals that would discriminate against legal immigrants by discontinuing assistance to the most vulnerable members of our community.

Sincerely,

Irina Farkhin

APR 1 REC'D



March 30, 1994

Ms. Carol Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Rasco:

Filipino Task Force on AIDS, an ethnic and HIV/AIDS specific non-governmental organization providing services in the San Francisco Bay Area, is writing to convey our profoundest concern regarding your administration's welfare reform task force consideration of cutting the availability of SSI and other essential benefits to immigrants legally in the United States in order to finance its welfare reform initiative. This proposal severely threatens the health and well being of the most vulnerable members of our community, particularly the elderly, disabled, the blind, those who are diagnosed with AIDS and other disabled immigrant families members of U.S. Citizens.

This proposal further flames, though unintentionally, the anti-immigrant hysteria and scape-goating currently in practice through out the nation. It adds to the incorrect perception that immigrants are disproportionately on welfare. Additionally, your administration's proposal overlooks many reasons as to why the elderly and disabled permanent residents seek government support i.e. pervasive job discrimination and lack of economic opportunities for immigrants and racial and ethnic minorities, elderly, the disabled in the U.S. job market.

The proposal mocks the struggles of immigrants and refugee families as we attempt to gain an economic foothold in this society, and those among us who are part of the working poor who legitimately need assistance to support our families. The suggestion that immigrants are taking advantage of the system does a great disservice to hard working members of U.S. ethnic communities, and panders to xenophobia in perpetuating an "us versus them" dichotomy between U.S. citizens and newcomers.

Is the concept of family only to be valued among U.S. Citizens? Family reunification is the cornerstone of the nation's immigration policy; studies conducted by the Dept. of Labor as well as many credible academic institutions are nearly unanimous in showing that immigrants pay more in taxes than they use in benefits. The nation enriches itself economically and culturally by reuniting family members. Your administration's proposal if enacted will place many families in dilemmas where they may have to choose between family reunification and poverty when cutting essential benefits to elderly, blind, and disabled immigrants.

We are appalled by proposals to cut benefits to legal immigrants, which are supported by Republican members of Congress in an unscrupulous attempt to

link immigration control with welfare reform. We are alarmed that your administration -- which has thus far shown to be engaged in the immigration debate constructively would perpetuate an atmosphere which can only be interpreted by our community as a threat to legal immigrants and Americans alike. We urge you in the strongest possible terms to reject any proposal which would finance welfare reform by cutting benefits to legal immigrants.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors of the Filipino Task Force on AIDS

Mila DeGuzman
Mario Rivera, MPH
Carmen Rosales, MEd
Nellie Rose
Amor Santiago, DPM, MPH
Daniel E. Toleran, M.S., Chairman

cc: President William J. Clinton
Ms. Carol Rasco, Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
Mr. George Stephanopolis, Senior Advisor to the President
David Ellwood, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
Honorable Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan
Mr. Dan Rostenkowski, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
Honorable Congresswoman Pelosi
Honorable Congressman Mineta
Honorable Congressman Stark
Honorable Congressman Dellums
Honorable Congressman Lantos
Honorable Congresswoman Eshoo
Honorable Congressman Edwards
Honorable Senator Boxer
Honorable Senator Feinstein
Honorable Congressman George Miller
Honorable Congressman Robert Matsui
Honorable Congresswoman Patsy Mink
National Immigration Forum
Filipino Civil Rights Coalition

Filipino Task Force on AIDS - Northern California (FTFA)

Who Are We?

Responding to the high incidence of AIDS among Filipinos within the Asian and Pacific Islander communities, concerned men, women, gay/bisexuals, parents, students, teenagers and those who cross gender roles, have joined together to address AIDS in our community. We are concerned and we want to act.

What is Our Goal?

Our goal is to provide HIV education, prevention and direct services to the Filipino community.

In educating ourselves, our families, our community and decision-makers who impact the spectrum of AIDS services, we hope to slow and eventually stop AIDS among Filipinos.

What We Have Done?

- Completed a Filipino AIDS knowledge, attitude, behaviors, beliefs survey of 400 Filipinos residing in San Francisco.
- Also completed a separate AIDS knowledge, attitudes, behaviors, beliefs survey among 100 Filipino gay and bisexual men in San Francisco.
- Provide AIDS education and information workshops for risk reduction among Filipino gay and bisexual men, youth, and families.
- Advocate for services and the special needs of Filipinos.
- Work in coalitions or as part of consortiums to address AIDS in the community.

What We Want To Do:

- Continue our work and increase our impact in lowering the incidence of AIDS in the community.
- Provide support to those already affected by HIV disease, their caregivers and those who are at risk.

GET INVOLVED, CALL FTFA (415) 512-3403
116 New Montgomery St, #531 San Francisco, California 94105



1540 Market Street
Suite 325
San Francisco, CA 94102

(415) 703-9880
Fax (415) 864-7482

FAX SHEET

DATE: 3/31/94

TO: Ms. Carol Rasco

FAX #: 202 456 2878

FROM: Daniel Tolcan

Message to Recipients:

Four pages including this one.

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Post-It™ brand fax transmittal memo 7571		# of pages » 1
To	Bruce Reed	From Robin Harp
Co.	Dept Asst to Pres.	Co.
Dept.	Domestic Policy	Phone 415 421-8827
Fax #	202-456-7028	Fax # 415 4788 1008

June 28, 1994

Mr. Bruce N. Reed
Deputy Assistant to the President
for Domestic Policy
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington DC 20500

Dear Mr. Reed:

I am strongly opposed to financing welfare reform by restricting services to legal immigrants. Eliminating school lunch, nutritional assistance for the elderly, job training, Food Stamps will have the largest impact on children whose parents followed the proper legal channels and fulfilled countless regulations in order to live here.

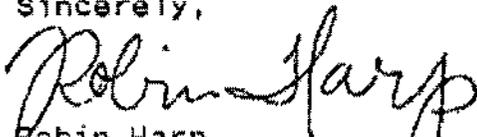
Although welfare reform is important, it is not fair nor is it humane to force two disadvantaged and deserving segments of society to compete against each other for limited resources. California already has a disproportionate share of immigrants and city, county and state governments will have to absorb the costs of caring for them if the federal government refuses to do so.

I have been supportive of President Clinton and his administration during the past two years. However if he decides to cut immigrant families out of the social support network of this country I must reconsider supporting his policies.

The immigration debate cuts to the heart of our society. I am disturbed by politicians and policies which manipulate fear and insecurity. Please explore other alternatives to financing welfare reform. Restricting services to people who have fulfilled all legal requirements to be here is not a good solution. Perhaps we could cut services to those who are not native americans? In that case about 95 percent of the US population would be excluded.

Be attentive to the needs of as many families as you can. Many are struggling whether they were born here or not. Those of us who have enough can afford to help pull the others up.

Sincerely,


Robin Harp
940 Washington Street
San Francisco CA 94106
(415)421-8827

會源同省羅

Chinese American Citizens Alliance

(ORGANIZED MAY 11, 1953)

LOS ANGELES LODGE

415 BAMBOO LANE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

TELEPHONE: 628-8013

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June 16, 1994

Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President, United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington DC 20500

Dear President Clinton:

In motions taken at our May 1994 regular monthly meeting, Los Angeles Lodge of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance declared its opposition to the proposed blanket denial of the SSI and similar benefits to legal immigrants and permanent residents who have not yet become citizens of the United States. Such similar benefits include AFDC, food stamps, Medicaid, nutritional assistance, housing assistance, job training, and the like. We regard such proposals as de facto discriminatory against the Asian American community, which has consistently sought immigration reform over the years to achieve family reunification. These proposed measures will put many families in the untenable position of having to choose between family reunification and poverty.

These proposed measures also strike directly at the most vulnerable segments of the immigrant community, our elderly, disabled, and our children. The elderly find it difficult to acquire the English to become citizens in a timely manner. The alternative is to wait twenty years by current law before they can attempt to qualify in their own language. Many will become homeless. The United States Government will be promoting homelessness. We regard such a prospect inhumane.

