

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

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001. list	re: State of the Union SSNs and DOBs (3 pages)	ca. 2000	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
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Melanne Verveer
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FOLDER TITLE:

State of the Union

2013-0534-S

rc1772

RESTRICTION CODES

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

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

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential 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]

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

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

January 28, 2000

*file State of the
Union 2000*

To:

John Podesta	Thurgood Marshall, Jr.
Mary Beth Cahill	Minyon Moore
Maria Echaveste	Bruce Reed
George T. Frampton	Steve Ricchetti
Mickey Ibarra	Doug Sosnik
Joel Johnson	Gene Sperling
Jacob J. Lew	Charles Brain
Sylvia Mathews	Charles Burson
Ann F. Lewis	Ben Johnson
Joe Lockhart	Karen Tramontano
Melanne Verveer	Sandy Berger

From: Loretta Ucelli

Attached, please find the following State of the Union materials. Please contact me or Stephanie Cutter at 62640, if you have any comments or questions. Thank you.

- SOTU Pocket Card
- SOTU Agenda Document
- Themes of SOTU Document
- Issue Specific SOTU Fact Sheets/Talking Points for....
 - African Americans
 - Crime
 - Education
 - Foreign Policy
 - Health
 - Hispanic Americans
 - One America
 - Senior Citizens
 - Trade
 - Women and Families
 - Cities

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S STATE OF THE UNION AGENDA

January 28, 2000

On Thursday evening, January 27th, President Clinton delivered his annual State of the Union Address to the Congress and the American people. The President outlined an aggressive agenda based on three enduring American principles – creating opportunity, demanding responsibility and building community. The President's agenda builds on the prosperity created over the past seven years and makes progress on issues important to the American people. And the President's plan maintains fiscal discipline and puts the nation on a path to eliminate the national debt by 2013

OUR UNION IS THE STRONGEST IT HAS EVER BEEN

Fiscal Discipline and a Strong American Economy:

When President Clinton was elected seven years ago, America was burdened with a \$290 billion deficit, and our national debt had quadrupled over the previous 12 years. Interest rates were high and growth was low. Now, as we near the longest expansion in U.S. history, we see the results of the last seven years:

- ✓ Over 20 million new jobs
- ✓ Fastest economic growth in 30 years
- ✓ The lowest unemployment rate in 30 years
- ✓ The lowest poverty rate in 20 years
- ✓ The lowest African American and Hispanic unemployment rates in history
- ✓ The first back-to-back surpluses in 42 years
- ✓ Paid down the national debt by \$140 billion over the last 2 years

Now our challenge is to keep America on a path of fiscal discipline that has put us on the verge of the longest economic expansion in American history by:

- ✓ Paying off the national debt by 2013
- ✓ Extending the life of Social Security until at least 2050
- ✓ Keeping Medicare solvent until at least 2025

COMPLETING UNFINISHED BUSINESS ON IMPORTANT ISSUES

The President called on Congress to take action on priority issues facing the nation, including:

- ✓ Setting aside the surplus to pay down the debt
- ✓ Strengthening Social Security
- ✓ Modernizing Medicare, including a voluntary prescription drug benefit
- ✓ Enacting a Real Patients' Bill of Rights
- ✓ Passing Common Sense Gun Safety Legislation
- ✓ Passing Legislation to Fight Hate Crimes
- ✓ Raising the Minimum Wage

OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY IN EDUCATION

- Giving our kids the keys to the future through the largest expansion of Head Start in history, a \$3 billion Early Learning Fund, and universal after-school learning opportunities.
- Holding states and school districts accountable to turn around failing schools while rewarding success.
- Providing 100,000 highly trained, quality teachers to reduce class size.

- Investing \$25 billion to repair, renovate and renew our children's schools and \$120 million to create smaller, safer and better high schools.
- Making college more affordable for families with a \$30 billion College Opportunity Tax Cut, preparing kids for college through an expanded GEAR-UP, and helping students afford and be able to stay in school with College Completion Challenge Grants, Pell Grants and other initiatives.

REWARDING WORK AND STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

- Expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit to provide tax relief for 6.8 million families, building on the President's 1993 EITC expansion, which provided a tax cut for 15 million families.
- Increasing the minimum wage by \$1 to give a raise to 11.4 million Americans.
- Helping Americans balance work and family with increased child care assistance and a broader child care tax credit.
- Creating Retirement Savings Accounts (RSAs) to help working families save and invest.
- Simplifying taxes and rewarding marriage and work through reducing the marriage penalty.

EXPANDING ACCESS TO 21ST CENTURY HEALTH CARE

- Calling on Congress to pass the Patient's Bill of Rights.
- Providing health insurance coverage for 5 million uninsured Americans and access to millions more.
- Strengthening and modernizing Medicare, including adding a long overdue voluntary prescription drug benefit.
- Helping families cope with long term care costs through a \$3,000 tax credit and other initiatives.
- Increasing investment to combat HIV and AIDS.

RESPONSIBILITY AND CRIME

- Ensuring safer neighborhoods with 50,000 well-equipped community police.
- Keeping criminals and their guns off the streets with common-sense gun legislation and a historic \$280 million new gun crimes enforcement initiative.
- Funding testing and replication of Smart Gun technology to limit a gun's use to its adult owner or other authorized users.

OPENING NEW MARKETS & EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

- More than doubling the New Markets Tax Credit and expanding other incentives to spur \$22 billion in new investment in underserved rural and urban areas.
- Increasing opportunity for Native Americans with a \$1.2 billion increase for key initiatives.
- Ensuring that family farmers have an adequate safety net.
- Closing the Digital Divide so that all Americans can fully participate in America's economic, social, and political life.

GLOBAL CHANGE AND AMERICAN LEADERSHIP:

- Guaranteeing our continued prosperity by expanding trade, including winning approval for China's entry into the rules-based WTO and passing the African Growth and Opportunity Act and the Caribbean Basin Trade Initiative.
- Ensuring that workers benefit from trade that is free and fair, protects human rights, democratic values and the environment. In addition, providing resources to combat abusive child labor.
- Leading the global campaign against AIDS and other deadly diseases.
- Forging a partnership with Columbia to fight drugs and stop money laundering.
- Answering global threats with the best-equipped, best-trained, and best-prepared military force in the world and continue to curb the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.

RESPONSIBILITY, OPPORTUNITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- Protecting America's coastal, wildlife and land resources including Civil War battlefields, the Florida Everglades and the Mojave Desert.
- Accelerating the development of clean energy, bio-based fuels, and energy efficient technology to combat climate change and fight air pollution.
- Providing resources through the Livable Communities initiatives to expand choices for communities to help them grow while easing traffic congestion and air pollution, preserving green space and cleaning up industrial and toxic waste sites.

OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- Making a nearly \$3 billion increase in the 21st Century Research Fund. This will include a \$1 billion increase in biomedical research at the National Institutes of Health, a new \$495 million National Nanotechnology Initiative, a \$675 million increase in the National Science Foundation and nearly \$600 million more in information technology research.
- Protecting America's personal privacy through issuing historic final rules that will guarantee key privacy protections for medical records, efforts to seek further financial, genetic and online privacy protections.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND PHILANTHROPY

- Increasing funding to keep Americorps on track for 100,000 members each year by the year 2004.
- Providing tax incentives to encourage philanthropy building on the first-ever White House Conference on Philanthropy convened by the President and the First Lady.

BUILDING ONE AMERICAN COMMUNITY

- Significantly increasing civil rights enforcement to ensure equal opportunities for all Americans.
- Challenging Congress to pass the Employment Nondiscrimination Act (ENDA) to outlaw discrimination in hiring firing and promotions based on sexual orientation.
- Call on Congress to finally pass the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which would strengthen existing hate crimes laws.

GOVERNMENTAL AND POLITICAL REFORM

- Challenging the Senate to pass comprehensive bipartisan Campaign Finance Reform to reform our politics for the new century.
- Making progress on reinventing a government that is the now smallest it has been since the Kennedy Administration.

President Clinton's State Of The Union Address

January 27, 2000

- ▶ **The State Of The Union Is Strong.** In his State of the Union Address tonight, President Clinton will note that our nation is strong and that we have an historic chance to build a new American revolution of opportunity, responsibility and community.
- ▶ **A Bold, New Vision Eight Years Ago.** Eight years ago, America was suffering from rising crime, growing deficits and a weak economy. For the past eight years, we have been determined to change these trends with a bold, new vision based on enduring values: opportunity for all, responsibility from all, and a community of all Americans
- ▶ **Today We See The Results Of That Vision.** We enjoy the strongest economy in a generation. Record deficits are now record surpluses. Overall crime rates are down 25 percent. Welfare rolls have been cut in half.
- ▶ **A New Revolution.** Today we have a profound opportunity and obligation to build on those results, to take the long look ahead and set new goals to move our nation closer to the more perfect union our founders' envisioned.
- ▶ **Building On Our Progress, Step-By-Step.** Tonight, the President will outline new goals based on the same enduring values: opportunity, responsibility and community. The President will address:
 - Opportunity and Responsibility in Education
 - Rewarding Work and Strengthening Families
 - Responsibility and Crime
 - Expanding Economic Opportunity to Every Corner of America
 - Expanding Economic Opportunity and Protecting American Interests Around the World
 - Responsibility, Opportunity and the Environment
 - Opportunity and Responsibility of Science and Technology
 - Building One American Community

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S STATE OF THE UNION 2000

Working on Behalf of African Americans

January 27, 2000

The Clinton-Gore Record on Working for African-American Families

President Clinton and Vice President Gore have worked to build an America where prosperity is shared, and where Americans respect others' differences and embrace the common values that unite us. Today, the unemployment rate and poverty level for African Americans are both at the lowest levels ever recorded; at the same time, median income for African American families is up 21 percent since 1993. The Clinton-Gore Administration has tackled problems like preventing hate crimes and closing the divides in technology, health care and economic opportunity that separate America. As part of his drive to bring the country together, the President has launched an initiative on race, created the White House office of the President's Initiative for One America, and appointed the most diverse Administration in history.

EXPANDING OPPORTUNITY AND EQUALITY

Ensuring Equal Opportunity for All Americans by increasing enforcement of Civil Rights laws. The President's budget request of \$698 million for civil rights enforcement agencies represents a 13% increase over last year's funding levels. The President's package includes funding to:

- Give the Justice Department the tools to expand investigations and prosecutions of criminal civil rights cases (including hate crimes and police misconduct) and fair housing and lending practices;
- Help the EEOC reduce the backlog of private-sector cases;
- Encourage federal contractor compliance through increased outreach, education, and technical assistance;
- Allow HUD to take steps to reduce housing discrimination.

New Markets Initiative. The President's New Markets initiative is designed to bring America's booming economy to communities that have not yet benefited. The President's expanded initiative will spur close to \$20 billion in new capital investment in businesses in these economically distressed areas through a package of tax credits and loan guarantees.

Closing the Digital Divide. The President will shortly unveil a comprehensive program that relies on all levels of government working in partnership with the private sector and non-profit organizations, and will lead high-tech executives and others on a New Markets tour focused on closing the Digital Divide.

OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY IN EDUCATION

President Clinton called on Congress to ensure that all children have the education they need to compete in the future by:

- **Fixing failing schools** by demanding more from our schools while giving them the tools they need to do the job. The President proposes to nearly double the Accountability Fund, which will be used by states and localities to turn around low-performing schools by overhauling curriculum, improving staffing, or even closing the school and reopening it as a charter school.
- **Placing quality teachers in all schools** by awarding grants to high-poverty school districts that will allow them to attract and retain high-quality teachers through better pay and higher standards.

