

fax# 67431

Cynthia Dillard

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 24, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FIRST LADY'S STAFF (MELANNE VERVEER)
PHIL CAPLAN (SEAN MALONEY)
CHARLES RUFF
THURGOOD MARSHALL, JR.
LARRY STEIN
✓ BRUCE REED
CRAIG SMITH
MINYON MOORE
VIRGINIA APUZZO
STEPHANIE STREETT - FYI

FROM:

Lana Dickey/Maureen Hudson
for DAN BURKHARDT

SUBJECT:

(Draft Proclamation)
National Disability Employment
Awareness Month, 1998

Attached for your review is the above-mentioned proclamation designating October 1998 as "National Disability Employment Awareness Month."

It was submitted by the Department of Labor, through the Office of Management and Budget, and edited/revised by the Presidential Letters and Messages Office.

IMMEDIATE ATTENTION REQUIRED. Written or oral response required by no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, September 25, 1998. IF WE HAVE NOT HEARD FROM YOU BY 5:00 p.m., WE WILL ASSUME THAT THE DRAFT IS ACCEPTABLE TO YOU.

For questions, discussion, or routine clearance, contact Lana Dickey, extension 65504, or Maureen Hudson, extension 65902, via phone or interoffice mail, in room 91. Thank you.

cc: Tim Saunders

NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH, 1998

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

Today, America is enjoying great prosperity, with the prospect of an even brighter future in the 21st century. Our economy is the strongest it has been in a generation. We have created more than 16 million new jobs in the past 5 years, and we are witnessing the lowest inflation rate in three decades, the lowest unemployment rate in 28 years, and the smallest welfare rolls in 29 years. But we cannot consider ourselves truly successful until all Americans, including the 30 million working-age adults with disabilities, have access to the tools and opportunities they need to achieve economic independence.

It has been 8 years since the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), legislation that is making it possible for millions of Americans to participate more fully in our society. However, the unemployment rate among people with disabilities, especially those with significant disabilities, is still far too high. Almost 75 percent of working-age Americans with severe disabilities remain unemployed. If America is to live up to its promise of equal opportunity, and if our economy is to continue to strengthen and expand, we must be able to draw on the untapped energy, talents, and creativity of this large and capable segment of our population.

Recognizing that there are still significant barriers for people with disabilities, I issued an Executive Order last March to establish the National Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities. I charged the Task Force with creating a coordinated and aggressive national strategy to make equality of opportunity, full participation, inclusion, and economic self-sufficiency a reality for all working-age Americans with disabilities. I have also directed the Attorney General, the Chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to increase

public awareness of rights and responsibilities under the ADA. It is particularly important to reach out in this effort to the small business community, because it employs most of our Nation's private work force.

Employment is a sure path to economic security and to personal and professional fulfillment. I salute the business, labor, and disability community leaders, government officials, community organizations, and concerned citizens who are working together to remove the remaining obstacles on that path so that all Americans with disabilities have the opportunity to contribute to our national life.

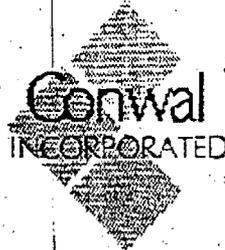
To recognize the great potential of people with disabilities and to encourage all Americans to work toward their full integration in the work force, the Congress, by joint resolution approved August 11, 1945, as amended (36 U.S.C. 155), has designated October of each year as "National Disability Employment Awareness Month."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 1998 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. I call upon government officials, educators, labor leaders, employers, and the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities that reaffirm our determination to fulfill both the letter and the spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this
day of _____, in the year of our Lord
nineteen hundred and ninety-eight, and of the Independence of
the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-third.

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

Disability -
Contacts



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Date: 10/1/98 Time Sent: _____

Pages to Follow: 4

TO: Name/Title: ~~Darmond Watkins~~ Cynthia

Department: _____

Phone No.: _____

Fax No.: 202-456-7431

FROM: Name/Title: Rona Harper

Department: _____

COMMENTS: _____

Workforce Inclusion: From Barriers to Bridges

October 5, 6, 7, 1998
 The National Press Club
 Washington, DC

14th

A conference co-sponsored by the Office of Disability and Income Security Programs, Social Security Administration; National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, U.S. Department of Education; Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; National Council on Disability; President's Committee on Employment of Persons with Disabilities, and other Federal Agencies, focusing on the work of the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities.