We urge you not to set forth nor to support such drastic, anti-immigrant proposals. Your prior record of strong support for legal immigration and immigrants gives us confidence that you will oppose such negative proposals.

We realize that an important aspect of welfare reform is to recover resources to fund a national health plan. We are alarmed by the large degree of fraud and abuse in the current program across the board involving all communities. We contend that the current law is acceptable if enforcement is

improved such that no legal resident nor citizen can apply for such benefits for at least five year period following arrival as stipulated by the current law. We support the showing of evidence of legal residency or citizenship upon application of such benefits. We also support stronger, even criminal, penalties for frauds and abuses.

If necessary, we would support extension of the sponsorship period slightly beyond five years to facilitate the fundings needed to meet health care commitments.

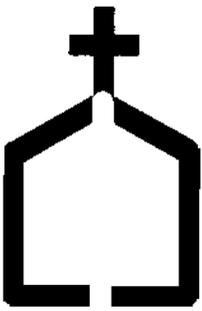
We simply believe in giving legal immigrants, our new Americans, a fair shake. But we also support some of the compromises which will give a better health plan for all inhabitants in the United States.

Sincerely,



Winston K. Wu
President

c: Doris Matsui, Assistant to the President
Bruce Reed, Assistant to the President



Catholic Charities Midlands Regional Office

Diocese of Charleston
Migration & Refugee Services

June 17, 1994

Mr. Bruce N. Reed, Deputy Asst. for Domestic Policy
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Rm.2/MW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Reed,

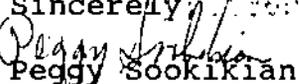
I urge you to oppose financing welfare reform by denying or further postponing benefits to legal immigrants brought into the United States by U.S. citizens. It is neither just nor moral to fund welfare reform by assisting one vulnerable person at the expense of another.

I am especially concerned that Medicaid, Food Stamps, SSI and other benefits could be denied to legal immigrants. To deny or further postpone eligibility for Medicaid to impoverished legal immigrants would be outrageous and could be catastrophic for people unable to afford preventable medical care or emergency treatment.

The Food Stamp program serves primarily women, children and the elderly. It is wrong to deny such a basic human necessity as food to those who are here legally. SSI provides a safety net for very old and sick or disabled people whose children and grandchildren are taxpayers and citizens. Their parents and grandparents should not be marginalized?

The parents of citizens -- and spouses and children of both citizens and legal resident -- could become a serious financial liability if a disability or other medical problem arose that the only choice, other than permanent separation, would be poverty. Family reunification, the cornerstone of U.S. immigration policy, becomes a hollow goal if severe financial penalties are imposed on reunited families.

The United States has been enriched by the cultural and economic contributions of immigrants. Congress and the Administration should seek alternative funding that will enable poor families to overcome poverty and provide support to those in need.

Sincerely,

Peggy Sookikian
Director



DIocese OF HARRISBURG - SECRETARIAT FOR CATHOLIC CHARITIES

4800 Union Deposit Road - Box 3551 • Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105
(717) 657-4804

June 16, 1994

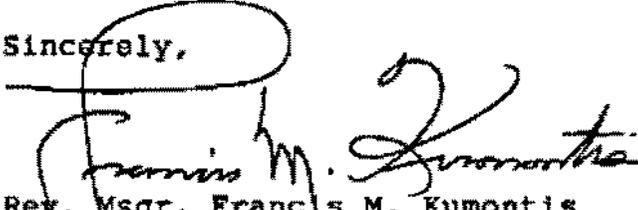
Mr. Bruce N. Reed
Deputy Assistant to the President
for Domestic Policy
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Rm 2 MW
Washington DC 20500

Dear Mr. Reed,

I urge you to oppose financing welfare reform by denying or further postponing benefits to legal immigrants sponsored into the U.S. by their close relatives. It is neither just nor moral to fund welfare reform by assisting one vulnerable person at the expense of another.

I firmly believe that individuals who sponsor their relatives as immigrants to the United States should be responsible for them; that is, the sponsor's income and assets should be "deemed" as available to support their sponsored relatives. Current policy requires that sponsors' assets be counted as available for five years for SSI eligibility and three years for other federal benefits such as AFDC, Medicaid, and Food Stamps. It has been our experience that these current policies are not adhered to. That is, immigrants and parolees, whose relatives filed Affidavits of Support for them, are routinely placed on federal responsibilities. It seems that money could be saved by enforcing the current policy rather than changing policy which may not be enforced anyway.

Sincerely,


Rev. Msgr. Francis M. Kumontis
Secretary for Catholic Charities

FMK/mrm



CATHOLIC CHARITIES BUREAU, INC.

**DIocese OF ST. AUGUSTINE
OFFICE OF JUSTICE AND PEACE**

11625 OLD ST. AUGUSTINE ROAD
P. O. Box 24000
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32241-4000
(904) 262-3200



A RECIPIENT OF THE
BISHOP'S STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

BISHOP JOHN J. SNYDER
PRESIDENT

WILLIAM J. TIERNEY
DIOCESAN DIRECTOR

Delena F. Stephens
Interim Director

June 9, 1994

Mr. Bruce N. Reed
Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
Room 2/MW
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Reed:

We all know that our welfare system needs an overhaul, but at whose expense?

As a Catholic, I believe in the dignity and rights of all God's children. We cannot enact laws to help one group of individual, and at the same time endanger another. We cannot deny benefits to legal immigrants in our country. It is wrong to deny anyone the basic necessities of life (food, shelter and health benefits).

I urge you to find alternate means to finance our welfare system and not punish our legal immigrants and their sponsors. I believe this would be more costly. We need a plan that is efficient, responsible, and inclusive.

Sincerely,

Delena F. Stephens
Interim Director

DFS/rm

REGIONAL OFFICES

Catholic Charities Bureau, Inc.
1717 N.E. 9th Street
Gainesville, FL 32609
(904) 372-0294

Catholic Charities Bureau, Inc.
134 East Church Street #2
Jacksonville, FL 32202-3130
(904) 354-3416

Catholic Charities Bureau, Inc.
40 Sanford Street
Post Office Box 543
St. Augustine, FL 32085
(904) 829-6300





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EXECUTIVE DIRECTION

Pam Beckmaster

June 13, 1994

Mr. Bruce N. Reed

Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW

Washington, DC 20500

Fax 202/456-7028

Dear Mr. Reed:

After more than 15 years of experience working with immigrants in the United States, I feel compelled to express my concern over the administration's welfare reform. I am greatly concerned about plans to extend deeming to ten years for SSI, AFDC, and Food Stamps for legal immigrants.

The extension of deeming of a sponsor's income is the same as a cut in benefits to legal immigrants. Instead of helping legal immigrants who are facing difficult economic times, such a plan would penalize them and impede their successful integration into our society. This plan would not support our nation's commitment to family reunification. In addition, it jeopardizes the well-being of this country's poorer communities and discriminates between lawful residents and U.S. citizens.

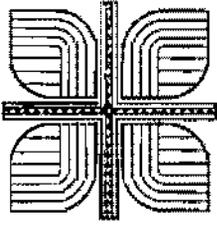
Please feel free to call me at 404-827-7451.

Sincerely,

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES, INC.

Ms. Jeffrey Tapia
Program Director
Hispanic Services





CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Diocese of Des Moines
Catholic Social Service
Office of Social Justice
601 Grand Avenue • P.O. Box 723
Des Moines, Iowa 50303
515/244-3761 • FAX 515/237-5070

June 6, 1994

Mr. Bruce Reed
Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W., Room 2/MW
Washington, DC 20500

Mr. Reed,

I urge you to oppose financing welfare reform by denying or further postponing benefits to legal immigrants brought into the United States by U.S. citizens. It is neither just nor moral to fund welfare reform by assisting one vulnerable person at the expense of another.

I am especially concerned that Medicaid, Food Stamps, SSI and other benefits could be denied to legal immigrants. To deny or further postpone eligibility for Medicaid to impoverished legal immigrants would be outrageous. Denying Medicaid could result in broken hips not being replaced, deaths from preventable heart attacks and strokes, and other health care horrors.