- **Giving every child access to quality preschool** by investing an additional \$1 billion in Head Start, the largest increase in the program's history. This increase will provide Head Start and Early Head Start to approximately 950,000 children, bringing within reach the President's goal of serving one million children in 2002.
- **Renovating crumbling schools** with a new urgent/emergency renovation proposal that would support nearly \$7 billion of renovation projects in high-need school districts with little or no capacity to fund urgent repairs. The President will also renew his call for Congress to pass his School Modernization Bond proposal that would provide \$24.8 billion in tax credit bonds over two years to modernize up to 6,000 schools.
- **Providing Community Learning Centers** to ensure that children in low-performing schools have the opportunity to learn in a safe environment after school and during the summer.
- **Providing College Completion Challenge Grants** to keep students in school by providing comprehensive support such as pre-freshman summer programs, support services, and increased grant aid to students.
- **Further expanding college opportunity through the College Opportunity Tax Cut**, which gives families the option of taking a tax deduction or a 28 percent tax credit on tuition and fees to pay for college and other higher education.

President Clinton will again challenge Congress to continue the effort to **reduce class size in the lower grades by hiring 100,000 high-quality teachers.**

RESPONSIBILITY AND COMMUNITY IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

To ensure a high quality of life in our communities, President Clinton is proposing record funding for public transit and other programs to ease traffic congestion and reduce air pollution; matching grants to help neighboring communities develop smart growth strategies; and funding to provide communities with new information tools, and improve public safety by sharing crime data. The Administration is also proposing tax credits for Better America Bonds to preserve green space, protect water quality and clean up abandoned industrial and toxic waste sites.

To keep crime rates falling, the President proposed the following measures:

- **21st Century Policing Initiative**, which would enable communities to hire and redeploy up to 50,000 more police for our streets by FY 2005, give law enforcement access to the latest crime-fighting and crime-solving technologies, fund new state and local prosecutors, and engage all sectors of the community in crime prevention.
- **National Gun Enforcement Initiative**, the largest in history, that includes funding for 500 new ATF agents and inspectors, over 1,000 new federal, state and local gun prosecutors, comprehensive crime gun tracing, a National Integrated Ballistics Information Network, and local anti-gun-violence media campaigns.
- **Smart Gun Technology**, which can limit a gun's use to its adult owner or other authorized user.

The President renewed his call to Congress to complete work on **common-sense gun legislation** that includes closing the gun show loophole by requiring background checks and records at gun shows; requiring child safety locks for handguns sold; banning the importation of large-capacity ammunition magazines; and banning violent

juveniles from owning guns for life. The President urged Congress to pass the **Hate Crimes Prevention Act**, and has included \$20 million in his budget for law enforcement training on preventing and responding to hate crimes and promoting police integrity.

REWARDING WORK AND STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

President Clinton announced new tools to help busy Americans balance the demands of work and family, including:

Expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit, the President's \$21 billion plan to provide an additional \$1,200 in tax relief for 6.4 million working families.

Fathers Work/Families Win Grants. The President's budget will contain \$255 million in new competitive grants to promote responsible fatherhood and support working families.

Health Insurance Coverage Initiative, a 10-year, \$110 billion initiative that would expand health insurance coverage to at least 5 million uninsured Americans and expand access to millions more.

An equal pay initiative that will provide \$27 million to increase compliance with equal pay laws and to train women in nontraditional jobs – benefiting working women and their families.

The President again called on Congress to complete work on a bill to **raise the minimum wage** by \$1.

OPPORTUNITY, RESPONSIBILITY AND THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY

President Clinton emphasized the importance of expanding trade to raise our living standards and make developing countries our partners in prosperity. As part of this goal, he renewed his call to Congress to complete work on the **African Growth and Opportunity Act** and the **Caribbean Basin Trade Initiative**.

The President also reaffirmed our national commitment to treat and prevent diseases in developing countries by making vaccines against killer diseases more available and stepping up multilateral efforts to expand immunization, prevent and treat common diseases and build sound delivery systems. He announced a new initiative that provides \$100 million for preventing and treating HIV and AIDS in African and Asian countries, and increases in research funding to develop vaccines for AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S STATE OF THE UNION 2000

Making Our Communities Safer

January 27, 2000

The Clinton-Gore Record on Fighting Crime

President Clinton and Vice President Gore fought for and won passage of the Brady Law, which has stopped nearly half a million felons, fugitives, and domestic abusers from getting guns. They also fought for and enacted tough initiatives that funded 100,000 community police officers and banned assault weapons. Overall crime rates have dropped for seven years in a row, marking the longest consecutive decline ever recorded.

Protecting Our Communities

To keep crime rates falling, the President proposed the following measures:

- **21st Century Policing Initiative**, which would enable communities to hire up to 50,000 more police for our streets by FY 2005, give law enforcement access to the latest crime-fighting and crime-solving technologies, fund new state and local prosecutors, and engage all sectors of the community in crime prevention.
- **National Gun Enforcement Initiative**, the largest in history, that includes funding for 500 new ATF agents and inspectors, over 1,000 new federal, state and local gun prosecutors, comprehensive crime gun tracing, a National Integrated Ballistics Information Network, and local anti-gun-violence media campaigns.
- **Smart Gun Technology**, which can limit a gun's use to its adult owner or other authorized user and will help prevent accidental gun deaths and injuries of children.

The President renewed his call to Congress to complete work on **common-sense gun legislation** that closes the gun show loophole by requiring background checks and records at gun shows; requires child safety locks for handguns sold; bans the importation of large-capacity ammunition magazines; and bars violent juveniles from owning guns for life.

Preventing Hate Crimes

The President again challenged Congress to strengthen federal hate crime laws by passing the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, and has included \$20 million in his FY 2001 budget for law enforcement training on preventing and responding to hate crimes and promoting police integrity.

Investing in Youth

To keep young people on track, the President proposed:

- Expanding **21st Century Community Learning Centers**, which provide a safe place to learn for children who are unsupervised during after-school and summer hours, improve the academic achievement of children who need extra learning time, and lower juvenile crime. The President's budget will contain \$1 billion for this initiative – more than double last year's funding.
- Over \$8.8 billion to **prevent youth violence** and support the healthy development of young people. These

programs include developing smaller high schools; promoting safe after-school opportunities; cracking down on illegal gun traffickers who supply guns to youth; and helping communities develop and implement community-wide responses to school and youth violence through the **Safe Schools/Healthy Students** initiative. The President called for a \$100 million expansion of his Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative, investing a total of nearly \$250 million in this signature program.

- \$75 million for **Youthbuild**, a program that provides at-risk youth with a fresh start by providing them with GED preparation classes, job training, and placement assistance.

Increasing Involvement of Interfaith Partnerships and Community Organizations

Already many faith- and community-based organizations partner with government to help our nation's families, but the President and Vice President believe we should do more. Their budget proposes to increase the involvement of interfaith and community-based organizations in after school, housing, community development, criminal justice, welfare reform, teen pregnancy prevention, and juvenile justice programs, consistent with the constitutional line between church and state.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S STATE OF THE UNION 2000

Opportunity and Responsibility in Education

January 27, 2000

The Clinton-Gore Record on Education

President Clinton and Vice President Gore have worked to improve standards and increase investment in training so that every student can get a quality education. The Clinton-Gore Administration fought for and won an initiative to hire 100,000 quality teachers to reduce class size; slots for 200,000 new Head Start students; after school and summer school programs; GEAR-UP college preparation opportunities; and Internet connections for America's classroom. They also have created new options to pay for college, such as HOPE Scholarships and AmeriCorps, opening the doors of college to all Americans. At the same time, this Administration has demanded more from schools, calling for higher standards and greater accountability.

The Largest Head Start Expansion in History

The President's budget increases funding for Head Start by \$1 billion – the largest funding increase ever proposed for the program – to provide Head Start and Early Head Start to approximately 950,000 children. This funding will bring within reach the President's goal of serving one million children in 2002 and builds the foundation for the long-term goal of universal pre-school.

Promoting Early Learning

The President's budget includes \$3 billion over five years for the Early Learning Fund to help improve child care quality and early childhood education for children under five years old.

Turning Around Failing Schools

President Clinton is proposing to double funding for the Accountability Fund, which will help states and localities upgrade curriculum and staffing in underperforming schools, or close down failing schools and reopen them as charter schools.

Rewarding High Performance and Closing the Achievement Gap

The President also proposes a \$50 million initiative to provide high-performance bonuses to states that make exemplary progress in improving student performance and closing the achievement gap between high and low performing groups of students.

Class Size Reduction Initiative

The President's class size reduction initiative continues his commitment to reduce class size in the early grades by staying on a path to hiring 100,000 high quality teachers. The Administration's FY2001 budget will fund for this initiative to \$1.75 billion, an increase of \$450 million over current levels – enough to fund about 49,000 teachers, nearly half way to our long-term goal.

Teacher Quality Rewards

This \$50 million initiative will reward school districts that have made exceptional progress in reducing the number of uncertified teachers and teachers teaching outside their subject area. The President has proposed requiring states to ensure that 95 percent of teachers are certified and 95 percent of secondary teachers are teaching within field by 2004.

Modernizing and Rebuilding Crumbling Schools

President Clinton is renewing his commitment to his School Modernization Bond proposal, which provides \$24.8 billion in tax credit bonds over two years to modernize up to 6,000 schools. President Clinton also unveiled a new urgent/emergency renovation loan and grant proposal that could support nearly \$7 billion of renovation projects in high-poverty, high-need school districts with little or no capacity to fund urgent repairs.

Small, Safe and Successful High Schools

Research shows that smaller schools can boost academic achievement and extracurricular involvement and lead to fewer discipline problems. The President's budget will include \$120 million for a Small Schools Initiative to reinvent high schools on a smaller scale and make them more responsive to student needs.

Community Learning Centers

The President's budget will invest \$1 billion to ensure that unsupervised children can learn in a safe environment after school and during the summer -- more than double last year's investment.

Increasing the Number of Charter Schools

The President's budget will increase funding for charter schools by \$30 million, to a total of \$175 million -- increasing competition, providing options and choices for parents, and increasing accountability in public education.

College Opportunity Tax Cut

The President is calling on Congress to pass his College Opportunity Tax Cut to expand on previous educational tax cuts and make college, graduate school, and job training more affordable for millions of families. The President's proposal would give families the option of taking a tax deduction or a 28 percent tax credit on tuition and fees to pay for college and other higher education. When fully phased in, this proposal would provide up to \$2,800 in tax relief annually to help American families pay for college, graduate work, or courses taken to improve job skills.

Making Higher Education Affordable to All Americans

The President is proposing nearly \$1 billion in increases to Pell Grants, SEOG, Work Study, and other programs that open the doors of college to all Americans. These increases include:

- raising the maximum Pell Grant to \$3,500, the highest level ever, and increasing funding for the Pell Grant program by over \$716 million;
- providing a \$60 million increase to the Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant program;
- increasing funding for the Work Study Program by \$77 million;
- creating College Completion Challenge Grants, a \$35 million initiative to help reduce the college drop-out rate by providing support services including an intensive first-year summer program, larger grants, and a strong student services program; and
- giving students the opportunity to earn two degrees in five years: one from a minority-serving institution and one from a partner institution in a field in which minorities are underrepresented with the new \$40 million Dual Degree Programs for Minority-Serving Institutions.