AGENDA

Monday, October 5

Lisagor Room

5:00-7:00 Opening Reception

Introduction of Secretary Riley: Fredric K. Schroeder, Ph.D.,
 Commissioner, Rehabilitation Services Administration

- Speaker: The Honorable Richard W. Riley, Secretary,
 U.S. Department of Education

Tuesday, October 6

Grand Ballroom

8:30-9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00-9:50 Welcome and Introductions

- Co-hosts:
 Susan M. Daniels, Ph.D.
 Deputy Commissioner
 Office of Disability and Income Security Programs
 Social Security Administration

 Katherine D. Seelman, Ph.D.
 Director
 National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research
- Conference Moderator: Becky Ogle, Executive Director
 Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities
- Introduction to Electronic Polling: Becky Ogle

**The Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults
 with Disabilities: 8 minute video**

Introduction of Commissioner Apfel: Becky Ogle

**Opening Address: The Honorable Kenneth S. Apfel,
Commissioner, Social Security Administration**

**9:50-10:30 Overview of the Status of People with Disabilities
in the Workforce**

- Mitch LaPlante, Ph.D.
University of California, Institute for Health and Aging
- Susan M. Daniels, Ph.D.
- Katherine D. Seelman, Ph.D.
- Moderator: Jeanette Harvey
United Cerebral Palsy Association

**10:30-12:10 Panel I: High Hopes and Low Payoffs: Lessons
for Future Policy**

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- Ed Berkowitz, Ph.D.
George Washington University
- Mike Callahan
United Cerebral Palsy Association
- Joe Skiba
United Cerebral Palsy Association
- Marty Ford
The Arc
- Stakeholder Respondent: Allan I. Bergman
Brain Injury Association, Inc.
- Moderator: Susan M. Daniels, Ph.D.

**12:15-12:45 Keynote Speaker: The Honorable Alexis M. Herman,
Secretary, U.S. Department of Labor**

12:45-1:45 Box Lunch

1:45-3:10 Panel II: Access to Health Care and State Initiatives

- Bruce Bullen
President, National Association of State Medicaid Directors
- Secretary Joseph LEEAN
Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services
- A. Kathryn Power
Rhode Island Mental Health, Retardation and Hospitals
- Stakeholder Respondent: Peter Thomas, Esquire
Powers, Pyles, Sutter and Verveille

- Moderator: Bob Williams
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

3:10-3:30 Break

3:30-5:15 Panel III: Young People: Employment, Wellness, and Careers

- Cecily Betz, Ph.D.
University of Southern California
- Charles McNelly, Ph.D.
United Cerebral Palsy of Prince Georges' and Montgomery Counties
- Michael Benz, Ph.D.
University of Oregon
- Stakeholder Respondents: Sharman Davis Barrett, PACER Center
and Sarah L. Triano, Student
- Moderator: Sue Swenson, Commissioner
Administration on Developmental Disabilities
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

5:15-5:30 Electronic Polling: Evaluation

Wednesday, October 7

Grand Ballroom

8:30-9:30 Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:30-10:00 Becky Ogle and Susan M. Daniels, Ph.D.

- Electronic Polling: Taking Stock

**10:00-10:45 Introduction of Keynote Speakers: Pat Wright, Disability Rights
Education and Defense Fund**

**Keynote Speakers: The Honorable James M. Jeffords (R-VT) and
The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA)**

10:45-12:15 Panel IV: Civil Rights Issues in Employment

- Peggy Mastroianni, Esquire
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- Joe Sellers, Esquire
Cohen, Milstein, Hausfeld, and Toll
- Jonathan Mook, Esquire
Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak, and Stewart
- Stakeholder Respondent: Sarah Wiggins Mitchell, Esquire
New Jersey Protection and Advocacy, Inc.
- Moderator: Paul Miller, Commissioner
Equal Employment Opportunity

12:15-1:15 Lunch on your own

1:15-1:45 Introduction of Keynote Speaker: **Marsha Zakowski**,
Chairperson, Subcommittee on Labor, President's Committee
on Employment of People with Disabilities

**Keynote Speaker: Linda Chavez-Thompson, Vice President
AFL-CIO and Congress of Industrial Organizations**

1:45-3:15 Panel V: Lessons From Welfare Reform * *

- Candy Shively
Department of Social and Rehabilitative Services
for the State of Kansas
- Rebecca Brown
National Governors Association
- Catherine K. Ruckelshaus, Esquire
National Employment Law Project
- Stakeholder Respondent: Malika Saada Saar
Center for Community Change, Washington, DC
- Moderator: Andy Imperato, Esquire
National Council on Disability

3:15-3:35 Break

3:35-4:00 Introduction of Keynote Speaker: **TBD**

Keynote Speaker: Beth Buehlmann
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

4:00-5:15 Panel VI: Young People in Poverty; in the
Criminal Justice System

- Patience White, M.D.
Children's National Medical Center
- Ann Kinkor
L.A. County Office of Education
- Stakeholder Respondent: Ela Yazzie-King
Member, National Council on Disability
- Moderator: Curtis Richards, Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services,
U.S. Department of Education

5:15-5:30 Evaluation and Closing

- Becky Ogle and Members of the Presidential Task Force on Employment
of Adults with Disabilities