The Food Stamp Program serves primarily women, children and the elderly. It is wrong to deny such a basic human necessity as food to those in need who are here legally.

SSI provides a safety net for very old and sick/disabled people whose children and grandchildren are tax payers and citizens. Why should their parents and grandparents be marginalized? These family members left their belongings and homelands to be with their children and grandchildren.

The parents of citizens, and spouses and children of both citizens and legal residents, could become such a serious financial liability because of a disability or major medical problem that the only choice, other than permanent separation, would be poverty. Family reunification, the cornerstone of U.S. Immigration Policy, becomes a hollow goal if severe financial penalties are imposed on reunited families.

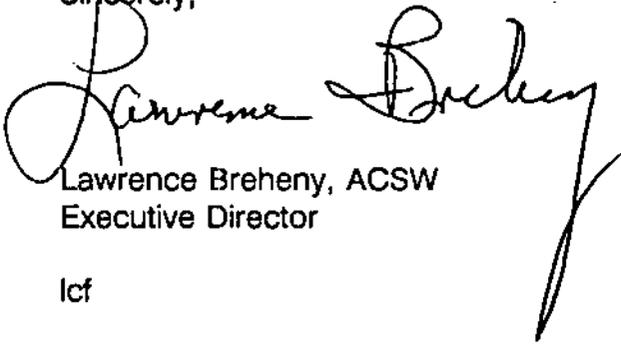
Sincerely,

[Signature]

June 6, 1994
Page 2

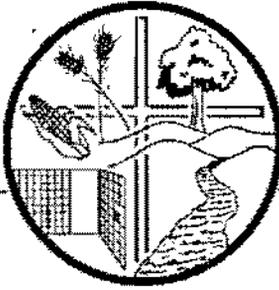
The United States has been enriched by the cultural and economic contributions of immigrants. Congress and the Administration should seek alternative funding that will enable poor families to overcome poverty and provide support to those in need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lawrence Breheny". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Lawrence Breheny, ACSW
Executive Director

lcf



Diocese of Jefferson City
Social Concerns Office

P.O. Box 417 • 605 Clark Ave.
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(314) 635-9127 • FAX (314) 635-2286

Rural Life • Criminal Justice • Campaign for Human Development • Respect Life • Peace & Justice

June 9, 1994

Mr. Bruce N. Reed
Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House - Room 2 MW
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Reed:

I urge you to oppose financing welfare reform by denying or further postponing benefits to legal immigrants brought into the United States by U.S. citizens. It is neither just nor moral to fund welfare reform by assisting one vulnerable person at the expense of another.

I am especially concerned that Medicaid, Food Stamps, SSI and other benefits could be denied to legal immigrants. To deny or further postpone eligibility for Medicaid to impoverished legal immigrants would be outrageous. Denying Medicaid could result in broken hips not being replaced, deaths from preventable heart attacks and strokes, and other health care horrors.

The Food Stamp program serves primarily women, children and the elderly. It is wrong to deny such a basic human necessity as food to those in need who are here legally.

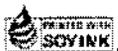
SSI provides a safety net for very old and sick or disabled people whose children and grandchildren are taxpayers and citizens. Why should their parents and grandparents be marginalized? These family members left their belongings and homelands to be with their children and grandchildren.

The parents of citizens--and spouses and children of both citizens and legal residents--could become such a serious financial liability because of a disability or major medical problem that the only choice, other than permanent separation, would be poverty. Family reunification, the cornerstone of U.S. immigration policy, becomes a hollow goal if severe financial penalties are imposed on reunited families.

The United States has been enriched by the cultural and economic contributions of immigrants. Congress and the Administration should seek alternative funding that will enable poor families to overcome poverty and provide support to those in need.

Sincerely,

Barbara Ross, Director
Social Concerns Office



100% recycled paper



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

Office for Social Justice

328 West Kellogg Boulevard
St. Paul, Minnesota 55102
(612) 291-4477

Ronald T. Kristemeyer
Administrator

June 6, 1994

Mr. Bruce N. Reed
Deputy Asst. to the President for
Domestic Policy
The White House
Room 2 MW
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Deputy Assistant Reed:

I urge you to oppose financing welfare reform by denying or further postponing benefits to legal immigrants brought into the United States by U.S. citizens. Financing welfare reform for one group of people by cutting benefits to another hardly seems like a just solution to the financing problem.

The United States has been enriched by the cultural and economic contributions of immigrants. Congress and the Administration should seek alternative funding that will enable poor families to overcome poverty and provide support to those in need.

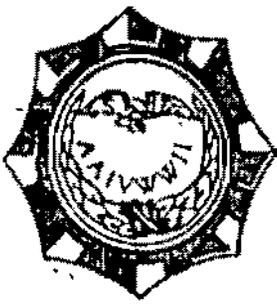
I am particularly concerned that Medicaid, Food Stamps, SSI and other benefits could be denied to legal immigrants. To deny or further postpone eligibility for Medicaid to impoverished legal immigrants would be outrageous. The Food Stamp program primarily serves women, children and the elderly by providing the basic human necessity of food. SSI, a safety net program for the very old, sick or disabled, basically keeps citizen children from having to bear a very heavy burden.

The United States has traditionally held its arms open to those desiring family reunification -- it is the very basis of U.S. immigration policy. This becomes a hollow goal if severe financial penalties are imposed on reunited families. Those of us who serve the immigrant population can attest to the fact that they have suffered enough in their homeland, in their struggle to reach the U.S. and in the period of adjustment to this new culture.

Please vote to keep this country hospitable by voting against legislation that increases xenophobia and creates intolerable burdens for citizen family members.

Sincerely yours,

Kathleen Tomlin
Legislative Coordinator



All-American Association of Invalids and Veterans of World War II
Who Emigrated to the USA from USSR and East European Countries

606 Brighton Beach Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11235
Phone: (718) 646-5469

Филиал Ассоциации в г. Пало-Алто

Mr. Bruce Reed
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington D.C. 20500
Attn: Welfare Reform Task Force

Mariamchik A.
375 Oak Tree Dr
46 MV 94040

Dear Mr. Reed:

I am writing you to protest against the proposal to eliminate SSI and other support to legal immigrants and legal residents. As an immigrant from the former Soviet Union. I am very much aware of the difficulties that this ill-considered proposal will bring to those who are temporarily, and through no fault of their own, dependent on government help.

This proposal would force legal immigrants to choose between family renunciation and poverty and would leave many without help in cases of disability or old age.

Immigrants from the former Soviet Union have come here seeking protection and freedom. The vast majority of legal immigrants are hard working, tax-paying citizens who contribute to the nation's economy and who have, in many cases, created jobs for other Americans. It would be unconscionable to have legal immigrants who are waiting for their citizenships to be deprived at a time they acquiring the skills that will enable them to become full members of community.

I urge you to abandon all proposals that would discriminate against legal immigrants by discontinuing assistance to most vulnerable members of our community.



Office for Social Ministries

June 6, 1994

Mr. Bruce Reed
Deputy Assistant to the President
for Domestic Policy
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Rm. 2/MW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Re: Financing Welfare Reform by Cutting Benefits to Immigrants

Dear Mr. Reed:

We urge you to oppose welfare reform which would deny or further postpone benefits to immigrants brought into the United States by U.S. citizens. Assisting one vulnerable person at the expense of another is not just and does not constitute "reform."

Alienage is not a legitimate ground for discrimination in governmental programs designed to help marginalized and needy people. We are especially concerned that Medicaid, Food Stamps, SSI and other benefits could be denied to documented immigrants.