Keeping Young People on the Right Track

The President's budget includes over \$400 million in increases to keep young people on track, including;

- \$200 million for the GEAR UP initiative;
- \$725 million for TRIO programs;
- a 50 percent increase for Youth Opportunity Grants;
- \$42.5 million for the Youthbuild program provides disadvantaged young adults with education and employment skills through rehabilitating and building housing for low-income and homeless people; and
- a \$33 million increase for Job Corps.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S STATE OF THE UNION 2000

Working to Increase Access and Improve the Nation's Health

January 27, 2000

The Clinton-Gore Record on Health Care

President Clinton and Vice President Gore strengthened Medicare by adding preventive benefits, cracking down on fraud and waste, and extending the life of the Trust Fund from 1999 to 2015. The President enacted reforms to prevent people from losing their health insurance when changing jobs or being denied coverage due to pre-existing conditions, and to allow people with disabilities to work without losing their health coverage. Under the Clinton-Gore Administration, childhood immunization rates have increased to an all-time high and health coverage has been extended to millions of uninsured children.

Health Insurance Coverage Initiative

The President and Vice President have proposed a 10-year, \$110 billion initiative that would build on current public and private programs to expand health insurance coverage to at least 5 million uninsured Americans and expand access to millions more. If enacted, this would be the largest investment in coverage since Medicare was created in 1965.

Medicare Buy-In

The Medicare buy-in for individuals between 55- and 65-years old would provide an option for the fastest growing group of uninsured Americans. The President's proposal would allow these individuals to buy into the Medicare system, and his new proposal for tax credits will make the option affordable.

Improving the Mental Health of All Americans

According to the December 1999 Surgeon General's Report on Mental Health, one in five Americans is living with a mental health disorder. The President will highlight his new investment of \$100 million for mental health services, an increase of 16 percent over last year's funding level and a 90 percent increase since 1993.

Patients' Bill of Rights

The President continues to challenge Congress to pass strong patients' rights legislation that includes:

- guaranteed access to needed health care specialists;
- access to emergency room services when and where the need arises;
- protections so that patients will not have an abrupt transition in care if their providers are dropped;
- access to a fair, unbiased and timely appeals process to address health plan grievances; and
- an enforcement mechanism to ensure recourse for patients who have been harmed as a result of a health plan's actions.

Comprehensive Plan to Reform and Modernize Medicare

The President's budget plan to reform and modernize Medicare will:

- make the program more efficient and competitive;
- extend the solvency of the Health Insurance trust fund to at least 2025;
- modernize benefits, including adding a long-overdue, voluntary prescription drug benefit; and
- create a reserve fund to be used for debt relief or to create bipartisan consensus to further strengthen the proposed drug benefit for Medicare beneficiaries.

Adding a Prescription Drug Benefit

The proposed prescription drug benefit would be voluntary, available, and affordable to all beneficiaries, including low-income beneficiaries who would pay low to no cost for coverage. It would be administered by private organizations like pharmaceutical benefit managers, and would give financial incentives to employers who currently offer retiree prescription drug benefits to maintain coverage.

Addressing the Challenges of Long-Term Care

The President's budget proposes a 10-year, \$28 billion long-term care initiative that includes:

- a \$3,000 tax credit for those who need long-term care or their caregivers;
- a major new investment in the Older Americans Act to offer support services for family caregivers;
- a new Medicaid option to states to raise income eligibility levels for home and community-based services to the same levels as nursing home residents;
- a HUD program to encourage assisted living facilities for low-income elderly; and
- a new option for Federal employees to purchase quality private long-term care insurance.

The budget also includes an additional \$16.8 million to strengthen nursing home enforcement and oversight of nursing home quality and safety standards.

Protecting the Privacy of Medical Records

This year, the Clinton-Gore Administration will issue historic, final rules that will legally guarantee key privacy protections: notice of data uses; consent before records are used for non-medical purposes; patient access to records; proper security; and effective enforcement. President Clinton also will support legislation to expand the scope and enforcement of those rules

Preventing Misuse of Genetic Information

As the Human Genome Project nears completion, genetic testing and information will be increasingly common to help predict, prevent, and treat diseases. However, there are real concerns that as this information becomes increasingly common, it could be used as a basis for discrimination. The President will stress the need for strong action on this issue.

Major New Investment to Fight HIV/AIDS

The President proposed new funding in the fight against HIV/AIDS, including:

- \$150 million in assistance to combat the international AIDS pandemic;
- an additional \$125 million investment in the Ryan White Program to provide primary medical care, pharmaceuticals critical to treatment, and other critical support services for people living with HIV and AIDS;
- an additional \$50 million for HIV prevention, the largest increase ever in funding for these activities, to encourage individuals at risk to avoid behaviors that can result in the transmission of the disease.

Supporting Biomedical Research

The President's FY 2001 budget includes almost \$19 billion, an increase of \$1 billion over last year's funding level, for biomedical research at the National Institutes of Health. In addition, the President will eliminate the delays in releasing \$4 billion in research funds as required in last year's appropriations bill. If Congress passes the President's proposal, funding for NIH will increase by over 80 percent – nearly twice what the NIH budget was when President Clinton took office.

Preventing Medical Errors

The Institute of Medicine reported that as many as 98,000 Americans die from preventable medical errors each year. In response, the President instructed that all health plans serving federal employees institute patient safety

initiatives, and directed all federal agencies to review steps they can take to reduce medical errors. In the coming weeks, the President will announce further actions to help eliminate preventable errors.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S STATE OF THE UNION 2000

Working on Behalf of Hispanic Americans

January 27, 2000

The Clinton-Gore Record for Hispanic Americans

President Clinton and Vice President Gore have worked to build an America where prosperity is shared, and where Americans respect others' differences and embrace the common values that unite us. Today, the unemployment rate for Hispanic Americans is at the lowest level on record, while the poverty rate is the lowest since 1980. The Clinton-Gore Administration has tackled problems like preventing hate crimes and closing the divides in technology, health care and economic opportunity that separate America. As part of his work to bring the country together, President Clinton has launched an initiative on race, created the White House office for the President's Initiative for One America, and appointed the most diverse Administration in history.

EXPANDING OPPORTUNITY AND EQUALITY

Ensuring Equal Opportunity for All Americans

The President is proposing to increase civil rights enforcement to help ensure equal opportunity for all Americans. The President is requesting \$698 million for civil rights enforcement agencies, a 13% increase, in order to:

- Give the Justice Department the tools to expand investigations and prosecutions of criminal civil rights cases (including hate crimes and police misconduct) and fair housing and lending practices;
- Help the EEOC reduce the backlog of private-sector cases;
- Encourage federal contractor compliance through increased outreach, education, and technical assistance;
- Allow HUD to take steps to reduce housing discrimination.

New Markets Initiative

The President's New Markets initiative is designed to bring America's booming economy to communities that have not yet benefited. The President's expanded initiative will spur close to \$20 billion in new capital investment in businesses in these economically distressed areas through a package of tax credits and loan guarantees.

Closing the Digital Divide

The President will shortly unveil a comprehensive program that relies on all levels of government working in partnership with the private sector and non-profit organizations, and will lead high-tech executives and others on a New Markets tour focused on closing the Digital Divide.

OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY IN EDUCATION

Turning Around Failing Schools

President Clinton is proposing to double funding for the Accountability Fund, which will help states and localities upgrade curriculum and staffing in underperforming schools, or close down failing schools and reopen them as charter schools.

Class Size Reduction Initiative

The President's class size reduction initiative continues his commitment to reduce class size in the early grades by staying on a path to hiring 100,000 high quality teachers. The Administration's FY2001 budget will fund for this initiative to \$1.75 billion, an increase of \$450 million over current levels— enough to fund about 49,000 teachers, nearly half way to our long-term goal.

Teacher Quality Rewards

This \$50 million initiative will reward school districts that have made exceptional progress in reducing the number of uncertified teachers and teachers teaching outside their subject area. The President has proposed requiring states to ensure that 95 percent of teachers are certified and 95 percent of secondary teachers are teaching within field by 2004.

The Largest Head Start Expansion in History

The President's budget increases funding for Head Start by \$1 billion – the largest funding increase ever proposed for the program – to provide Head Start and Early Head Start to approximately 950,000 children. This funding will bring within reach the President's goal of serving one million children in 2002 and builds the foundation for the long-term goal of universal pre-school.

Modernizing and Rebuilding Crumbling Schools

President Clinton is renewing his commitment to his School Modernization Bond proposal, which provides \$24.8 billion in tax credit bonds over two years to modernize up to 6,000 schools. President Clinton also unveiled a new urgent/emergency renovation loan and grant proposal that could support nearly \$7 billion of renovation projects in high-poverty, high-need school districts with little or no capacity to fund urgent repairs.

College Opportunity Tax Cut

The President is calling on Congress to pass his College Opportunity Tax Cut to expand on previous educational tax cuts and make college, graduate school, and job training more affordable for millions of families. The President's proposal would give families the option of taking a tax deduction or a 28 percent tax credit on tuition and fees to pay for college and other higher education. When fully phased in, this proposal would provide up to \$2,800 in tax relief annually to help American families pay for college, graduate work, or courses taken to improve job skills.

Providing College Completion Challenge Grants

President Clinton is creating College Completion Challenge Grants, a \$35 million initiative to help reduce the college drop-out rate by providing support services including an intensive first-year summer program, larger grants, and a strong student services program.

RESPONSIBILITY AND COMMUNITY IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

21st Century Policing Initiative

The President's 21st Century Policing Initiative will:

- allow communities to hire and redeploy up to 50,000 more police for our streets by FY 2005;
- give law enforcement access to the latest crime-fighting and crime-solving technologies;
- fund new state and local prosecutors to combat local crime problems; and
- engage all sectors of the community to prevent and fight crime.

Smart Gun Technology

To help prevent accidental gun death and injuries of children who obtain access to guns, the President is committed to funding the testing and use of smart gun technologies, which can limit a gun's use to its adult owner or other authorized user.

Preventing Hate Crimes

The President is urging Congress to pass the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, and has included \$20 million in his budget for law enforcement training on preventing and responding to hate crimes.

National Gun Enforcement Initiative

President Clinton proposed the largest gun enforcement initiative in history. The initiative includes funding for 500 new ATF agents and inspectors, over 1,000 new federal, state and local gun prosecutors, comprehensive crime gun tracing, a National Integrated Ballistics Information Network, and local anti-gun-violence media campaigns.

Calling for Common-Sense Gun Safety Legislation

The President renewed his call to Congress to complete work on common-sense gun legislation that includes closing the gun show loophole by requiring background checks and records at gun shows; requiring child safety locks for handguns sold; banning the importation of large-capacity ammunition magazines; and banning violent juveniles from owning guns for life.

REWARDING WORK AND STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

Expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit

President Clinton will call on Congress to pass his \$21 billion plan to expand the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), providing tax relief for 6.4 million hard-pressed working families.

Fathers Work/Families Win Grants

The Clinton-Gore Administration's budget will encourage responsible fatherhood through \$125 million in "Fathers Work" grants to put approximately 40,000 non-custodial parents (mainly fathers) who owe child support to work and help them connect with their children. The budget will also contain \$130 million in "Families Win" grants to help about 40,000 low-income parents stay in their jobs, move up the career ladder, and remain off cash assistance

Health Insurance Coverage Initiative

The President and Vice President have proposed a 10-year, \$110 billion initiative that would build on current public and private programs to improve the affordability of and access to health insurance for millions of Americans. If enacted, this would be the largest investment in coverage since Medicare was created in 1965.