America has been enriched by the cultural and economic contributions of immigrants. Congress and the Administration should seek alternative funding that will enable poor families to overcome poverty and provide support for those in need. History demonstrates that when a country has the political courage to open itself to immigration, it is rewarded economically, culturally, and socially.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Brumley

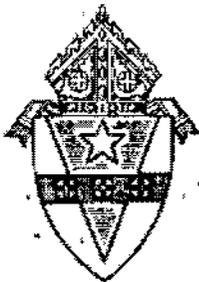
Mark A. Brumley
Director

Mary A. O'Gara

Mary A. O'Gara
Assistant Director

Jose Ernesto Gonzalez

José Ernesto González
Assistant Director



ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

222 North Seventeenth Street • Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-1299 • (215) 587-5655

OFFICE FOR HUMAN RELATIONS

June 6, 1994

Mr. Bruce Reed
Deputy Assistant to the President Domestic Policy
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Room 2/MW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Reed:

We are writing to urge that you reject any attempts to finance welfare reform by denying or postponing benefits to legal immigrants brought into our country by United States citizens. The denial of basic human necessities to these persons, often poor and vulnerable, is not worthy of us as a nation. Many of them come to our country to escape persecution or to be reunited with their families. Most become productive citizens who add their culture, labor, personal and financial resources to the success of our nation.

As a country, the United States has had a tradition of welcoming those in need. When there are emergencies or disasters our people are resourceful and manage to find ways to respond. We are a caring and compassionate people and it would be presumptuous of our Congress to assume that United States citizens would approve of denying benefits to immigrants in order to assist welfare recipients. Both groups are at risk and in need of assistance. Therefore, we respectfully request that Congress and the Administration seek alternative funding that will enable poor families to overcome poverty and provide support to those in need.

We thank you for your attention to our request and we hope to hear your opinion on this urgent matter.

May God bless you and your efforts to work for the common good.

Sincerely yours,

Sister Marion Dillon

Sister Marion Dillon, M.S.B.T.
Director

Asian Law Caucus

Asian Law Caucus, Inc.
468 Bush Street, Third Floor
San Francisco, CA 94108
Phone: (415) 391-1655
Fax: (415) 391-0368

BY FACSIMILE (202) 456-2461
(Phone 202/456-1111)

May 27, 1994

Welfare Reform Working Group
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC

RE: Limitations on Eligibility of Permanent Residents for Federal Programs

Dear Working Group Members:

The Asian Law Caucus, established in 1972, is a public-interest organization that provides direct services to and conducts advocacy, community education, and impact litigation on behalf of the Asian American community in the San Francisco Bay Area. We write to express our opposition to the Administration's recent position on possible limitations on eligibility of permanent residents for federal programs. The Wall Street Journal recently reported that the Administration is considering extending the deeming period to greater than seven years (from the current five for SSI and three for AFDC, Medicaid and foodstamps), with an even longer or permanent deeming period if sponsors have an annual income of \$34,000 or more.

We oppose the extension of the deeming period beyond that provided in current law. Clearly, if there are abuses in the system and persons who are ineligible are not qualified, they can be disqualified. But to blanketly assume that those who have been receiving benefits and who resided less than seven years are less deserving ignores the reality of poverty in many cities among minority immigrants. In many instances, the sponsor has unexpectedly lost his or her job particularly here in California, thereby prompting the alien to seek public benefits.

In other circumstances, the wages earned by these aliens in low-paying industries, e.g., garment work, light manufacturing, service, hotel/restaurant, etc. result in low Social Security benefits thereby necessitating applying for Supplemental Security Income. Oftentime unlawful discrimination traps these workers into these low paying jobs. The latest proposal simply and callously ignores these realities and considers these persons as undeserving because they are noncitizens.

Finally, it is unfair to finance welfare reform on the backs of impoverished legal permanent residents. Placing additional burdens on the more vulnerable sectors of society - the blind, aged, and disabled immigrants, many of whom are nonwhite - should not be adopted

by this Administration as a strategy for welfare reform. Such placement merely feeds and encourages the irresponsible, anti-immigrant rhetoric that this Administration has earlier condemned.

We ask that you once again reconsider your position on welfare reform as it affects immigrants. We believe that the current law provides for sufficient authority to deny benefits to persons who are not qualified, but also recognizes the harsh reality of poverty among immigrants - particular the blind, aged, and disabled.

If you have any questions, I may be contacted at (415) 391-1655.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


WILLIAM R. TAMAYO
Managing Attorney

WRT/b

and
Office for Social Ministry
250 South Vineyard Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
(808) 537-6321 Fax: 524-8949

TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

Date: 6-10-94 Fax # 202-456-7028
To: Bruce Reed, Deputy Asst - Domestic Policy
Agency: The White House
Address: _____
From: Sam Dineen, Director
Re: Immigrants & Welfare Reform
Total number of pages: 1 (including cover page)

Please do all in your power to oppose financing welfare reform by denying or further postponing benefits to legal immigrants brought to the United States by U.S. citizens. It is neither moral nor just to fund welfare reform designed to assist one vulnerable family by taking benefits from another vulnerable family. We must be able to do better than this.

I am especially concerned about Medicaid, SSI and other similar benefits to legal immigrants. Family unification is the cornerstone of U.S. Immigration policy but family unification becomes a hollow goal indeed if severe financial penalties are imposed on re-united families.

Welfare reform financed on the backs of immigrants will be particularly serious on Hawaii and other states that are home to a large number of immigrants.

We are all the children, grandchildren or great-grandchildren of immigrants. Lets us not seek to overcome poverty in one portion of our population by creating poverty in another.

Thank you very much.

Note: Please call as soon as possible if you did not receive all pages.

JUN 8 REC'D



SISTERS of ST. DOMINIC
CONGREGATION of the MOST HOLY NAME

1520 Grand Avenue
San Rafael, CA 94901-2236
FAX (415) 453-8367

FAX TRANSMITTAL COVER

DATE: June 6, 1994

TO: Assistant to the President
Carol Rago

FAX #: 202 456-~~0000~~ 2078

FROM: Sr. Catherine Murray

MESSAGE:

Number of pages to follow: 1



SISTERS of ST. DOMINIC
CONGREGATION of the MOST HOLY NAME

1520 Grand Avenue
San Rafael, CA 94901

June 6, 1994

Dear Housing Secretary Henry Cisneros,

I have visited your fine city of San Antonio a couple of times and have been greatly impressed by how the city has integrated Anglo and Latino cultures. I also respect your work greatly.

We are facing one of the most serious anti-immigrant climates our country has ever known. During such times in the past, great violations of civil and human rights have occurred. Please advocate for the immigrants - both undocumented and legal.

The current administration seeks to fund its welfare reform package by cutting services to legal immigrants through an extension in deeming from three to five years for SSI, Food Stamps and AFDC. The White House now is looking to legal elderly immigrants to make up for the \$3.5 billion lost in programs it attempted to cut by limiting subsidies to farmers who ear \$100,000 or more in nonfarm income, cutting programs for veterans, and shrinking tax deferments on annuities. Well financed lobbyists persuaded the White House to drop those financing options. It seeks to make up that loss by extending deeming in SSI to ten years.

Please speak out on behalf of immigrants and encourage others to do the same.

Sincerely,

Sr. Catherine Murray, O.P.

Sr. Catherine Murray, O.P.
~~cc: Assistant to the President Carol Rocco~~
~~Deputy Assistant to the President Bruce Reed~~
~~Deputy Assistant to the President Gene Stefling~~

Bruce: I hope Henry Cisneros knows how to respond to this.

GR

Promoter of Peace and Justice

FND

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM

717 PONCE DE LEON BOULEVARD • SUITES 211-235

MIAMI, FLORIDA 33134

PHONE: (305) 567-1655

FAX: (305) 567-1177

June 2, 1994

Mr. Bruce N. Reed
Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
Room 2 MW
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Bruce Reed:

I urge you to oppose financing welfare reform by denying or further postponing benefits to legal immigrants brought into the United States by U.S. citizens. It is neither just nor moral to fund welfare reform by assisting one vulnerable person at the expense of another.

I am especially concerned that Medicaid, Food Stamps, SSI and other benefits could be denied to legal immigrants. To deny or further postpone eligibility for Medicaid to impoverished legal immigrants would be outrageous. Denying Medicaid could result in broken hips not being replaced, deaths from preventable heart attacks and strokes, and other health care horrors.

The Food Stamp program serves primarily women, children, and the elderly. It's wrong to deny such a basic human necessity as food to those in need who are here legally.

SSI provides a safety net for very old and sick or disabled people whose children and grandchildren are taxpayers and citizens. Why should their parents and grandparents be marginalized? These family members left their belonging and homelands to be with their children and grandchildren.

The parents of citizens -- and spouses and children of both citizens and legal residents -- could become such a serious financial liability because of a disability or

PAGE 2

major medical problem that the only choice, other than permanent separation, would be poverty. Family reunification, the cornerstone of U.S. immigration policy, becomes a hollow goal if severe financial penalties are imposed on reunited families.

The United States has been enriched by the cultural and economic contributions of immigrants. Congress and the Administration should seek alternative funding that will enable poor families to overcome poverty and provide support to those in need.

Sincerely,

Odalys Castro
Social Worker
Refugee Resettlement Program

mao

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM
717 PONCE DE LEON BOULEVARD - SUITES 211-235
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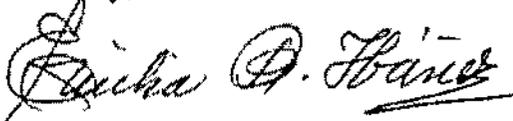
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emilia D. Ibanez". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Emilia Ibanez
Secretary
Refugee Resettlement Program

mao

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM
717 PONCE DE LEON BOULEVARD • SUITES 211-235
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33134
PHONE: (305) 567-1655
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June 2, 1994

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Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
Room 2 MW
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Linares', written in a cursive style.

Tomasa Linares
Social Worker
Refugee Resettlement Program

mao

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM

717 PONCE DE LEON BOULEVARD • SUITES 211-235

MIAMI, FLORIDA 33134

PHONE: (305) 567-1655

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The White House
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Luma Pena-Bitter', with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

Luma Pena-Bitter
Social Worker
Refugee Resettlement Program

mao

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM
717 PONCE DE LEON BOULEVARD • SUITES 211-235
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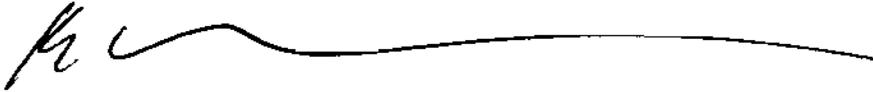
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The United States has been enriched by the cultural and economic contributions of immigrants. Congress and the Administration should seek alternative funding that will enable poor families to overcome poverty and provide support to those in need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kris Messegee', followed by a long, horizontal, wavy line that extends across the width of the signature area.

Kris Messegee
Statistical Coordinator
Refugee Resettlement Program

mao

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM
717 PONCE DE LEON BOULEVARD • SUITES 211-235
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33134
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1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
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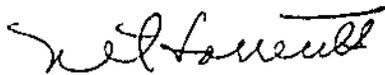
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The United States has been enriched by the cultural and economic contributions of immigrants. Congress and the Administration should seek alternative funding that will enable poor families to overcome poverty and provide support to those in need.

Sincerely,



Maria Teresita Torrents
Social Worker
Refugee Resettlement Program

mao

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM
717 PONCE DE LEON BOULEVARD • SUITES 211-235
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33134
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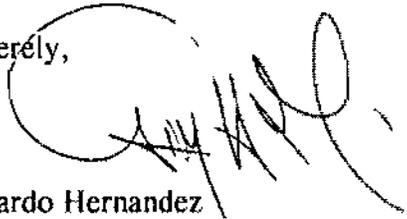
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gildardo Hernandez", written over a circular stamp or mark.

Gildardo Hernandez
Social Worker
Refugee Resettlement Program

mao

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM

717 PONCE DE LEON BOULEVARD • SUITES 211-235

MIAMI, FLORIDA 33134

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Marrero', written in a cursive style.

Carmen Marrero
Social Worker
Refugee Resettlement Program

mao

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM
717 PONCE DE LEON BOULEVARD • SUITES 211-235
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33134
PHONE: (305) 567-1655
FAX: (305) 567-1177

June 2, 1994

Mr. Bruce N. Reed
Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
Room 2 MW
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Bruce Reed:

I urge you to oppose financing welfare reform by denying or further postponing benefits to legal immigrants brought into the United States by U.S. citizens. It is neither just nor moral to fund welfare reform by assisting one vulnerable person at the expense of another.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Maria Elena Fernandez". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Maria Elena Fernandez
Secretary
Refugee Resettlement Program

mao

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

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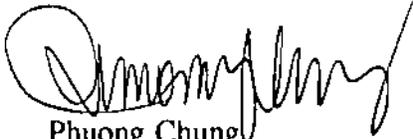
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phuong Chung', written in a cursive style.

Phuong Chung
Social Worker
Refugee Resettlement Program

mao

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM

717 PONCE DE LEON BOULEVARD • SUITES 211-235

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Sincerely,


Evelyn Rivera
Secretary
Refugee Resettlement Program

mao

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

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717 PONCE DE LEON BOULEVARD - SUITES 211-235
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gustavo A. Carion', with a horizontal line underneath it.

Gustavo A. Carion
Director
Refugee Resettlement Program

mao

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM

717 PONCE DE LEON BOULEVARD • SUITES 211-235

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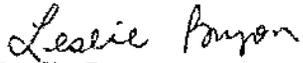
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Sincerely,


Leslie Bryon
Social Worker
Refugee Resettlement Program

mao

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aimee Tro', written in a cursive style.

Aimee Tro
Social Worker
Refugee Resettlement Program

mao

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

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717 PONCE DE LEON BOULEVARD • SUITES 211-235
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maria Antonieta Olivera". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Maria Antonieta Olivera
S.E.O. 7
Refugee Resettlement Program

mao

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

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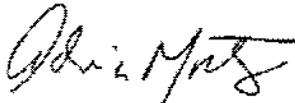
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adria Martinez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Adria" being more prominent than the last name "Martinez".

Adria Martinez
Social Worker
Refugee Resettlement Program

mao

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM
717 PONCE DE LEON BOULEVARD • SUITES 211-235
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33134
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Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
Room 2 MW
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

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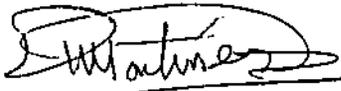
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Danny Martinez", with a horizontal line underneath.

Danny Martinez
Social Worker
Refugee Resettlement Program

mao



CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

June 3, 1994

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Mr. Bruce N. Reed
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
Office of Domestic Policy
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Room 2 MW
Washington, DC 20500

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Lorne Twine

Danny Vargas

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Pam Buckmaster

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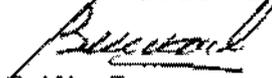
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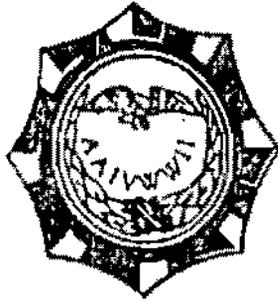
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Sincerely,

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES, INC.


Bui Van Tam
Diocesan Director
Migration & Refugee Services.





All-American Association of Invalids and Veterans of World War II
Who Emigrated to the USA from USSR and East European Countries

606 Brighton Beach Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11235
Phone: (718) 646-5469

Филиал Ассоциации в г. Пало-Алто

Mr. Bruce Reed
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington D.C. 20500
Attn: Welfare Reform Task Force

*Vahnanski E.
375 Oak Tree Dr
#64 MV 94040*

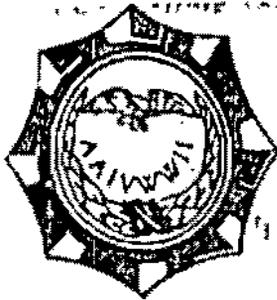
Dear Mr. Reed:

I am writing you to protest against the proposal to eliminate SSI and other support to legal immigrants and legal residents. As an immigrant from the former Soviet Union, I am very much aware of the difficulties that this ill-considered proposal will bring to those who are temporarily, and through no fault of their own, dependent on government help.