Ensuring Fair Pay

The President will include a \$27 million Equal Pay Initiative in his budget, an increase of \$12 million over FY2000. The Initiative would provide funding for:

- training and technical assistance for employers on how to comply with equal pay requirements;
- training for women in non-traditional jobs, including high-tech jobs and other skill shortage occupations;
- a public service announcement campaign on wage issues; and
- assistance for employers on assessing and improving their pay policies.

Giving Working Americans a Raise

The President again called on Congress to complete work on a bill to raise the minimum wage by \$1.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S STATE OF THE UNION 2000

Building One American Community

January 27, 2000

The Clinton-Gore Record on Working for One America

President Clinton launched a historic initiative to create One America: a place where we respect others' differences while embracing the common values that unite us. To reach this goal, he created a new office in the White House to ensure that we have a coordinated strategy to close the opportunity gaps that exist for minorities and the underserved in this country, and build the One America we want for all of our nation's children.

OPPORTUNITY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

Ensuring Equal Opportunity for All Americans by increasing enforcement of Civil Rights laws. The President's budget request of \$698 million for civil rights enforcement agencies represents a 13% increase over last year's funding levels. The President's package includes funding to:

- Give the Justice Department the tools to expand investigations and prosecutions of criminal civil rights cases (including hate crimes and police misconduct) and fair housing and lending practices;
- Help the EEOC reduce the backlog of private-sector cases;
- Encourage federal contractor compliance through increased outreach, education, and technical assistance;
- Allow HUD to take steps to reduce housing discrimination.

The Employment Non-Discrimination Act

President Clinton again called on Congress to outlaw discrimination in hiring, firing, and promotions based on sexual orientation. President Clinton and Vice President Gore are the first President and Vice President ever to back civil rights legislation for gays and lesbians.

Protecting Personal Privacy

President Clinton expressed the need for privacy protections in areas such as medical records, where the Administration will issue historic, final rules this year; personal financial information, including consumer consent before financial firms can share their information within a corporate family; genetic information; and the on-line world.

Ensuring Equal Pay

President Clinton will announce a \$27 million Equal Pay Initiative to help employers comply with equal pay and discrimination laws, and train women in higher paying jobs, including high-tech jobs and other skill shortage occupations. The President will again call on Congress to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, which would strengthen wage discrimination laws, provide for new collection of data on wage issues, and provide for additional research, training, and public education efforts.

The Hate Crimes Prevention Act

The President urged Congress to pass, as one of its first orders of business, the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which would strengthen the existing federal hate crimes law by expanding the situations in which the Department of Justice can prosecute defendants for violent crimes based on race, color, religion, or national origin. Further, it would expand existing law to cover cases of hate crimes based on sexual orientation, gender, or disability. The President's budget includes \$20 million for training for federal, state, and local law enforcement to prevent and respond to hate crimes, and to promote police integrity.

Native American Initiative

The President's budget includes an increase of \$1.2 billion for new and existing programs to assist Native Americans and Indian reservations, including:

- \$300 million for Bureau of Indian Affairs school construction and repair;
- \$349 million through the Department of Transportation for roads in Indian Country;
- \$650 million to provide rental and homeownership assistance through HUD;
- \$2.6 billion for the Indian Health Service;
- creating a Native American Small Business Development Centers at the SBA;
- creating a Native American Economic Development Access Center at HUD;
- creating a program to encourage Native Americans to enter information technology fields;
- funding 500 new Native American school administrators;
- increased funding for tribal colleges;
- \$49 million to fund infrastructure, planning, and public works projects; and
- increased funding of \$103 million for the third year of the Department of Justice/Bureau of Indian Affairs Law Enforcement initiative.

English Literacy/Civics Initiative

President Clinton is proposing a \$50 million increase for the English Language/Civics Initiative, an innovative program to help states and communities provide limited English proficient individuals with expanded access to high-quality English-language instruction linked to civics and life skills instruction, including understanding and navigating the U.S. government system, the public education system, the workplace, and other key institutions of American life. This important initiative is a powerful tool in building a stronger American community.

Fairness to Immigrant Families

The Administration is committed to improving the way the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) conducts its business, particularly the naturalization process that bestows United States citizenship.

- The President's budget provides additional funds to INS to improve the naturalization process and reduce the application backlogs and to expand the process to ensure that all immigration benefits and services are provided in a fair, efficient, and timely manner.
- The Administration will continue to urge Congress to pass legislation that provides fairness for immigrant families by restructuring the INS; approving the Administration's proposal to support the process of democratization and stabilization now underway in Central American and Haiti by ensuring equitable treatment for migrants from these countries; and changing the registry date to permit long-term migrants to adjust their status.

Increasing Involvement of Interfaith Partnerships and Community Organizations.

Already many faith and community-based organizations partner with government to help our nation's families, but the President and Vice President believe we should do more. Their budget proposes to increase the involvement of interfaith and community-based organizations in after school, housing, community development, criminal justice, welfare reform, teen pregnancy prevention, and juvenile justice programs, consistent with the constitutional line between church and state.

Encouraging Charitable Giving

Last October, the President and First Lady convened the first-ever White House Conference on Philanthropy. They highlighted the unique American tradition of charitable giving, and emphasized that at a moment of great prosperity, we must preserve and expand this tradition. To do that, the President proposed:

- allowing non-itemizers to take a tax deduction for charitable giving;
- new rules to make it easier for charitable foundations to make gifts in times of need; and
- making it easier for individuals to donate appreciated assets like securities and real property.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S STATE OF THE UNION 2000

Working on Behalf of America's Seniors

January 27, 2000

The Clinton-Gore Record on Working for Seniors

President Clinton and Vice President Gore are working to guarantee the financial security that our seniors have earned by protecting pensions and guaranteeing the long-term solvency of Social Security. The Clinton-Gore Administration has also preserved and protected Medicare by eliminating fraud and waste while modernizing benefits to include preventive tests and new Medicare managed care choices. President Clinton has also significantly increased the availability of health care to veterans, and has called on Congress to reauthorize the Older Americans Act, which provides Meals on Wheels, transportation, senior community employment, and ombudsman services. The Older Americans Act's authorization expired in 1995.

Protecting and Strengthening Social Security

The President will call on Congress to protect and strengthen Social Security by passing legislation that reserves the entire Social Security surplus for Social Security and debt reduction, and devotes the interest savings from paying down the national debt to extending the life of Social Security from 2034 to 2050. If the interest savings were prudently invested in equities, solvency would be extended to 2054.

Strengthening and Modernizing Medicare

The President's budget plan to reform and modernize Medicare will:

- make the program more efficient and competitive;
- extend the solvency of the Health Insurance trust fund to at least 2025;
- modernize benefits, including adding a long-overdue, voluntary prescription drug benefit; and
- create a reserve fund to be used for debt relief or to create bipartisan consensus to further strengthen the proposed drug benefit for Medicare beneficiaries.

Improving Health Insurance Access and Affordability

The President and Vice President have proposed a 10-year, \$110 billion initiative that would build on current public and private programs to expand coverage to at least 5 million uninsured Americans and expand access to millions more. If enacted, this would be the largest investment in coverage since Medicare was created in 1965.

Addressing the Challenges of Long-Term Care

The President's budget proposes a 10-year, \$28 billion long-term care initiative that includes:

- a \$3,000 tax credit to compensate people with long-term care needs or their caregivers;
- a major new investment in the Older Americans Act to offer support services for family caregivers;
- a new Medicaid option to states to raise income eligibility levels for home and community-based services to the same levels as nursing home residents;
- a HUD program to encourage assisted living facilities for low-income elderly; and
- a new option for Federal employees to purchase quality private long-term care insurance.

The budget also includes an additional \$16.8 million to strengthen nursing home enforcement and oversight of nursing home quality and safety standards.

Patients' Bill of Rights

The President continues to challenge Congress to pass strong patients' rights legislation that includes:

- guaranteed access to needed health care specialists;
- access to emergency room services when and where the need arises;
- protections so that patients will not have an abrupt transition in care if their providers are dropped;
- access to a fair, unbiased and timely appeals process to address health plan grievances; and
- an enforcement mechanism to ensure recourse for patients who have been harmed as a result of a health plan's actions.

Supporting Biomedical Research

The President's FY 2001 budget includes almost \$19 billion (\$1 billion over last year's funding level) for biomedical research at NIH. This research will provide the basis for breakthroughs in preventing, curing and treating diseases such as diabetes, osteoporosis, heart disease, cancer, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's.

Improving Mental Health

According to the December 1999 Surgeon General's Report on Mental Health, one in five Americans is living with a mental health disorder. This report states that the fundamental components of effective service delivery are broadly agreed upon, but in short supply. The President will highlight his new investment of \$100 million for mental health services, an increase of 16 percent over last year's funding level and a 90 percent increase since 1993.

Protecting the Privacy of Medical Records

This year, the Clinton-Gore Administration will issue historic rules that will legally guarantee key privacy protections for medical records. The President will also seek privacy protections for financial records, and for information derived from genetic testing.

Livable Communities

The Clinton-Gore Administration's FY 2001 budget will propose record funding for:

- public transit and other programs to ease traffic congestion while reducing air pollution;
- matching grants to help communities develop collaborative "smart growth" strategies;
- providing communities with new information tools; and
- improving public safety by sharing crime data.

Working to Keep Crime Rates Down

The President's 21st Century Policing Initiative will:

- allow communities to hire and redeploy up to 50,000 more police for our streets by FY 2005;
- target new police officers to crime "hot spots";
- give law enforcement access to the latest crime-fighting and crime-solving technologies;
- fund new state and local prosecutors to combat local crime problems; and
- engage all sectors of the community to prevent and fight crime.

Encouraging Community Service

The President's budget includes over \$850 million to encourage more community service, which can empower the young and old to get involved in civic life. The budget also includes additional resources to encourage service by senior citizens.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S STATE OF THE UNION 2000

Building a Strong Economy Through Free, Fair Trade

January 27, 2000

The Clinton-Gore Record on Trade

President Clinton and Vice President Gore have concluded more than 270 trade agreements since 1993, helping to remove trade barriers and open markets around the world to American product. The Administration concluded an historic trade agreement that will open Chinese markets to American goods and hold the Chinese government to international standards. They have worked to build a new consensus on trade by urging world trade institutions to move toward labor and environmental standards, and have required that the United States carefully consider the environmental impacts of trade agreements.

Benefits of Expanding International Trade

- 96 percent of the world's consumers live outside the United States, many in countries that are only now achieving the means to become significant purchasers of American products.
- America's successful engagement in the world economy has helped to propel the economy's remarkable record of sustained, non-inflationary growth.
- Trade will continue to contribute to American prosperity in the 21st Century by helping us produce more of what we do best; supporting higher paying jobs in our export sectors; providing producers with a wider choice of inputs, making them more competitive and able to hire more workers and raise their wages; providing consumers with more choice and value in purchasing decisions; and stimulating productivity, investment and economic growth through greater competition, exposure to new ideas, and access to capital.

Historic U.S.-China Agreement

After 13 years of negotiations, the Administration concluded an agreement with China, with China agreeing to grant the U.S. significant new access to its rapidly growing market of over one billion people, while we have agreed simply to maintain the market access policies we already apply to China by granting it permanent Normal Trade Relations. The President has made passage of legislation granting China permanent NTR a high priority in the coming year. The U.S.-China agreement slashes Chinese tariffs on American goods; opens China's markets to American services, and contains safeguards against unfair trading practices. China's membership in the WTO will spur economic reforms in China, open China to information and ideas from around the world, and strengthen the rule of law in China.