This proposal would force legal immigrants to choose between family renunciation and poverty and would leave many without help in cases of disability or old age.

Immigrants from the former Soviet Union have come here seeking protection and freedom. The vast majority of legal immigrants are hard working, tax-paying citizens who contribute to the nation's economy and who have, in many cases, created jobs for other Americans. It would be unconscionable to have legal immigrants who are waiting for their citizenships to be deprived at a time they are acquiring the skills that will enable them to become full members of community.

I urge you to abandon all proposals that would discriminate against legal immigrants by discontinuing assistance to most vulnerable members of our community.



All-American Association of Invalids and Veterans of World War II
Who Emigrated to the USA from USSR and East European Countries

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Филиал Ассоциации в г. Пало-Алто

Mr. Bruce Reed
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington D.C. 20500
Attn: Welfare Reform Task Force

Bankin V.
656 Zytton Ave
E 413 PA 94301

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Vinton Bankin

**Dominican
Sisters**



6501 Almeda Road
Houston, Texas 77021-2095

(713) 747-3310
(713) 747-4707 (FAX)

June 1, 1994

TO: Bruce Reed
Deputy Assistant to the President

FAX: 202-456-7028

I strongly oppose the Administration's proposal to help fund Welfare Reform by extending the "deeming period" for legal immigrants to gain access to federal funds.

Such a position legitimizes the idea that it is acceptable to pay for welfare reform by cutting benefits to people who are here legally. Credible studies refute the claim that legal immigrants are a drain on the welfare system and it is unfair to make them the scapegoat because they are an easy target. The elderly, the disabled and children will be particularly hard hit.

I voted for President Clinton because I hoped for something more than a continuation of the mean-spirited actions of the Reagan-Bush years.

Thank you for listening to my views.

Sister Jane Abell, O.P.
Member, Houston Immigration and Refugee Coalition

Sister Jane Abell

NORTHWEST IMMIGRANT RIGHTS PROJECT*Proyecto para Derechos de Inmigrantes*909 Eighth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98104

(206) 587-4009

(800) 465-5771

FAX (206) 587-4025

Deputy Assistant to the President Bruce Reed
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

June 1, 1994

Dear Mr. Reed:

On behalf of Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, a non-profit organization providing legal assistance and advocacy to low-income immigrants and refugees throughout Washington state, I am writing to you to express our concern about proposals to finance welfare reform by reducing or eliminating benefits to legal immigrants.

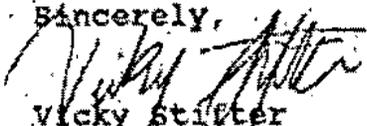
Specifically, we urge you to oppose any forthcoming welfare reform legislation that would extend the "deeming" period from three to five years for SSI benefits, Food Stamps, and AFDC. The resultant elimination of benefits would take the safety net from under immigrant families, increasing the risk of homelessness, and shift the costs back to local communities.

In addition, we are concerned that under this reform financing, SSI benefits would be denied to elderly immigrants for ten years at a stage in life when benefits are critical. Moreover, by restricting SSI assistance to only naturalized citizens, the law would exclude those immigrants -- the elderly -- who are least likely to become citizens.

We are hopeful that you will help shape a welfare reform package that will not adversely effect legal immigrants in this country.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,


Vicky Stifter
Executive Director



May 31, 1994

Mr. Bruce Reed
Deputy Asst. to the President for Domestic Policy
Office of Domestic Policy
The White House, Rm. 2 MW
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

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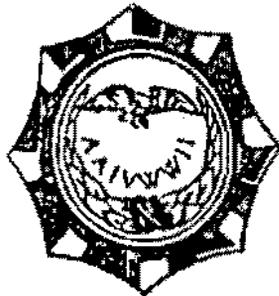
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Sincerely,

Barbara B. Biebel, Director
Refugee, Migration & Hispanic Services

dw
P.O. BOX 23825
GREEN BAY, WI 54305-3825
414-437-7531
FAX: 414-437-0694



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Brooklyn, NY 11235
Phone: (718) 646-5469

Филиал Ассоциации в г. Пало-Алто

Mr. Bruce Reed
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington D.C. 20500
Attn: Welfare Reform Task Force

*Bolon Z.
1087 Tanland Dr
A 102 P.A. 94303*

Dear Mr. Reed:

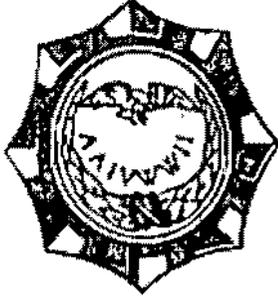
I am writing you to protest against the proposal to eliminate SSI and other support to legal immigrants and legal residents. As an immigrant from the former Soviet Union, I am very much aware of the difficulties that this ill-considered proposal will bring to those who are temporarily, and through no fault of their own, dependent on government help.

This proposal would force legal immigrants to choose between family renunciation and poverty and would leave many without help in cases of disability or old age.

Immigrants from the former Soviet Union have come here seeking protection and freedom. The vast majority of legal immigrants are hard working, tax-paying citizens who contribute to the nation's economy and who have, in many cases, created jobs for other Americans. It would be unconscionable to have legal immigrants who are waiting for their citizenships to be deprived at a time they are acquiring the skills that will enable them to become full members of community.

I urge you to abandon all proposals that would discriminate against legal immigrants by discontinuing assistance to most vulnerable members of our community.

Bolon Z.



All-American Association of Invalids and Veterans of World War II
Who Emigrated to the USA from USSR and East European Countries

606 Brighton Beach Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11235
Phone: (718) 646-5469

Филиал Ассоциации в г. Пало-Алто

Mr. Bruce Reed
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington D.C. 20500
Attn: Welfare Reform Task Force

Mirski ✓
3048 Stelling Dr
P.A. 94303.

Dear Mr. Reed:

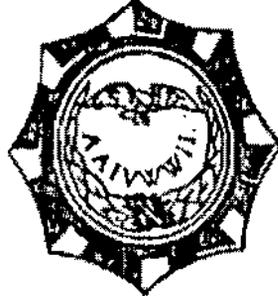
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V. Mirsky



All-American Association of Invalids and Veterans of World War II
Who Emigrated to the USA from USSR and East European Countries

606 Brighton Beach Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11235
Phone: (718) 646-5469

Филиал Ассоциации в г. Пало-Алто

Mr. Bruce Reed
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington D.C. 20500
Attn: Welfare Reform Task Force

*Kansaveli G.
90 Sierra Vista Av
F 68 M.V. 94043*

Dear Mr. Reed:

I am writing you to protest against the proposal to eliminate SSI and other support to legal immigrants and legal residents. As an immigrant from the former Soviet Union, I am very much aware of the difficulties that this ill-considered proposal will bring to those who are temporarily, and through no fault of their own, dependent on government help.

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G. Kansaveli



All-American Association of Invalids and Veterans of World War II
Who Emigrated to the USA from USSR and East European Countries

606 Brighton Beach Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11235
Phone: (718) 646-5469

Филиал Ассоциации в г. Пало-Алто

Mr. Bruce Reed
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington D.C. 20500
Attn: Welfare Reform Task Force

*Heifets M.
656 Lytton Ave #395
P.A. CA 94304*

Dear Mr. Reed:

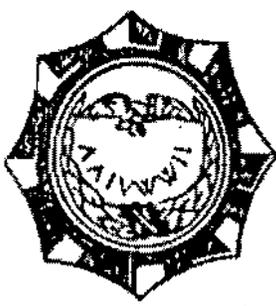
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Heifets M.



All-American Association of Invalids and Veterans of World War II
Who Emigrated to the USA from USSR and East European Countries

606 Brighton Beach Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11235
Phone: (718) 646-5469

Филиал Ассоциации в г. Пало-Алто

Mr. Bruce Reed
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington D.C. 20500
Attn: Welfare Reform Task Force

Mr. Gregory Novick
707 Continental Cir. #69
Mountain View, CA 94040

Dear Mr. Reed:

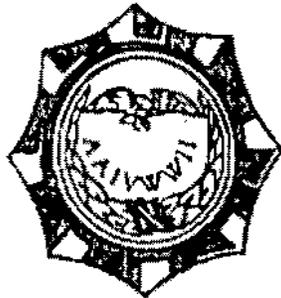
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I urge you to abandon all proposals that would discriminate against legal immigrants by discontinuing assistance to most vulnerable members of our community.

Novick 5/18/99



All-American Association of Invalids and Veterans of World War II
Who Emigrated to the USA from USSR and East European Countries

606 Brighton Beach Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11235
Phone: (718) 646-5469

Филиал Ассоциации в г. Пало-Алто

Mr. Bruce Reed
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington D.C. 20500
Attn: Welfare Reform Task Force

Markovich M.
577 Vista Ave #12
P.A. 94306

Dear Mr. Reed:

I am writing you to protest against the proposal to eliminate SSI and other support to legal immigrants and legal residents. As an immigrant from the former Soviet Union. I am very much aware of the difficulties that this ill-considered proposal will bring to those who are temporarily, and through no fault of their own, dependent on government help.

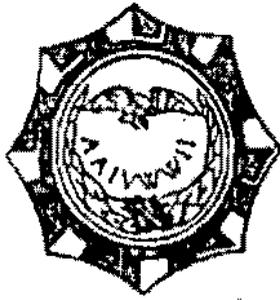
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I urge you to abandon all proposals that would discriminate against legal immigrants by discontinuing assistance to most vulnerable members of our community.

Markovich

All-American Association of Invalids and Veterans of World War II
Who Emigrated to the USA from USSR and East European Countries



606 Brighton Beach Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11235
Phone: (718) 646-5469

Филиал Ассоциации в г. Пало-Алто

Mr. Bruce Reed
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington D.C. 20500
Attn: Welfare Reform Task Force

Furshanski I.
1081 Colorado Ave
PA 94303

Dear Mr. Reed:

I am writing you to protest against the proposal to eliminate SSI and other support to legal immigrants and legal residents. As an immigrant from the former Soviet Union. I am very much aware of the difficulties that this ill-considered proposal will bring to those who are temporarily, and through no fault of their own, dependent on government help.

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I urge you to abandon all proposals that would discriminate against legal immigrants by discontinuing assistance to most vulnerable members of our community.

Dear Mr. Bruce Reed

I am writing you to protest against the proposal to eliminate SSI and other support to legal immigrants and legal residents. As an immigrant from the former Soviet Union, I am very much aware of the difficulties that this ill considered proposal will bring to those immigrants who are temporarily, and through no fault of their own, dependent on government help. This proposal would force legal immigrants to choose between family reunification and poverty and it would leave many without any help in cases of disability or old age.

Immigrants from the Soviet Union have come here seeking protection and freedom. The vast majority of the legal immigrants are hard working, tax-paying citizens who contribute to the nation's economy and who have, in many cases, created jobs for other Americans. It would be unconscionable to have legal immigrants who are waiting for their citizenships to be deprived of support at a time they acquiring the skills that will enable them to become full members of our society. We urge you to abandon all proposals that would discriminate against legal immigrants by discontinuing assistance to the most vulnerable members of our community.

L. Samson

Mr. Lazar Samson

4655 Minnier Ave #94-B

Riverside, CA 92505

THIS FORM MARKS THE FILE LOCATION OF ITEM NUMBER 1
LISTED IN THE WITHDRAWAL SHEET AT THE FRONT OF THIS FOLDER.

THE FOLLOWING PAGE HAS HAD MATERIAL REDACTED. CONSULT THE
WITHDRAWAL SHEET AT THE FRONT OF THIS FOLDER FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION.

Mr. Bruce Reed
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington D.C. 20500
Attn: Welfare Reform Task Force

Dear Mr. Reed:

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I urge you to abandon all proposals that would discriminate against legal immigrants by discontinuing assistance to most vulnerable members of our community.

Citizen of the U.S.A. *Oster Rink*
Oster Rinkor, 7660 Beverly Blvd apt 250
Los Angeles, ca 90036 Tel. 936-1988

5/11/84



C O N G R E S S M A N

GERALD D. KLECZKA

Milwaukee (414)297-1140

Waukesha (414)549-6360

Washington (202)225-4572

Fax Cover Sheet

To: Bruce Reed

Location: _____

Date: 26 April

Fax Number: 456-7028

Phone Number: 456-2216

From: Orlando Knuss

This is page one of 23

If there are problems with transmission, please contact office indicated above.

list of signatures to SSI letter to President Clinton.

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 26, 1994

President William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20006-9900

Dear Mr. President:

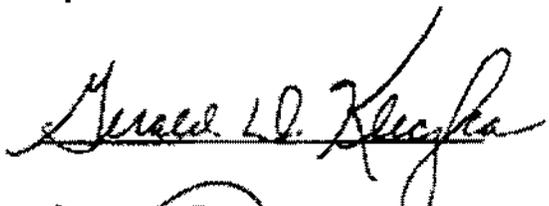
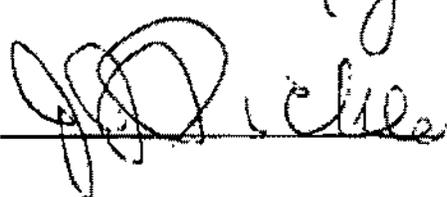
The Supplemental Security Income program (SSI) is intended to provide assistance to low-income disabled, blind, and aged individuals. In Fiscal Year 1993, the federal government spent almost \$20 billion on SSI payments. That is over \$7 billion more than the federal benefits paid under the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program. With this amount of taxpayer dollars going towards SSI payments, it is our responsibility to ensure that these benefits are being used appropriately.

Unfortunately, this has not been happening. We have seen widespread reports of abuses in the SSI programs for both children and substance abusers. Recent government reports, Congressional hearings, and media attention have confirmed that SSI, as it is currently administered, is flawed.

Let us stress that we do not wish to see deserving recipients negatively affected in any way; we would simply like to see SSI reformed so that it serves to help the disabled, blind, and aged recipients it was intended to assist, while preventing opportunities for abuse.

We urge you to either address this matter in your welfare reform plan or to support our efforts to include SSI reform during Congressional consideration of your plan. Together, we can ensure that these needy individuals receive the assistance they deserve, while protecting valuable taxpayer resources from misuse. We thank you for your prompt consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,




Mike Park

Mike Kreidler

Leslie Byrne

Wick Smith

Peter Barca

William Oates

Ms. Kohn

Sill Hughes

Alan Posner

Jim Linneman

Walby Henger

Christy Jays

Tom Barrett

Mary Helms

Bart Gordon

Lesly Mays

Tom Felt

Dickman

Tom Lewis

Bruce Sanders

Karen Shepherd

Hon. Gerald D. Kleczka
Hon. J.J. Pickle
Hon. Nancy L. Johnson
Hon. Rick Santorum
Hon. Mike Parker
Hon. Mike Kreidler
Hon. Leslie Byrne
Hon. Nick Smith
Hon. Peter Barca
Hon. William Orton
Hon. Pat Roberts
Hon. Bill Hughes
Hon. Glenn Poshard
Hon. Jim Sensenbrenner
Hon. Wally Herger
Hon. Christopher Shays
Hon. Tom Barrett
Hon. George Hochbrueckner
Hon. Bart Gordon
Hon. Austin Murphy
Hon. Tom Petri
Hon. Tim Johnson
Hon. Tom Lewis
Hon. Buddy Darden
Hon. Karen Shepherd

19 May 1994

Dear Mr. Reed

I am writing to express my concern over the proposal to re-engineer the SS disability program. I will be 56 years old June 7th 1994. I am currently receiving SS disability because I can no longer work. I am in favor of the proposal to improve service to the public. I am very strongly against the idea of changing the method of determining whether a person is disabled. Under current law a person's age, education and work experience must be considered in reaching a decision of disability. This is as it should be. As a person grows older especially over 50 and 55 years of age it is very difficult for him to adjust to the changing workplace. If he is no longer able to do his previous work due to illness or disability and cannot exert himself much any longer, there are simply very few job options available. The lack of job skills and advanced education are also important obstacles. My lawyer has explained that the SSA proposes to change the law so that almost every client will have to show that he cannot perform "baseline" ("sit down, unskilled") work. This change would cause many valid claims to be rejected. My attorney feels, and I agree that many would probably be found eligible for disability benefits under the current law. I do not believe a

person in his 50s or 60s should have to be as disabled to the same extent as a person in his 20s. A younger person is more likely to adapt to a new field of work. The proposed change would penalize those of us who have worked and paid into Social Security the longest. It would also be very harsh to those of us who have depended on others for support, stayed home to raise our families, and find ourselves with little or no work experience. The current law is a sensitive way of dealing with the real obstacles posed by advancing age and our educational shortcomings. Please do not change the current method of determining whether a person is disabled.