African Growth and Opportunity Act

In the State of the Union, President Clinton called on Congress to pass the African Growth and Opportunity Act, groundbreaking legislation which recognizes African countries' efforts to institute sound economic policies and reform. The philosophy of the legislation is simple: America stands ready to help those African countries that undertake difficult reforms to build a better future. Effective aid, combined with strong reform and increased trade and investment, will help bring Africa into the global economy and create new markets for U.S. exports.

Caribbean Basin Trade Initiative

The President will work with Congress toward swift passage of legislation expanding our Caribbean Basin Initiative trading relationship with Caribbean and Central American countries. The President's CBI enhancement legislation will create opportunities for American companies and workers as it provides enhanced market access and economic stimulus for countries devastated by Hurricane Mitch.

Trade Agreements Enforcement Initiative

The President is committed to ensuring that trade is free and fair and that American companies and workers benefit fully from our bilateral and multilateral trade agreements. He is proposing in FY 2001 that the Department of

Commerce and related agencies have the resources necessary to monitor and enforce international trade agreements.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S STATE OF THE UNION 2000

Working for America's Cities

January 27, 2000

The Clinton-Gore Record on America's Cities

President Clinton and Vice President Gore have spent seven years working to promote growth and opportunity in all American communities. They have established 135 Enterprise Zones and Enterprise Communities to lure economic opportunity. Their economic success and welfare-to-work incentives have brought jobs back to cities. They have funded 100,000 community police officers for communities and fought for laws to keep assault weapons off our streets and guns out of the hands of fugitives felons and domestic abusers. And the Clinton-Gore Administration has cleaned up over 500 toxic waste dumps, leveraged nearly \$1 billion in private sector investment for brownfields redevelopment. And today, 18 million more people live in communities whose drinking water now meets all federal standards and 36 million American live in communities whose air no longer violates air quality standards than in 1992.

OPENING NEW MARKETS & EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

New Markets Initiative

The President's New Markets initiative is designed to bring America's booming economy to communities that have not yet benefited. The President's expanded initiative will spur close to \$20 billion in new capital investment in America's underserved areas through a package of tax credits and loan guarantees.

Expanded Empowerment Zone Tax Incentives

These tax credits will improve economic growth in the 31 existing urban and rural Empowerment Zones, and support a third round of 10 new empowerment zones to be designated in 2001.

Livable Communities

President Clinton has proposed an extension of his Livable Communities initiative, which expands the choices available to communities to ensure a high quality of life and strong, sustainable economic growth. As part of this initiative, the President has proposed:

- Record funding for public transit and other programs to ease traffic congestion while reducing air pollution;
 - Matching grants to help neighboring communities develop "smart growth" strategies; and
 - Funding to provide communities with new information tools, and improve public safety by sharing crime data.
- The President also proposed tax credits for **Better America Bonds**, a new financing tool generating billions in bond authority for investments by state, local and tribal governments to preserve green space, protect water quality, and clean up abandoned toxic waste and industrial sites.

New Housing Vouchers for Hard-Pressed Working Families

President Clinton has proposed 120,000 new housing vouchers to help America's hard-pressed working families. These new vouchers build on the 110,000 new housing vouchers secured through the President's leadership over the past two years.

Protecting our Communities

To keep crime rates falling, the President proposed the following measures:

- **21st Century Policing Initiative**, which would enable communities to hire up to 50,000 more police for our streets by FY 2005, give law enforcement access to the latest crime-fighting and crime-solving

technologies, fund new state and local prosecutors, and engage communities in crime prevention.

- **National Gun Enforcement Initiative**, the largest in history, that includes funding for 500 new ATF agents and inspectors, over 1,000 new federal, state and local gun prosecutors, comprehensive crime gun tracing, a National Integrated Ballistics Information Network, and local anti-gun-violence media campaigns.
- **Smart Gun Technology**, which can limit a gun's use to its adult owner or other authorized user.

The President renewed his call to Congress to complete work on **common-sense gun legislation** that includes closing the gun show loophole by requiring background checks and records at gun shows; requiring child safety locks for handguns sold; banning the importation of large-capacity ammunition magazines; and banning violent juveniles from owning guns for life.

INVESTING IN EDUCATION, DEMANDING RESULTS

The Largest Head Start Expansion in History

The President's budget increases funding for Head Start by \$1 billion – the largest funding increase ever proposed for the program – to provide Head Start and Early Head Start to approximately 950,000 children. This funding will bring within reach the President's goal of serving one million children in 2002 and builds the foundation for the long-term goal of universal pre-school.

Modernizing and Rebuilding Crumbling Schools

President Clinton is renewing his commitment to his School Modernization Bond proposal, which provides \$24.8 billion in tax credit bonds over two years to modernize up to 6,000 schools. President Clinton also unveiled a new urgent/emergency renovation loan and grant proposal that could support nearly \$7 billion of renovation projects in high-poverty, high-need school districts with little or no capacity to fund urgent repairs.

Small, Safe and Successful High Schools

Research shows that smaller schools can boost academic achievement and extracurricular involvement and lead to fewer discipline problems. The President's budget will include \$120 million for a Small Schools Initiative to reinvent high schools on a smaller scale and make them more responsive to student needs.

Turning Around Failing Schools

President Clinton is proposing to double funding for the Accountability Fund, which will help states and localities upgrade curriculum and staffing in underperforming schools, or close down failing schools and reopen them as charter schools.

Class Size Reduction Initiative

The President's class size reduction initiative continues his commitment to reduce class size in the early grades by staying on a path to hiring 100,000 high quality teachers. The Administration's FY2001 budget will fund for this initiative to \$1.75 billion, an increase of \$450 million over current levels— enough to fund about 49,000 teachers, nearly half way to our long-term goal.

Teacher Quality Rewards

This \$50 million initiative will reward school districts that have made exceptional progress in reducing the number of uncertified teachers and teachers teaching outside their subject area. The President has proposed requiring states to ensure that 95 percent of teachers are certified and 95 percent of secondary teachers are teaching within field by 2004.

Community Learning Centers

The President's budget will invest \$1 billion to ensure that unsupervised children can learn in a safe environment after school and during the summer -- more than double last year's investment.

Increasing the Number of Charter Schools

The President's budget will increase funding for charter schools by \$30 million, to a total of \$175 million -- increasing competition, providing options and choices for parents, and increasing accountability in public education.

Keeping Young People on the Right Track

The President's budget includes over \$400 million in increases to keep young people on track, including;

- \$200 million for the GEAR UP initiative;
- \$725 million for TRIO programs;
- a 50 percent increase for Youth Opportunity Grants;
- \$42.5 million for the Youthbuild program provides disadvantaged young adults with education and employment skills through rehabilitating and building housing for low-income and homeless people; and a \$33 million increase for Job Corps.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S STATE OF THE UNION 2000

Global Change and American Leadership

January 27, 2000

Clinton-Gore Foreign Policy and National Security Record



American leadership reversed ethnic cleansing in Kosovo by leading the NATO alliance to victory and returning nearly 1 million refugees to their homes. The President also worked to broker peace in the Middle East, bring peace to Bosnia, restore democracy to Haiti, and end hostilities in Northern Ireland. Last year, the Administration lifted the world's poorest economies by forgiving \$500 million in debt and forging an agreement among G-8 industrialized countries to provide additional debt relief. And President Clinton and Vice President Gore have launched the first long-term sustained increase in defense funding in 15 years and provided the largest single increase for military pay and retirement benefits since 1981.

Fighting AIDS and Other Deadly Diseases

President Clinton called for a new \$100 million investment in AIDS prevention, care, public health infrastructure, and education in the African and Asian countries hit hardest by the disease. The Clinton-Gore Administration has also proposed a \$50 million investment in the vaccine purchase fund of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization, to be used to purchase vaccines for diseases like hepatitis and yellow fever.

Aiding Colombia in its Fight against Drugs

The President has proposed \$1.6 billion in funding over two years to assist Colombia in its war against the drug trade. The Clinton-Gore Administration will also propose \$95 million to purchase equipment to enable the Colombian National Police to eradicate more coca and poppy fields, and \$93 million for new programs to help the judicial system and promote the peace process. Most of the effort will be financed from the Colombian government's own resources. Eighty percent of the cocaine entering the U.S. is either processed, transported, or grown in Colombia.

Working to Ban Child Labor

In December 1999, President Clinton signed a treaty to ban abusive child labor everywhere in the world. This year, the President proposes to increase support for international efforts to eliminate child labor.

Combating International Money Laundering

President Clinton highlighted new measures to combat international money laundering, which facilitates illegal money flows, fosters corruption, and undermines democracy.

Historic U.S.-China Trade Agreement

Under the terms of this historic agreement, China has agreed to grant the U.S. significant new access to its rapidly growing market of over one billion people, while we have agreed simply to maintain the market access policies we already apply to China by granting it permanent Normal Trade Relations. The President has made passage of legislation granting China permanent NTR a high priority in the coming year. The U.S.-China agreement slashes Chinese tariffs on American goods, opens China's markets to American services, and contains safeguards against unfair trading practices. WTO membership will spur economic reforms in China, open China to information and ideas from around the world, and strengthen the rule of law in China.

Africa Growth and Opportunity Act

In the State of the Union, President Clinton called on Congress to pass the African Growth and Opportunity Act, groundbreaking legislation that recognizes African countries' efforts to institute sound economic policies and reform. Effective aid, combined with strong reform and increased trade and investment, will help bring Africa

into the global economy and create new markets for U.S. exports.

Caribbean Basin Trade Initiative

The President will work with Congress toward swift passage of legislation expanding our Caribbean Basin Initiative trading relationship with Caribbean and Central American countries. The President's CBI enhancement legislation will create opportunities for American companies and workers as it provides enhanced market access and economic stimulus for countries devastated by Hurricane Mitch.

Trade Agreements Enforcement Initiative

The President is committed to ensuring that trade is free and fair and that American companies and workers benefit fully from our bilateral and multilateral trade agreements. He is proposing in FY 2001 that the Department of Commerce and related agencies have the resources necessary to monitor and enforce international trade agreements.

Promoting Democracy and Advancing Human Rights

Promoting democracy and advancing human rights has been a central priority of the Clinton-Gore Administration's foreign policy. This year the President will reaffirm his commitment to advance this cause by calling for continued support for his efforts to broker peace, promote democracy, protect human rights, defend religious freedom, and fully fund our diplomacy.

Protecting Our Computer Networks From Cyber Attack

The President reaffirmed his commitment to strengthen America's defense against the threat of cyber terrorism. Earlier this month, he launched the National Plan for Information Systems Protection and announced new budget proposals to protect our computer networks from cyber attack, including:

- \$621 million to enhance federal research and development in computer security;
- \$50 million to create a new Institute for Information Infrastructure Protection;
- \$25 million to recruit, train and retain federal information technology experts; and
- \$10 million to design a Federal Intrusion Detection Network (FIDNET) which alerts the federal government to cyber attacks.

International Debt Relief

At their summit last June, G-7 leaders endorsed an initiative spearheaded by President Clinton to enable Heavily Indebted Poor Countries to receive deeper, broader, and faster debt relief. Last fall, Congress passed part of the funding and authority necessary for the United States' full participation in the initiative, and the President is seeking approval of the remainder this year.

Strengthening Military Readiness

President Clinton and Vice President Gore have remained committed to ensuring that America's military remains the best-equipped, best-trained and best-prepared fighting force in the world, ready to face the continuing challenges posed by the post-Cold War world and the challenges of a new century. The President's 2001 defense budget ensures that America's military readiness remains first-rate for years to come. In addition, significant increases are proposed for weapons modernization to guarantee the continued technological superiority of U.S. forces.

file State of the Union

1998 STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS
PROPOSED OUTLINE
January 5, 1998

This speech will be a thematic, confident challenge to the nation to prepare for the 21st Century. It will build on the momentum of six years of success to frame the new agenda for the early years of the new century. It will summon a revived sense of national purpose. And it will seek to launch a new era in American politics, in the aftermath of the balanced budget, arguing frankly for a progressive government that is smaller but active, effective and empowering – not the welfare state of the 20th Century, but an opportunity state for the 21st Century.

I. THEME [4 minutes]

America stands at the threshold of a new century – a time of unmatched abundance and fulfillment, if we act today to seize its opportunities. The computer revolution, the global economy, the biomedical miracle, the end of the Cold War: all these were made in America, and all these have remade our world. They can be forces for good -- or they can be forces of disruption and division. Who, better than America, is destined to shape this new world?

We are called upon to do what Americans have done at every moment of challenge and change: act anew, to keep our oldest values alive in new times and build a strong American nation on shifting ground. Because we did, problems that once seemed permanent and insurmountable have now bent to our efforts: the budget deficit, crime, welfare. America has earned a profound period of prosperity and peace, strength and social progress. But our success must not be a cause for contentment, but an impetus for urgency. We have been given a rare and fleeting chance – an American opportunity – to build today for tomorrow.

Together, we Americans have addressed the greatest challenges of the end of the 20th Century. We have built a platform for progress. Now it is time to turn to the new challenges of the 21st Century. Together, we Americans have reformed government so it is lean and resilient and rooted in our values; now, it is time to use it. In the 20th Century, to help our people achieve the American Dream, we built a welfare state. Now, to reach that dream, we must build an "opportunity state" – rooted in personal responsibility, focused on giving people the tools to reap the rewards of economic change.

II. NEW OPPORTUNITY IN THE NEW ECONOMY [22 minutes]

A. 21st Century economy – sweeping description of technology & global change. Greater chance than ever for opportunity & abundance – but now must act to give all Americans the chance to share in growth. Economic strategy:

Peace
Prosperity
Future - youth

4/1/11
B. Opportunity only if we maintain fiscal discipline.

1. Announce year budget comes into balance
2. '93, began to restore American solvency. Now, must maintain fiscal discipline.

C. Opportunity only if we lead global economy to work for our people

- * International financial stability
- Trade -- strong statement of need for openness -- fast track?

D. Opportunity only if we invest in our people. 5 key elements to expanding opportunity and strengthening American Dream: [*NOTE: ordering may change, e.g., major Social Security announcement could come first*]

1. Education

Key to wider opportunity in new economy. We've opened doors to college – now, must make K-12 best in world.

- *100k teachers
- standards – no social promotion
- educational empowerment zones
- mentoring
- computers in classrooms
- GI Bill/training/lifetime learning

2. Health care

- *Medicare buy-in
- *Patient bill of rights

3. Help families meet responsibilities at work & at home

- *child care

4. Empower communities

- empowerment zones
- welfare to work

5. Retirement

- *Social Security
- Private pensions

**DENOTES MOST SIGNIFICANT POLICIES*

IV. NEW OPPORTUNITY DEMANDS NEW RESPONSIBILITY
[5 mins]

- A. Opportunity demands responsibility, from every part of society
- B. Crime
 - juvenile bill – gangs & guns
 - drug testing for arrestees
 - lifetime parole for certain crimes
 - crime victim constitutional amendment
 - confirming judges
- C. Challenges to others to take responsibility

V. OPPORTUNITY IF WE HARNESS SCIENCE FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD [5 mins]

- A. *Tobacco/NIH biomedical research
- B. Values and science – genetic testing, computer privacy, cloning
- C. Space exploration
- D. * Climate change
- E. Clean water

VI. STRENGTHENING OUR NATION: NEW SECURITY IN A NEW WORLD
[15 minutes]

- A. Statement of American mission & new threats. America led forces of freedom in fight against Communism. Now, must lead forces of civilization in fight against new threats.
- B. *NATO
- C. *Bosnia [check, see if order can be reversed]
- D. New security threats
 - Biological Weapons Convention
 - Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty
 - Terrorism
- E. UN and IFI arrears

Note: Other foreign policy concerns, e.g., announcing trips, Middle East, Iraq, will also briefly be addressed.

VI. STRENGTHENING OUR NATION: NEW DEMOCRACY FOR 21st CENTURY

[3 mins]

A. Reinventing government success/IRS reform

B. Campaign finance reform

March 11 vote

Free TV -- challenge to FCC, challenge to broadcasters

C. 21st Century elections -- 2 day voting, voting by mail

VII. STRENGTHENING OUR NATION: ONE AMERICA IN THE 21st CENTURY

[5 minutes]

A. At each moment of change, Americans had to find ways to shape ourselves into one nation. Today, demographic change, greatest in our history.

B. Most important way to bridge divides of race is by broadly addressing the nation's problems. Education, health care, jobs -- they unite us. Also must enforce civil rights laws.

C. But some challenges are not in laws but in our hearts. Challenge to reach across racial lines in common understanding & citizen service.

D. Conclusion/heroes (focus on One America & millennium themes)

file

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

February 4, 1997

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

United States Capitol

9:15 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Speaker, Mr. Vice President, members of the 105th Congress, distinguished guests, and my fellow Americans:

I think I should start by saying, thanks for inviting me back. (Applause.) I come before you tonight with a challenge as great as any in our peacetime history, and a plan of action to meet that challenge, to prepare our people for the bold new world of the 21st century.

We have much to be thankful for. With four years of growth, we have won back the basic strength of our economy. With crime and welfare rolls declining, we are winning back our optimism, the enduring faith that we can master any difficulty. With the Cold War receding and global commerce at record levels, we are helping to win unrivaled peace and prosperity all across the world.

My fellow Americans, the state of our union is strong. (Applause.) But now we must rise to the decisive moment, to make a nation and a world better than any we have ever known. The new promise of the global economy, the Information Age, unimagined new work, life-enhancing technology -- all these are ours to seize. That is our honor and our challenge. We must be shapers of events, not observers. For if we do not act, the moment will pass -- and we will lose the best possibilities of our future.

We face no imminent threat, but we do have an enemy -- the enemy of our time is inaction. So, tonight, I issue a call to action -- action by this Congress, action by our states, by our people, to prepare America for the 21st century. Action to keep our economy and our democracy strong and working for all our people; action to strengthen education and harness the forces of technology and science; action to build stronger families and stronger communities and a safer environment; action to keep America the world's strongest force for peace, freedom and prosperity. And above all, action to build a more perfect union here at home.

The spirit we bring to our work will make all the difference. We must be committed to the pursuit of opportunity for all Americans, responsibility from all Americans, in a community of all Americans. And we must be committed to a new kind of government -- not to solve all our problems for us, but to give our people -- all our people -- the tools they need to make the most of their own lives.

And we must work together. The people of this nation elected us all. They want us to be partners, not partisans. They put us all right here in the same boat, they gave us all oars, and they told us to row. Now, here is the direction I believe we should take.

MORE

First, we must move quickly to complete the unfinished business of our country -- to balance our budget, renew our democracy, and finish the job of welfare reform.

Over the last four years, we have brought new economic growth by investing in our people, expanding our exports, cutting our deficits, creating over 11 million new jobs, a four-year record. (Applause.) Now we must keep our economy the strongest in the world. We here tonight have an historic opportunity. Let this Congress be the Congress that finally balances the budget. (Applause.)

In two days, I will propose a detailed plan to balance the budget by 2002. This plan will balance the budget and invest in our people while protecting Medicare, Medicaid, education, and the environment. It will balance the budget and build on the Vice President's efforts to make our government work better, even as it costs less. It will balance the budget and provide middle class tax relief to pay for education and health care, to help to raise a child, to buy and sell a home.

Balancing the budget requires only your vote and my signature. It does not require us to rewrite our Constitution. (Applause.) I believe it is both unnecessary and unwise to adopt a balanced budget amendment that could cripple our country in time of crisis, and force unwanted results, such as judges halting Social Security checks or increasing taxes. Let us at least agree, we should not pass any measure -- no measure should be passed that threatens Social Security. (Applause.) Whatever your view on that, we all must concede we don't need a constitutional amendment, we need action. (Applause.)

Whatever our differences, we should balance the budget now. And then, for the long-term health of our society, we must agree to a bipartisan process to preserve Social Security and reform Medicare for the long run, so that these fundamental programs will be as strong for our children as they are for our parents.

And let me say something that's not in my script tonight. I know this is not going to be easy. But I really believe one of the reasons the American people gave me a second term was to take the tough decisions in the next four years that will carry our country through the next 50 years. I know it is easier for me than for you to say or do. But another reason I was elected is to support all of you, without regard to party, to give you what is necessary to join in these decisions. We owe it to our country and to our future. (Applause.)

Our second piece of unfinished business requires us to commit ourselves tonight, before the eyes of America, to finally enacting bipartisan campaign finance reform. (Applause.)

Now, Senators McCain and Feingold, Representatives Shays and Meehan, have reached across party lines here to craft tough and fair reform. Their proposal would curb spending, reduce the role of special interests, create a level playing field between challengers and incumbents, and ban contributions from noncitizens, all corporate sources, and the other large soft money contributions that both parties receive.

You know and I know that this can be delayed. And you know and I know the delay will mean the death of reform. So let's set our own deadline. Let's work together to write bipartisan campaign finance reform into law and pass McCain-Feingold by the day we celebrate the birth of our democracy -- July the 4th. (Applause.)

There is a third piece of unfinished business. Over the last four years, we moved a record 2.25 million people off the welfare rolls. Then last year, Congress enacted landmark welfare

reform legislation, demanding that all able-bodied recipients assume the responsibility of moving from welfare to work.

Now each and every one of us has to fulfill our responsibility -- indeed, our moral obligation -- to make sure that people who now must work, can work. (Applause.) Now we must act to meet a new goal: 2 million more people off the welfare rolls by the year 2000.

Here is my plan: Tax credits and other incentives for businesses that hire people off welfare; incentives for job placement firms and states to create more jobs for welfare recipients; training, transportation, and child care to help people go to work.

Now I challenge every state: Turn those welfare checks into private sector paychecks. I challenge every religious congregation, every community nonprofit, every business to hire someone off welfare. And I'd like to say especially to every employer in our country who ever criticized the old welfare system, you can't blame that old system anymore, we have torn it down. Now do your part. Give someone on welfare the chance to go to work. (Applause.)

Tonight, I am pleased to announce that five major corporations -- Sprint, Monsanto, UPS, Burger King and United Airlines -- will be the first to join in a new national effort to marshal America's businesses, large and small, to create jobs so that people can move from welfare to work. (Applause.)

We passed welfare reform. All of you know I believe we were right to do it. But no one can walk out of this chamber with a clear conscience unless you are prepared to finish the job. (Applause.)

And we must join together to do something else, too -- something both Republican and Democratic governors have asked us to do -- to restore basic health and disability benefits when misfortune strikes immigrants who came to this country legally, who work hard, pay taxes and obey the law. To do otherwise is simply unworthy of a great nation of immigrants. (Applause.)

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

Let's work together to meet these three goals: Every 8-year-old must be able to read; every 12-year-old must be able to log on to the Internet; every 18-year-old must be able to go to college; and every adult American must be able to keep on learning for a lifetime. (Applause.)

My balanced budget makes an unprecedented commitment to these goals -- \$51 billion next year. But far more than money is required. I have a plan, a Call to Action for American Education, based on these 10 principles.

First, a national crusade for education standards -- not federal government standards, but national standards, representing what all our students must know to succeed in the knowledge economy of the 21st century. Every state and school must shape the curriculum to reflect these standards, and train teachers to lift students up to them. To help schools meet the standards and measure their progress, we will lead an effort over the next two years to develop national tests of student achievement in reading and math.

Tonight, I issue a challenge to the nation: Every state should adopt high national standards, and by 1999, every state should

test every 4th grader in reading and every 8th grader in math to make sure these standards are met. (Applause.)

Raising standards will not be easy, and some of our children will not be able to meet them at first. The point is not to put our children down, but to lift them up. Good tests will show us who needs help, what changes in teaching to make, and which schools need to improve. They can help us to end social promotion. For no child should move from grade school to junior high, or junior high to high school until he or she is ready.

Last month, our Secretary of Education Dick Riley and I visited Northern Illinois, where 8th grade students from 20 school districts, in a project aptly called "First in the World," took the Third International Math and Science Study. That's a test that reflects the world-class standards our children must meet for the new era. And those students in Illinois tied for first in the world in science and came in second in math. Two of them, Kristin Tanner and Chris Getsla, are here tonight, along with their teacher, Sue Winski; they're up there with the First Lady. And they prove that when we aim high and challenge our students, they will be the best in the world. Let's give them a hand. Stand up, please. (Applause.)

Second, to have the best schools, we must have the best teachers. Most of us in this chamber would not be here tonight without the help of those teachers. I know that I wouldn't be here. For years, many of our educators, led by North Carolina's Governor Jim Hunt and the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, have worked very hard to establish nationally accepted credentials for excellence in teaching. Just 500 of these teachers have been certified since 1995. My budget will enable 100,000 more to seek national certification as master teachers. We should reward and recognize our best teachers. (Applause.) And as we reward them, we should quickly and fairly remove those few who don't measure up, and we should challenge more of our finest young people to consider teaching as a career.

Third, we must do more to help all our children read. Forty percent -- forty percent -- of our 8-year-olds cannot read on their own. That's why we have just launched the America Reads initiative -- to build a citizen army of one million volunteer tutors to make sure every child can read independently by the end of the 3rd grade. We will use thousands of AmeriCorps volunteers to mobilize this citizen army. We want at least 100,000 college students to help. And tonight I am pleased that 60 college presidents have answered my call, pledging that thousands of their work-study students will serve for one year as reading tutors. (Applause.)

This is also a challenge to every teacher and every principal. You must use these tutors to help students read. And it is especially a challenge to our parents. You must read with your children every night.

This leads to the fourth principle: Learning begins in the first days of life. Scientists are now discovering how young children develop emotionally and intellectually from their very first days, and how important it is for parents to begin immediately talking, singing, even reading to their infants. The First Lady has spent years writing about this issue, studying it. And she and I are going to convene a White House Conference on Early Learning and the Brain this spring, to explore how parents and educators can best use these startling new findings.

We already know we should start teaching children before they start school. That's why this balanced budget expands Head Start to one million children by 2002. (Applause.) And that is why the Vice President and Mrs. Gore will host their annual family conference this June on what we can do to make sure that parents are

an active part of their children's learning all the way through school.

They've done a great deal to highlight the importance of family in our life, and now they're turning their attention to getting more parents involved in their children's learning all the way through school. And I thank you, Mr. Vice President, and I thank you especially, Tipper, for what you do. (Applause.)

Fifth, every state should give parents the power to choose the right public school for their children. Their right to choose will foster competition and innovation that can make public schools better. We should also make it possible for more parents and teachers to start charter schools, schools that set and meet the highest standards, and exist only as long as they do. Our plan will help America to create 3,000 of these charter schools by the next century -- nearly seven times as there are in the country today -- so that parents will have even more choices in sending their children to the best schools.

Sixth: Character education must be taught in our schools. We must teach our children to be good citizens. (Applause.) And we must continue to promote order and discipline, supporting communities that introduce school uniforms, impose curfews enforce truancy laws, remove disruptive students from the classroom, and have zero tolerance for guns and drugs in school. (Applause.)

Seventh: We cannot expect our children to raise themselves up in schools that are literally falling down. With the student population at an all-time high, and record numbers of school buildings falling into disrepair, this has now become a serious national concern. Therefore, my budget includes a new initiative -- \$5 billion to help communities finance \$20 billion in school construction over the next four years. (Applause.)

Eighth: We must make the 13th and 14th years of education -- at least two years of college -- just as universal in America by the 21st century as a high school education is today, and we must open the doors of college to Americans. (Applause.)

To do that, I propose America's HOPE Scholarship, based on Georgia's pioneering program: two years of a \$1,500 tax credit for college tuition, enough to pay for the typical community college. I also propose a tax deduction of up to \$10,000 a year for all tuition after high school; an expanded IRA you can withdraw from tax free for education; and the largest increase in Pell Grant scholarships in 20 years. (Applause.) Now, this plan will give most families the ability to pay no taxes on money they save for college tuition. I ask you to pass it -- and give every American who works hard the chance to go to college.

Ninth: In the 21st century, we must expand the frontiers of learning across a lifetime. All our people, of whatever age, must have a chance to learn new skills. Most Americans live near a community college. The roads that take them there can be paths to a better future. My G.I. Bill for America's Workers will transform the confusing tangle of federal training programs into a simple skill grant to go directly into eligible workers' hands. For too long, this bill has been sitting on that desk there without action -- I ask you to pass it now. Let's give more of our workers the ability to learn and to earn for a lifetime. (Applause.)

Tenth: We must bring the power of the Information Age into all our schools. Last year, I challenged America to connect every classroom and library to the Internet by the year 2000, so that, for the first time in our history, children in the most isolated rural towns, the most comfortable suburbs, the poorest inner city schools, will have the same access to the same universe of

knowledge. (Applause.) That is my plan -- a Call to Action for American Education. Some may say that it is unusual for a President to pay this kind of attention to education. Some may say it is simply because the President and his wonderful wife have been obsessed with this subject for more years than they can recall. That is not what is driving these proposals.

We must understand the significance of this endeavor: One of the greatest sources of our strength throughout the Cold War was a bipartisan foreign policy; because our future was at stake, politics stopped at the water's edge. Now I ask you -- and I ask all our nation's governors; I ask parents, teachers, and citizens all across America -- for a new nonpartisan commitment to education -- because education is a critical national security issue for our future, and politics must stop at the schoolhouse door. (Applause.)

To prepare America for the 21st century we must harness the powerful forces of science and technology to benefit all Americans. This is the first State of the Union carried live in video over the Internet. But we've only begun to spread the benefits of a technology revolution that should become the modern birthright of every citizen.

Our effort to connect every classroom is just the beginning. Now, we should connect every hospital to the Internet, so that doctors can instantly share data about their patients with the best specialists in the field. And I challenge the private sector tonight to start by connecting every children's hospital as soon as possible, so that a child in bed can stay in touch with school, family and friends. A sick child need no longer be a child alone. (Applause.)

We must build the second generation of the Internet so that our leading universities and national laboratories can communicate in speeds 1,000 times faster than today, to develop new medical treatments, new sources of energy, new ways of working together.

But we cannot stop there. As the Internet becomes our new town square, a computer in every home -- a teacher of all subjects, a connection to all cultures -- this will no longer be a dream, but a necessity. And over the next decade, that must be our goal. (Applause.)

We must continue to explore the heavens -- pressing on with the Mars probes and the international space station, both of which will have practical applications for our everyday living.

We must speed the remarkable advances in medical science. The human genome project is now decoding the genetic mysteries of life. American scientists have discovered genes linked to breast cancer and ovarian cancer, and medication that stops a stroke in progress and begins to reverse its effect, and treatments that dramatically lengthen the lives of people with HIV and AIDS.

Since I took office, funding for AIDS research at the National Institutes of Health has increased dramatically -- to \$1.5 billion. With new resources, NIH will now become the most powerful discovery engine for an AIDS vaccine, working with other scientists to finally end the threat of AIDS. (Applause.) Remember that every year -- every year we move up the discovery of an AIDS vaccine will save millions of lives around the world. We must reinforce our commitment to medical science.

To prepare America for the 21st century, we must build stronger families. Over the past four years, the Family and Medical Leave law has helped millions of Americans to take time off to be with their families. With new pressures on people in the way they

work and live, I believe we must expand family leave so that workers can take time off for teacher conferences and a child's medical checkup. We should pass flex-time, so workers can choose to be paid for overtime in income or trade it in for time off to be with their families. (Applause.)

We must continue -- we must continue, step by step, to give more families access to affordable, quality health care. Forty million Americans still lack health insurance. Ten million children still lack health insurance -- 80 percent of them have working parents who pay taxes. That is wrong. (Applause.)

My balanced budget will extend health coverage to up to 5 million of those children. Since nearly half of all children who lose their insurance do so because their parents lose or change a job, my budget will also ensure that people who temporarily lose their jobs can still afford to keep their health insurance. No child should be without a doctor just because a parent is without a job. (Applause.)

My Medicare plan modernizes Medicare, increases the life of the trust fund to 10 years, provides support for respite care for the many families with loved ones afflicted with Alzheimer's. And for the first time, it would fully pay for annual mammograms. (Applause.)

Just as we ended drive-through deliveries of babies last year, we must now end the dangerous and demeaning practice of forcing women home from the hospital only hours after a mastectomy. (Applause.) I ask your support for bipartisan legislation to guarantee that a woman can stay in the hospital for 48 hours after a mastectomy. With us tonight is Dr. Kristen Zarfes, a Connecticut surgeon whose outrage at this practice spurred a national movement and inspired this legislation. I'd like her to stand so we thank her for her efforts. Dr. Zarfes, thank you. (Applause.)

In the last four years, we have increased child support collections by 50 percent. Now we should go further and do better by making it a felony for any parent to cross a state line in an attempt to flee from this, his or her most sacred obligation. (Applause.)

Finally, we must also protect our children by standing firm in our determination to ban the advertising and marketing of cigarettes that endanger their lives. (Applause.)

To prepare America for the 21st century, we must build stronger communities. We should start with safe streets. Serious crime has dropped five years in a row. The key has been community policing. We must finish the job of putting 100,000 community police on the streets of the United States. (Applause.) We should pass the Victims Rights Amendment to the Constitution.

And I ask you to mount a full-scale assault on juvenile crime, with legislation that declares war on gangs, with new prosecutors and tougher penalties; extends the Brady Bill so violent teen criminals will not be able to buy handguns; requires child safety locks on handguns to prevent unauthorized use; and helps to keep our schools open after hours, on weekends, and in the summer, so our young people will have someplace to go and something to say yes to. (Applause.)

This balanced budget includes the largest antidrug effort ever: to stop drugs at their source, punish those who push them, and teach our young people that drugs are wrong, drugs are illegal, and drugs will kill them. I hope you will support it. (Applause.)

Our growing economy has helped to revive poor urban and rural neighborhoods. But we must do more to empower them to create the conditions in which all families can flourish and to create jobs through investment by business and loans by banks.

We should double the number of empowerment zones. They've already brought so much hope to communities like Detroit, where the unemployment rate has been cut in half in four years. We should restore contaminated urban land and buildings to productive use. We should expand the network of community development banks. And together we must pledge tonight that we will use this empowerment approach -- including private sector tax incentives -- to renew our Capital City, so that Washington is a great place to work and live, and once again the proud face America shows to world. (Applause.)

We must protect our environment in every community. In the last four years, we cleaned up 250 toxic waste sites, as many as in the previous 12. Now, we should clean up 500 more, so that our children grow up next to parks, not poison. I urge you to pass my proposal to make big polluters live by a simple rule: If you pollute our environment, you should pay to clean it up. (Applause.)

In the last four years, we strengthened our nation's safe food and clean drinking water laws; we protected some of America's rarest, most beautiful land in Utah's Red Rocks region; created three new national parks in the California desert; and began to restore the Florida Everglades. Now we must be as vigilant with our rivers as we are with our lands. Tonight, I announce that this year I will designate 10 American Heritage Rivers, to help communities alongside them revitalize their waterfronts and clean up pollution in the rivers, proving once again that we can grow the economy as we protect the environment. (Applause.)

We must also protect our global environment, working to ban the worst toxic chemicals and to reduce the greenhouse gases that challenge our health even as they change our climate.

Now, we all know that in all of our communities, some of our children simply don't have what they need to grow and learn in their own homes, or schools or neighborhoods. And that means the rest of us must do more, for they are our children, too. That's why President Bush, General Colin Powell, former Housing Secretary Henry Cisneros will join the Vice President and me to lead the President's Summit of Service in Philadelphia in April.

Our national service program, AmeriCorps, has already helped 70,000 young people to work their way through college as they serve America. Now we intend to mobilize millions of Americans to serve in thousands of ways. Citizen service is an American responsibility which all Americans should embrace, and I ask your support for that endeavor. (Applause.)

I'd like to make just one last point about our national community. Our economy is measured in numbers and statistics, and it's very important. But the enduring worth of our nation lies in our shared values and our soaring spirit. So instead of cutting back on our modest efforts to support the arts and humanities, I believe we should stand by them and challenge our artists, musicians, and writers -- (applause) -- challenge our museums, libraries and theaters -- (applause) -- we should -- we should challenge all Americans in the arts and humanities to join with our fellow citizens to make the year 2000 a national celebration of the American spirit in every community -- a celebration of our common culture in the century that has passed, and in the new one to come in a new millennium, so that we can remain the world's beacon not only of liberty, but of creativity, long after the fireworks have faded.

To prepare America for the 21st century we must master the forces of change in the world and keep American leadership strong and sure for an uncharted time.

Fifty years ago, a farsighted America led in creating the institutions that secured victory in the Cold War and built a growing world economy. As a result, today more people than ever embrace our ideals and share our interests. Already, we have dismantled many of the blocs and barriers that divided our parents' world. For the first time, more people live under democracy than dictatorship, including every nation in our own hemisphere, but one -- and its day, too, will come. (Applause.)

Now, we stand at another moment of change and choice -- and another time to be farsighted, to bring America 50 more years of security and prosperity. In this endeavor, our first task is to help to build, for the first time, an undivided, democratic Europe. When Europe is stable, prosperous and at peace, America is more secure.

To that end, we must expand NATO by 1999, so that countries that were once our adversaries can become our allies. At the special NATO summit this summer, that is what we will begin to do. We must strengthen NATO's Partnership for Peace with non-member allies. And we must build a stable partnership between NATO and a democratic Russia. (Applause.) An expanded NATO is good for America. And a Europe in which all democracies define their future not in terms of what they can do to each other, but in terms of what they can do together for the good of all -- that kind of Europe is good for America.

Second, America must look to the East no less than to the West. Our security demands it. Americans fought three wars in Asia in this century. Our prosperity requires it. More than two million American jobs depend upon trade with Asia.

There, too, we are helping to shape an Asian Pacific community of cooperation, not conflict. Let our progress there not mask the peril that remains. Together with South Korea, we must advance peace talks with North Korea and bridge the Cold War's last divide. And I call on Congress to fund our share of the agreement under which North Korea must continue to freeze and then dismantle its nuclear weapons program. (Applause.)

We must pursue a deeper dialogue with China -- for the sake of our interests and our ideals. An isolated China is not good for America. A China playing its proper role in the world is. I will go to China, and I have invited China's President to come here, not because we agree on everything, but because engaging China is the best way to work on our common challenges like ending nuclear testing, and to deal frankly with our fundamental differences like human rights. (Applause.)

The American people must prosper in the global economy. We've worked hard to tear down trade barriers abroad so that we can create good jobs at home. I am proud to say that today, America is once again the most competitive nation and the number one exporter in the world. (Applause.)

Now we must act to expand our exports, especially to Asia and Latin America -- two of the fastest growing regions on Earth -- or be left behind as these emerging economies forge new ties with other nations. That is why we need the authority now to conclude new trade agreements that open markets to our goods and services even as we preserve our values. (Applause.)

We need not shrink from the challenge of the global economy. After all, we have the best workers and the best products.

In a truly open market, we can out-compete anyone, anywhere on Earth.

But this is about more than economics. By expanding trade, we can advance the cause of freedom and democracy around the world. There is no better example of this truth than Latin America where democracy and open markets are on the march together. That is why I will visit there in the spring to reinforce our important tie.

We should all be proud that America led the effort to rescue our neighbor, Mexico, from its economic crises. And we should all be proud that last month Mexico repaid the United States -- three full years ahead of schedule -- with half a billion dollar profit to us. (Applause.)

America must continue to be an unrelenting force for peace --- from the Middle East to Haiti, from Northern Ireland to Africa. Taking reasonable risks for peace keeps us from being drawn into far more costly conflicts later.

With American leadership, the killing has stopped in Bosnia. Now the habits of peace must take hold. The new NATO force will allow reconstruction and reconciliation to accelerate. Tonight, I ask Congress to continue its strong support for our troops. They are doing a remarkable job there for America, and America must do right by them. (Applause.)

Fifth, we must move strongly against new threats to our security. In the past four years, we agreed to ban -- we led the way to a worldwide agreement to ban nuclear testing. With Russia, we dramatically cut nuclear arsenals and we stopped targeting each others citizens. We are acting to prevent nuclear materials from falling into the wrong hands and to rid the world of land mines. (Applause.) We are working with other nations with renewed intensity to fight drug traffickers and to stop terrorists before they act, and hold them fully accountable if they do. (Applause.)

Now, we must rise to a new test of leadership: ratifying the Chemical Weapons Convention. (Applause.) Make no mistake about it, it will make our troops safer from chemical attack; it will help us to fight terrorism. We have no more important obligations -- especially in the wake of what we now know about the Gulf War. This treaty has been bipartisan from the beginning -- supported by Republican and Democratic administrations and Republican and Democratic members of Congress -- and already approved by 68 nations.

But if we do not act by April the 29th -- when this Convention goes into force, with or without us -- we will lose the chance to have Americans leading and enforcing this effort. Together we must make the Chemical Weapons Convention law, so that at last we can begin to outlaw poison gas from the Earth. (Applause.)

Finally, we must have the tools to meet all these challenges. We must maintain a strong and ready military. We must increase funding for weapons modernization by the year 2000, and we must take good care of our men and women in uniform. They are the world's finest. (Applause.)

We must also renew our commitment to America's diplomacy, and pay our debts and dues to international financial institutions like the World Bank, and to a reforming United Nations. (Applause.) Every dollar we devote to preventing conflicts, to promoting democracy, to stopping the spread of disease and starvation, brings a sure return in security and savings. Yet international affairs spending today is just one percent of the federal budget -- a small fraction of what America invested in diplomacy to choose leadership over escapism at the start of the Cold

War. If America is to continue to lead the world, we here who lead America simply must find the will to pay our way.

A farsighted America moved the world to a better place over these last 50 years. And so it can be for another 50 years. But a shortsighted America will soon find its words falling on deaf ears all around the world. (Applause.)

Almost exactly 50 years ago, in the first winter of the Cold War, President Truman stood before a Republican Congress and called upon our country to meet its responsibilities of leadership. This was his warning -- he said, "If we falter, we may endanger the peace of the world, and we shall surely endanger the welfare of this nation." That Congress, led by Republicans like Senator Arthur Vandenberg, answered President Truman's call. Together, they made the commitments that strengthened our country for 50 years.

Now let us do the same. Let us do what it takes to remain the indispensable nation -- to keep America strong, secure and prosperous for another 50 years. (Applause.)

In the end, more than anything else, our world leadership grows out of the power of our example here at home, out of our ability to remain strong as one America.

All over the world, people are being torn asunder by racial, ethnic, and religious conflicts that fuel fanaticism and terror. We are the world's most diverse democracy, and the world looks to us to show that it is possible to live and advance together across those kinds of differences.

America has always been a nation of immigrants. From the start, a steady stream of people, in search of freedom and opportunity, have left their own lands to make this land their home. We started as an experiment in democracy fueled by Europeans. We have grown into an experiment in democratic diversity fueled by openness and promise.

My fellow Americans, we must never, ever believe that our diversity is a weakness -- it is our greatest strength. (Applause.) Americans speak every language, know every county. People on every continent can look to us and see the reflection of their own great potential -- and they always will, as long as we strive to give all of our citizens, whatever their background, an opportunity to achieve their own greatness.

We're not there yet. We still see evidence of abiding bigotry and intolerance, in ugly words and awful violence, in burned churches and bombed buildings. We must fight against this, in our country and in our hearts.

Just a few days before my second Inauguration, one of country's best known pastors, Reverend Robert Schuller, suggested that I read Isaiah 58:12. Here's what it says: "Thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations, and thou shalt be called, the repairer of the breach, the restorer of paths to dwell in." I placed my hand on that verse when I took the oath of office, on behalf of all Americans. For no matter what our differences -- in our faiths, our backgrounds, our politics -- we must all be repairers of the breach.

I want to say a word about two other Americans who show us how. Congressman Frank Tejeda was buried yesterday, a proud American whose family came from Mexico. He was only 51 years old. He was awarded the Silver Star, the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart, fighting for his country in Vietnam. And he went on to serve Texas and America fighting for our future in this chamber. We are grateful for his service and honored that his mother, Lillie Tejeda, and his

sister, Mary Alice, have come from Texas to be with us here tonight. And we welcome you. (Applause.)

Gary Locke, the newly elected Governor of Washington State, is the first Chinese-American governor in the history of our country. He's the proud son of two of the millions of Asian-American immigrants who have strengthened America with their hard work, family values and good citizenship. He represents the future we can all achieve. Thank you, Governor, for being here. Please stand up. (Applause.)

Reverend Schuller, Congressman Tejeda, Governor Locke, along with Kristin Tanner and Chris Getsla, Sue Winski and Dr. Kristen Zarfes -- they're all Americans from different roots, whose lives reflect the best of what we can become when we are one America. We may not share a common past, but we surely do share a common future.

Building one America is our most important mission -- "the foundation for many generations," of every other strength we must build for this new century. Money cannot buy it. Power cannot compel it. Technology cannot create it. It can only come from the human spirit.

America is far more than a place. It is an idea, the most powerful idea in the history of nations. And all of us in this chamber, we are now the bearers of that idea, leading a great people into a new world. A child born tonight will have almost no memory of the 20th century. Everything that child will know about America will be because of what we do now to build a new century.

We don't have a moment to waste. Tomorrow there will be just over 1,000 days until the year 2000. One thousand days to prepare our people. One thousand days to work together. One thousand days to build a bridge to a land of new promise. My fellow Americans, we have work to do. Let us seize those days and the century.

Thank you, God bless you and God bless America.
(Applause.)

END

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03/31/2000 03:11:23 PM

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