Sincerely,
Eugene Obora.

EUGENE OBORA
4611 So. MOZART
CHICAGO, ILL 60632-1916

March 24, 1994

Bruce Reed
Assistant to the President
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Reed:

We at Korean Immigrant Workers Advocates (KIWA) are concerned about the proposed welfare reform package which would deny Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for people who have yet to attain citizenship.

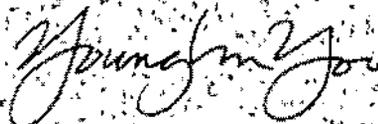
Denial of benefits to Asians and Pacific Islanders (API) who are over 65 and are non-citizens would mean that a significant percentage of the API community would not be able to maintain their independent living because SSI is their sole source of support. To remove this safety network for them would result in the inability to pay for housing, food, clothing, and minimal subsistence requirements.

Those who believe that "these people" should just become citizens (and therefore qualify for the SSI benefits), need to look at the English language requirements for naturalization. Most of the elderly cannot read and write at the 5th grade level. In order for a permanent resident to take the naturalization examination in their own language, they need to be here for 20 years.

Almost all of the immigrant elderly are not citizens because of the English language requirement. Almost all of the immigrant elderly are on SSI as their sole source of support. Those who worked the requisite number of years already get SSA (regular social security), but most of the elderly have not been here that long.

We demand that this portion of the welfare reform package be eliminated! At the minimum, denying benefits to those who cannot vote or otherwise participate in the political process is undemocratic.

Sincerely,



Korean Immigrant Workers Advocates



NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES

444 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, N.W. SUITE 515 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001
202-624-5400 FAX: 202-737-1069

May 6, 1994

ROBERT T. CONNOR
SENATE MINORITY WHIP
DELAWARE
PRESIDENT, NCSL

JOHN TURCOTTE
DIRECTOR, JOINT P.E.S.A. COMMITTEE
MISSISSIPPI
STAFF CHAIR, NCSL

The Honorable William J. Clinton
The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

WILLIAM POUND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Mr. President:

The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) is concerned about the financing mechanisms being considered by your Administration's Task Force on Welfare Reform. Of particular concern is the proposal to reduce welfare eligibility for legal immigrants, refugees, and other non-citizens by extending the deeming provisions for Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), Food Stamps, and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and creating deeming provisions for other programs such as Medicaid. Eliminating federal assistance will not eliminate legal immigrants' needs, and state and local budgets and taxpayers will bear the burden. We believe that this financing mechanism would shift significant costs to state and local governments. Furthermore, NCSL maintains that welfare reform legislation is not the appropriate place to debate immigration policy.

NCSL strongly believes that it is the responsibility of the federal government to fund its policy decisions. Because the federal government has sole jurisdiction over immigration policy, it must bear the responsibility to serve the immigrants that it allows to enter states and localities.

The proposal to reduce or eliminate non-citizen benefits under consideration by the Task Force on Welfare Reform will be a direct cost-shift to state and local budgets and our joint tax payers will still bear the burden. As legal immigrants lose their eligibility to participate in federal programs such as AFDC, SSI, Food Stamps, and Medicaid, in many cases they will access state and local General Assistance and other state and local assistance programs to replace lost benefits. As a result of the 1971 Supreme Court decision *Graham v. Richardson*, states and localities may not exclude persons from participating in their welfare programs on the basis of lawful alienage. Although the federal government has the option to drop legal immigrants from its welfare roles, states and localities may not.

Unfortunately, state and local officials have already faced the results of curtailed federal spending for legal immigrants. Last year, your Administration and the Congress funded the Unemployment Insurance extension by increasing the wait before legal immigrants can access the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program. Many states with high immigrant populations, such as California, New York, New Jersey and Illinois, have comprehensive General Assistance programs which are now serving increased caseloads of legal immigrants who would have been eligible for SSI.

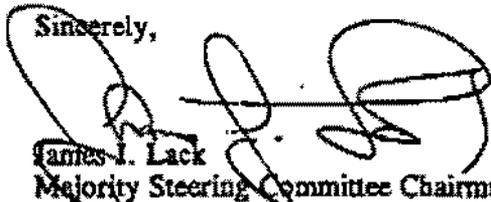
State and local governments cannot and should not be the safety net for federal policy decisions. NCSL will oppose federal reductions in benefits to legal immigrants, whether the proposal cuts \$20 billion, \$8 billion, or \$4 billion worth of program eligibility. Eliminating federal funds for legal immigrants does not change the states' legal responsibility to make its services available to all legal

President Clinton
Page Two
May 6, 1994

immigrants, in fact it increases it substantially. With the steady decline in federal assistance, states and localities are faced with cutting back on programs and with meeting the needs of the native-born as well as the newcomers, raising issues of equity and community tensions. In short, this proposal will force states to bear the cost of federal immigration policy without the benefit of federal assistance.

We do not believe that welfare reform legislation is the appropriate place for the immigration debate. Program eligibility for legal immigrants should be debated in the context of immigration reform and nowhere else. We urge you to reject policies that divide us and cause states to bear the cost of yet another unfunded federal mandate. Please contact Sheri Stelsel in NCSL's Washington, D.C. office, (202) 624-5400, to further discuss these concerns.

Sincerely,



James J. Lack
Majority Steering Committee Chairman
New York Senate
Vice President, NCSL



Art Hamilton
Minority Leader, Arizona House
Immediate Past President, NCSL

San Francisco Adult Day Health
Planning Council

Mr. Bruce Reed
Deputy Assistant to the President
for Domestic Policy
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

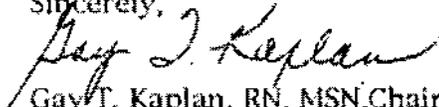
Dear Mr. Reed,

The San Francisco Adult Day Health Planning Council wishes to express its opposition to HR 3500, especially its inclusion of legal non-citizens. Eliminating them from receiving Supplemental Security Income, Older Americans Act programs, and emergency food and shelter grants under title III of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act would be subjecting the most frail and often the most impoverished from receiving lifeline services.

Adult Day Health programs in San Francisco provide lifeline programs and services to frail and disabled adults and elderly throughout San Francisco. The recipients of these services are of diverse ethnic backgrounds and cultures. Many of them are permanent legal residents, lawfully admitted to this country, having worked and paid taxes in this country, and continue to pay taxes. Many of them are elderly, and they would like to take the citizenship test despite the many barriers along the way. One of those barriers is the lack of English as a Second Language and Citizenship classes for the elderly, as demonstrated by prior funding cuts to community colleges and other programs. Regrettably these programs did not regard the elderly as a high priority in their already impacted classes. Other barriers include but are not limited to ignorance, racism and poverty.

Any legislation that excludes non-citizens of any age from lifeline services is shortsighted, and can only add to the already declining quality of life for all Americans. The sixty-one programs for which *aliens* would be ineligible will result in increased poverty, hunger, homelessness, illiteracy, poor health, increased chronic diseases, increased infant morbidity and mortality, and the diseases of ignorance and racism. We urge you to oppose HR 3500.

Sincerely,



Gay T. Kaplan, RN, MSN, Chairman,
San Francisco Adult Day Health Planning Council

cc: Fernando Torres-Gil
Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer