

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. email	From: external email address To: Jonathan Young Re: Digital Divide-response of interest [Personal Information] [partial] (2 pages)	02/03/2000	b(6)
002. email	From: external email address To: Jonathan Young Re: Digital Divide [Personal Information] [partial] (1 page)	02/03/2000	b(6)
003. email	From: external email address To: Jonathan Young Re: Digital Divide [Personal Information] [partial] (1 page)	02/03/2000	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Automated Records Management System [Email]
WHO ([Digital Divide...])
OA/Box Number: 500000

FOLDER TITLE:

[02/02/2000 - 02/04/2000]

2019-0203-F

jn708

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]

- 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]

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.

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Rob McInnes <robmci@hotmail.com> (Rob McInnes <robmci@hotmail.com> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 2-FEB-2000 15:05:24.00

SUBJECT: Digital Divide

TO: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Jonathan, I received a copy of your email on the digital divide from Andrea Harles. I am wondering who you are targeting for recruiting for this effort?

I am in contact with the diversity offices of many Silicon Valley companies.

I could forward your request to them. (I am actually part of a collaborative group of companies focusing on Digital divide issues.)

Rob McInnes

Diversity World/Californai Business Leadership Network

Get Your Private, Free Email at <http://www.hotmail.com>

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Victoria L. Valentine (CN=Victoria L. Valentine/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 2-FEB-2000 12:15:06.00

SUBJECT: TODAY: digital divide conf call

Ryasine@cmp.com (Ryasine@cmp.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

bmathews@fcw.com (bmathews@fcw.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

bbach@cmp.com (bbach@cmp.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

emessmer@nww.com (emessmer@nww.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

nealfreeman@blackwellcorp.com (nealfreeman@blackwellcorp.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

edhearn@aol.com (edhearn@aol.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

arb@well.com (arb@well.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

bbach@cmp.com (bbach@cmp.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

rjoconnor@njdc.com (rjoconnor@njdc.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

mitch_betts@cw.com (mitch_betts@cw.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

Elizabethw@thestandard.com (Elizabethw@thestandard.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

mike@millin.com (mike@millin.com @ inet [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

barretone@patriot.net (barretone@patriot.net @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

elizabethw@thestandard.com (elizabethw@thestandard.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

jhasson@fcw.com (jhasson@fcw.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

CONFERENCE CALL ON PRESIDENT CLINTON'S DIGITAL DIVIDE ANNOUNCEMENT

LINDA ROBERTS, US Department of Education, Director of the Office of Education Technology

will be on the call to give details and take your questions on the President's 2001 Budget initiative announcement to address bridging the digital divide.

Date: Today, Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Time: 3:30 pm EST

If you (or an appropriate editor or reporter from your media outlet) would like to participate in this conference call please contact me as soon as possible at 202-456-7284 and I will give you the call phone number and information. (You should have already received press paper on this announcement in a previous email. If you did not I would be happy to forward.)

Thanks

ARMS Email System
RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Stephen N. Boyd (CN=Stephen N. Boyd/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 2-FEB-2000 13:32:18.00

SUBJECT: Background on digital divide announcement and possible hightech CEO interviews

TO: robertsl@washpost.com (robertsl@washpost.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:
Larry --

Per my voicemail, here is a copy of the background paper from today's digital divide announcement. There are a number of CEOs and corporate leaders who are available this afternoon for interviews on these efforts -- including possibly Steve Case of AOL, Bob Knowling of Covad, Steve Westly of EBay, and Garrett Gruener of AskJeeves. Let me know if one of your staff may be interested in a phone interview. Sylvia Moreno of your Metro section covered the event today but was going to contact you and her editor to see what linkage might be possible. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CLINTON ANNOUNCES NEW PROPOSAL TO CLOSE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE AND INCREASE DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY

Ballou High School, Washington, DC
Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Today, in an address at Ballou High School in Washington, DC, President Clinton will announce a new proposal to close the digital divide and increase digital opportunity for all Americans.

President Clinton will first tour the computer center at Ballou High School accompanied by Steve Case, Chief Executive Officer, America Online, and David Sterling, President, Epiclearning.com. Darnell Curley, computer coordinator of Ballou's computer training center and graduate of Ballou, will lead the tour.

Following the tour of the computer center, the President will announce a new proposal to close the digital divide in remarks to students, teachers and community, government and business leaders at the Ballou High School Gymnasium. The President will be joined on stage by Steve Case, CEO, America Online; David Sterling, President, Epiclearning.com; Julie Evans, Chief Executive Officer, NetDay; Angela Lee, Vice President, AT&T; Darnell Curley, Computer Coordinator, Ballou High School; Superintendent of DC Schools Arlene Ackerman; and Dr. Wilma Durham and Dr. Art Bridges, Co-Principals of Ballou High School.

Ballou High School currently offers a variety of computer technology classes ranging from Basic Keyboarding to Computer Programming to a Computer Repair class, giving students a chance to receive A+ computer technician certification and secure jobs in the workforce. Ballou also

offers services to the community such as computer workshops held in the evenings for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipients. Currently, Ballou has approximately 140 computers and is partially wired.

Ballou High School has formed partnerships with several private companies and labor unions, which have committed significant resources to the High School to help bridge the digital divide and to ensure that students from Ballou have an opportunity to thrive in the Information Age. This partnership is part of NextDay, an effort to bring technology to our poorest schools that grew out of NetDay, which President Clinton and Vice President Gore helped launch in March 1996. Many of these companies have also made national commitments to help bridge the digital divide. Elements of the Ballou partnership with private companies include the following: 1) Epiclearning.com has committed to launch a technical training and certification program that will allow Ballou students to compete for jobs with starting salaries of \$32,000 - \$37,000; 2) 3M Corporation has committed to supply fiber and electronics equipment. 3) Cisco Corporation has committed to supply networking equipment for the school; 3) AT&T has committed to help train teachers to use technology effectively; 4) and AFL-CIO, Communication Workers of America and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers are committed to help wire the school.

In addition, the PowerUP program a coalition of a number of companies (including AOL), agencies, and non-profits working to bridge the digital divide through access to computers, will make Ballou High School a site later this year.

A number of Members of Congress are expected to attend the event including:

Senator Robert Bennett (R-UT), Representative Xavier Becerra (D-CA), Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX), Representative Stephanie Tubbs Jones (D-OH), Representative William Jefferson (D-LA) , Representative Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX), Representative John Lewis (D-GA), Representative Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), Representative Adam Smith (D-WA), Representative Ellen Tauscher (D-CA), Representative Maxine Waters (D-CA), and Representative David Wu (D,OR). B b vvv

Order of Speakers:

Dr. Wilma Durham, Principal, Ballou High School
David Sterling, President, Epiclearning.com
Steve Case, CEO, America Online
Darnell Curley, Computer Coordinator, Ballou High School
President Clinton
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THE CLINTON-GORE ADMINISTRATION:
FROM DIGITAL DIVIDE TO DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY
February 2, 2000

Today, President Clinton will unveil a comprehensive proposal to help bridge the digital divide and create new opportunity for all Americans. This issue has been a top priority for Vice President Gore, who has worked to bridge the Digital Divide by ensuring that all children have access to educational technology. Access to computers and the Internet and the ability to use this technology effectively are becoming increasingly important for full participation in America's economic, political and social life. Unfortunately, unequal access to technology and high-tech skills by income, educational level, race, and geography could deepen and reinforce the divisions that exist within American society. President Clinton believes that we must make access to computers and the Internet as universal as the telephone is today -- in our schools, libraries, communities, and homes.

To make the most of these new opportunities, the President believes we must:

- ú Broaden access to technologies such as computers, the Internet, and high-speed networks;
- ú Provide people the skilled teachers and the training they need to master the information economy;
- ú Promote online content and applications that will help empower all Americans to use new technologies to their fullest potential.

President Clinton will announce specific proposals in his new budget to help accomplish these goals and help create digital opportunity for more Americans -- including \$2 billion in tax incentives to encourage private sector activities such as computer donations, and \$380 million in new and expanded initiatives to serve as a catalyst for public-private partnerships.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S NEW BUDGET INITIATIVES

1. \$2 billion in tax incentives over 10 years to encourage private sector donation of computers, sponsorship of community technology centers, and technology training for workers.
2. \$150 million to help train all new teachers entering the workforce to use technology effectively.
3. \$100 million to create 1,000 Community Technology Centers in low-income urban and rural neighborhoods.
4. \$50 million for a public/private partnership to expand home access to computers and the Internet for low-income families.
5. \$45 million to promote innovative applications of information and communications technology for under-served communities.
6. \$25 million to accelerate private sector deployment of broadband networks in under-served urban and rural communities.
7. \$10 million to prepare Native Americans for careers in Information

Technology and other technical fields.

To Help Mobilize Public/Private Partnerships To Close the Digital Divide, President Clinton Will Lead A New Markets Trip during the week of April 9th: Closing the Digital Divide requires creative partnerships between industry, non-profit organizations and government. That's why President Clinton will lead a New Markets trip during the week of April 9th designed to mobilize a significant private and public effort to close the digital divide. This trip, which will include leading high-tech CEOs, will highlight communities that are using information technology to enhance our children's education, expand access to life-long learning, and create economic growth and high-tech, high-wage jobs.

THE CLINTON-GORE AGENDA FOR CREATING DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY February 2, 2000

Private sector competition and rapid technological progress are powerful forces to bridge the digital divide and make Information Age tools available for more and more Americans. The information technology industry is able to double the amount of computing power available at a given price every 12-18 months, and is now selling low-cost computers and "information appliances" -- such as specialized Internet access devices. Some companies are even offering free, advertiser-supported Internet access. By working with the private sector and community-based organizations, the Administration can accelerate the trend toward expanded access.

But access to technology is only the first step. We also need to give people the skills they need to use technology, to promote content and applications of technology that will help empower under-served communities, and to ensure that teachers can use technology effectively in the classroom. Below is a brief description of the initiatives that President Clinton and Vice President Gore are proposing to help accomplish these goals:

1. \$2 billion over 10 years in tax incentives to encourage private sector donation of computers, sponsorship of community technology centers, and technology training for workers: President Clinton's budget includes \$2 billion in new tax incentives to encourage companies to donate computers to schools, libraries and community technology centers, to sponsor schools, libraries, and community technology centers in designated Empowerment Zones, and to provide basic computer training, workplace literacy, or other basic education for their employees.
 - ú Encouraging companies to donate computers. The President proposes to extend and expand tax deduction that gives companies an incentive to donate computers to schools, libraries and computer technology centers. This enhanced deduction allows companies to deduct more than the cost of their donation. Under current law, this deduction applies to donations of computers to schools only and expires after the year 2000. The President's proposal would extend this provision through June 30, 2004 and would expand it to donations to public libraries or community technology centers in Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, and high-poverty areas.

Promoting corporate sponsorship of schools, libraries and community technology centers. The President proposes tax relief to encourage companies to sponsor schools and community technology centers in Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, and targeted low income areas. The President's proposal would allocate credits for \$16 million in corporate sponsorship to each of the 31 existing Empowerment Zones and 10 proposed new Empowerment Zones and \$4 million in corporate sponsorship for each of the more than 80 Enterprise Communities. In total, the President's proposal would help support up to nearly \$1 billion in annual sponsorships to help improve schools and community technology centers.

Supporting technology training for workers. The President's proposal would provide targeted tax relief to encourage companies to provide basic computer training, workplace literacy, or other basic education for employees that lack the basic skills to succeed in the modern workplace. Companies would be allowed to take a 20 percent tax credit for up to \$5,250 in annual expenses per employee. Eligible employees generally would not have received a high school degree or its equivalent.

2. \$150 million to help train all new teachers entering the workforce use technology effectively in the classroom: Under the leadership of President Clinton and Vice President Gore, the United States has made enormous progress in connecting schools to the Internet, and increasing the number of modern computers in the classroom. However, access to computers and the Internet will not help students achieve high academic standards unless teachers are as comfortable with a computer as they are with a chalkboard. President Clinton's budget calls for \$150 million in Department of Education grants -- double the last year's investment of \$75 million -- to ensure that all new teachers entering the workforce are technologically literate and can integrate technology into the curriculum. The need for this investment is clear. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, only 20 percent of teachers report that they are "very well prepared" to integrate technology into classroom. And over the next 10 years, K-12 schools will need to hire 2 million new teachers to fill the vacancies left by retiring teachers and to accommodate increasing student populations.

3. \$100 million to create up to 1,000 Community Technology Centers in low-income urban and rural communities: The President's budget more than triples the Department of Education's support for Community Technology Centers - from \$32.5 million in FY2000 to \$100 million in FY2001. This initiative, championed by Congresswoman Maxine Waters was initially funded at \$10 million in fiscal year 1999. The goal of the initiative is to help close the digital divide by providing computers and Information Age tools to children and adults that are not able to afford them at home. These community technology centers will help empower hundreds of thousands of low-income children and adults in a variety of ways. Children will be able to improve their performance in school by having access to high-quality educational software after school and prepare for the high-tech workplace of the 21st century by getting certified with an information technology skill. Adults will be able to use computers and the Internet to take a self-paced adult literacy course; get access to America's Job Bank to see what jobs are available; learn to type up a resume and cover letter using word processing software; learn to start up their own micro-enterprise or Web-based business, or acquire new

training. A study sponsored by the National Science Foundation confirms that Community Technology Centers are helping to bridge the digital divide. Of the users surveyed: 62 percent had incomes of less than \$15,000; 65 percent took computer classes to improve their job skills; and 41 percent got homework help or tutoring at the center.

4. \$50 million for a public/private partnership to expand home access to computers and the Internet for low-income families: The President's budget includes a new \$50 million Department of Commerce pilot program to expand access to computers and the Internet for low-income families, and to give these families the skills they need to use these new Information Age tools effectively. This new program will provide competitive grants to public-private partnerships at the local level. Potential partners might include: local school districts seeking to expand parental involvement in education; high-tech companies willing to provide discounts on computers and access; libraries offering training on "information literacy"; employers seeking to upgrade the skills of their workforce using distance learning, and government agencies at all levels seeking to save taxpayer dollars through the electronic delivery of government services. The Administration will continue to work with the private sector and non-profit organizations on the most effective way to design this program.

5. \$45 million to promote innovative applications of information technology for under-served communities: President Clinton's budget will increase the investment in the Department of Commerce's highly-successful Technology Opportunities Program (TOP) to \$45 million -- triple the current level of \$15 million. This program encourages innovative applications of information technology that help empower low-income communities -- public health information systems that raise childhood immunization rates in inner-cities, tele-mentoring for at-risk youth, and electronic networks that strengthen local communities by fostering communication and collaboration.

6. \$25 million to accelerate private sector deployment of high-speed networks in under-served urban and rural communities: High-speed Internet access is becoming as important to the economic vitality of a community as roads and bridges are today. The President will propose a new \$25 million program at the Department of Commerce and the Department of Agriculture to accelerate private sector deployment of broadband networks in under-served urban and rural communities -- using grants and loan guarantees. The potential payoff from these kinds of investments is enormous. One company, for example, has helped people move from "welfare-to-work" by connecting their community with the high-speed networks needed to support telecommuting. This solves some of the biggest barriers associated with welfare-to-work -- lack of childcare and transportation.

7. \$10 million to prepare Native Americans for careers in information technology and other technical fields: The National Science Foundation will support efforts by tribal colleges to increase the number of Native Americans who are prepared to pursue careers in information technology and other technical fields. The ability to use technology is becoming increasingly important in the workplace, and jobs in the rapidly growing

information technology sector pay almost 80 percent more than the average private sector wage.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

Access to computers and the Internet and the ability to effectively use this technology are becoming increasingly important for full participation in America's economic, political and social life. People are using the Internet to find lower prices for goods and services, work from home or start their own business, acquire new skills using distance learning, and make better informed decisions about their healthcare needs. The ability to use technology is becoming increasingly important in the workplace, and jobs in the rapidly growing information technology sector pay almost 80 percent more than the average private sector wage.

Technology, used creatively, can also make a big difference in the way teachers teach and students learn. In some classrooms, teachers are using the Internet to keep up with the latest developments in their field, exchange lesson plans with their colleagues, and communicate more frequently with parents. Students are able to log on to the Library of Congress to download primary documents for a history paper, explore the universe with an Internet-connected telescope used by professional astronomers, and engage in more active "learning by doing." Students are also creating powerful Internet-based learning resources that can be used by other students -- such as award-winning Web sites on endangered species, the biology of sleep, human perception of sound, and an exploration of the American judicial system.

Access to computers and the Internet has exploded during the Clinton-Gore Administration. Unfortunately, there is strong evidence of a digital divide -- a gap between those individuals and communities that have access to these Information Age tools and those who don't. In some instances, this divide is actually widening. A July 1999 report from the Department of Commerce, based on December 1998 Census Bureau data, revealed that:

- Better educated Americans more likely to be connected. Between 1997 and 1998, the technology divide between those at the highest and lowest education levels increased 25%. In 1998, those with a college degree are more than eight times likely to have a computer at home and nearly sixteen times as likely to have home Internet access as those with an elementary school education.
- The gap between high- and low-income Americans is increasing. In the last year, the divide between those at the highest and lowest income levels grew 29%. Households with incomes of \$75,000 or higher are more than twenty times more likely to have access to the Internet than those at the lowest income levels, and more than nine times as likely to have a computer at home.
- Whites more likely to be connected than African-Americans or Hispanics. The digital divide is also persistent and growing along racial and ethnic lines. Whites are more likely to have access to the Internet from home than African-Americans or Hispanics have from any location. African-American and Hispanic households are roughly two-fifths as likely to have home Internet access as white households. The gaps between

white and Hispanic households, and between white and African-American households, are now more than six percentage points larger than they were in 1994. However, for incomes of \$75,000 and higher, the divide between whites and African-Americans has narrowed considerably in the last year.

- Rural areas less likely to be connected than urban users. Regardless of income level, those living in rural areas are lagging behind in computer ownership and Internet access. At some income levels, those in urban areas are 50% more likely to have Internet access than those earning the same income in rural areas. Low income households in rural areas are the least connected, with connectivity rates in the singles digits for both computers and Internet access.

In addition, data from the National Center for Education Statistics reveals a "digital divide" in our nation's schools. As of the fall of 1998, 39 percent of classrooms of poor schools were connected to the Internet, as compared to 62 percent for wealthier schools.

A STRONG RECORD OF WORKING TO CLOSE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

President Clinton and Vice President Gore have worked hard to close the digital divide, and to help create opportunity for more Americans in the Information Age.

- President Clinton and Vice President Gore have set a national goal of ensuring that every child is technologically literate. In addition to preparing children for the high-tech workplace of the 21st century, technology can help change the way teachers teach and students learn. Teachers can communicate more frequently with parents, keep up with the latest developments in their field, and exchange lesson plans with their colleagues. Students can conduct research using primary source material, learn the principles of genetics by breeding virtual fruit flies, and learn astronomy by using a professional telescope located 3,000 miles from their classroom.

- As a result of the Clinton-Gore educational technology initiative:

- The number of classrooms connected to the Internet has increased from 3% in 1994 to 51% in 1998.

- The number of schools connected to the Internet has increased from 35% in 1994 to 89% in 1998.

- The "e-rate", part of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, is providing \$2.25 billion in 20% - 90% discounts to connect schools and libraries to the Internet, with the deepest discounts going to the poorest schools that need it most. The e-rate alone has provided Internet access for children in more than 1 million classrooms.

- Our total investment in educational technology at the federal level (including the e-rate) has increased from \$23 million in 1993 to over \$3 billion today.

- Grants supported by the Department of Education are training 400,000 new teachers to use technology effectively in the classroom.

In addition, President Clinton and Vice-President Gore have worked to:

- Expand access to technology for people with disabilities: President Clinton and Vice President Gore have been strong supporters of efforts to make technology more accessible for people with disabilities. Recent

actions by the Federal Communications Commission will help ensure that telecommunications equipment, such as cellular phones, is designed to be accessible for people with disabilities.

- ú Expand access to technology in under-served communities: In addition to the Community Technology Center program, HUD Sec. Andrew Cuomo has created approximately 500 Neighborhood Network learning centers that bring state of the art technology to publicly-assisted housing across America. HUD's Neighborhood Networks are innovative private/public partnerships that establish computer-based multi-service centers to help people in publicly-assisted housing learn critical computer skills and prepare for 21st century jobs.

- ú Ensure that the Administration makes closing the Digital Divide a top priority. In December, 1999, President Clinton directed members of the Cabinet to take specific actions to address the digital divide:

President Clinton is directing members of his Cabinet (Secretaries of Commerce, Education, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, and Labor) to take specific steps to close the Digital Divide, including:

- ú Continuing to measure the nature and extent of the digital divide by examining the importance of income, education, race, gender, geography and age to Americans' access to Information Age tools;
- ú Expanding the network of Community Technology Centers to provide access to technology for those American who can't afford it;
- ú Promoting applications of the Internet that will empower low-income families, such as the ability to start their own business; and
- ú Upgrading the IT skills of workers in low-income communities.

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ARMS Email System
RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jennifer <jenny9357@yahoo.com> (Jennifer <jenny9357@yahoo.com> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 2-FEB-2000 14:04:37.00

SUBJECT: Re: Digital Divide

TO: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

> If you are interested in joining in this endeavor,
> please reply to this
> email with your name, organizational affiliation (if
> you don't have one,
> that's fine too), home town, and a phone number
> where I can reach you. If
> you'd like, I invite you to write a brief
> description of who you are and
> your interests in technology. Thanks.

Jennifer LaPrade
St. Louis, MO
(314) 621-9555 ext. 202

I'm a huge Clinton/Gore supporter and I think there is a great need to make the Internet accessible to everyone. I develop content for an Internet company and have had Internet access for over three years. I can say that the Internet has really changed my life, as silly as that sounds, in many ways.

Those who have Internet access are at a much greater advantage than those who do not. We have enough divisions with race, wealth, and social issues. I would like to help make sure we don't add the "digital divide".

I will help in any way that I can! Tell me what you need and I'll tell you what I can help with.

Thanks,
Jennifer

Do You Yahoo!?
Talk to your friends online with Yahoo! Messenger.
<http://im.yahoo.com>

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES READ RECEIPT)

CREATOR: Patrick M. Dorton (CN=Patrick M. Dorton/OU=OPD/O=EOP [OPD])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 2-FEB-2000 16:11:14.00

SUBJECT: RECEIVED: Digital Divide Wire Photos

TO: George G. Caudill (CN=George G. Caudill/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

RETURN RECEIPT

Your Document:

Digital Divide Wire Photos

was successfully received by:

CN=Patrick M. Dorton/OU=OPD/O=EOP

at:

02/02/2000 04:04:55 PM

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: BBracey@aol.com (BBracey@aol.com [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 2-FEB-2000 01:26:20.00

SUBJECT: Re: President Clinton's Digital Divide Event -- Invitation for Wednesday, February 2, 2000

TO: komar@civilrights.org (komar@civilrights.org [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jena V. Roscoe (CN=Jena V. Roscoe/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: mjohnson@cwla.org (mjohnson@cwla.org [OA])

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: kgrasty@american.edu (kgrasty@american.edu [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

In a message dated 2/1/00 4:46:35 PM, Jena_V._Roscoe@who.eop.gov writes:

<< THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

INVITATION/RSVP FORM

DATE/TIME: Wednesday, February 2, 2000, 10:30am

LOCATION: Ballou Senior High School
3401 4th Street, SE
Washington, DC

PRINCIPAL BRIEFERS: The President

OBJECTIVE: The President will announce his intent to request
funding in the federal budget to address the digital
divide.

ARRIVAL &
CLEARANCE

INFORMATION: For entrance, your name must be on the White House RSVP
list and you must provide photo identification such as
a valid driver's license that displays your date of
birth.

Please RSVP by email or telephone
no later than Tuesday, February 1, 2000 at 7:00pm

to: Jena Roscoe
Associate Director
Office of Public Liaison
Jena_Roscoe@oa.eop.gov
Phone: 202-456-6657

____ Yes, I will be attending the announcement on Wednesday, February 2, 2000.

____ No, I will not be able to attend, but would like for my Senior Level Representative to attend on my behalf on Wednesday, February 2, 2000.

Full Name: _____ Bonnie Bracey _____ Title: High Tech Specialist for ECTC, and Fellow for The Lucas Foundation.

Corporation/Organization:

____ ECTC_project World Summit
and The George Lucas Educational Foundation USA
www.glef.org

European Children's Television Centre
20, Analipseos street, Vrilissia
15235 Athens, Greece
Tel. +30-1-6851258 Fax. +30-1-6817987

3rd World Summit on Media for Children
11-15 March 2001, Thessaloniki, Greece
www.childrens-media.org <<http://www.childrens-media.org>>

Corporation/Organization Address:

US Address 230 G Street, SW _____

Office Number: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

xxx

____ No, I will not be able to attend. Please keep me informed.

>>

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Victoria L. Valentine (CN=Victoria L. Valentine/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 2-FEB-2000 12:55:49.00

SUBJECT: TODAY: digital divide conf call

TO: afronet@afronet.com (afronet@afronet.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Hello Willie,

Tried to call you about this conf call but the phone just continued to ring and voicemail never picked up. Anyhow, if you get this email in time and you (or a editor/reporter at afronet) are interested, please give me a call so that you can participate in this Digital Divide conf call.

Thanks

CONFERENCE CALL ON PRESIDENT CLINTON'S DIGITAL DIVIDE ANNOUNCEMENT

GREG ROHDE, U.S. Commerce Department, Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information

will be on the call to give details and take your questions on the President's 2001 Budget initiative announcement to address bridging the digital divide.

Date: Today, Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Time: 2:00 pm EST

If you (or an appropriate editor or reporter from your media outlet or .com) would like to participate in this conference call please contact me as soon as possible at 202-456-7284 and I will give you the call phone number and information. (You should have already received press paper on this announcement in a previous email. If you did not I would be happy to forward.)

Thanks

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES READ RECEIPT)

CREATOR: Timothy W. Emrich (CN=Timothy W. Emrich/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 2-FEB-2000 16:28:52.00

SUBJECT: RECEIVED: Digital Divide Wire Photos

TO: George G. Caudill (CN=George G. Caudill/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

RETURN RECEIPT

Your Document:

Digital Divide Wire Photos

was successfully received by:

CN=Timothy W. Emrich/OU=WHO/O=EOP

at:

02/02/2000 04:22:51 PM

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: technologydaily-alert@njdc.com (technologydaily-alert@njdc.com [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 2-FEB-2000 09:12:53.00

SUBJECT: Technology Daily: Clinton ClickStarts Digital Divide Discussion

TO: Scott Hynes (CN=Scott Hynes/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Mark A. Kitchens (CN=Mark A. Kitchens/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Lisa M. Kountoupes (CN=Lisa M. Kountoupes/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

This morning's National Journal's Technology Daily AM Edition is now available on National Journal's Cloakroom:

<http://www.cloakroom.com/pubs/techdaily/>

TOP STORIES: Internet tax panel could reach consensus; how did the Internet play in McCain's NH win?; AOL charged with using deceptive trade practices; privacy advocates could be pleased with financial services protections; lawyers share in dot-com wealth; and more.

ALSO ON THE TECHNOLOGY DAILY SITE THIS MORNING:

-- People: Is the Net just what the doctor ordered?; adding sparkle to Markle; and more.

THIS MORNING ON CLOAKROOM:

-- Poll Position: The Free Association Game

<http://cloakroom.com/members/buzz/pollposition.htm>

-- Ad Spotlight: NRA Spoofs Clinton To Decry Smart Gun Research

<http://cloakroom.com/members/adspotlight/2000/02/0202nra1.htm>

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: "Kolluri, Kris" <Kris.Kolluri@mail.house.gov> ("Kolluri, Kris" <Kris.Kolluri@mail.house.gov> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 2-FEB-2000 11:23:56.00

SUBJECT: RE: REVISED: The Clinton-Gore Administration: From Digital Divide to Digital Opportunity (Small change: Page 2, #1, 2nd Bullet)

TO: Joshua J. Ackil (CN=Joshua J. Ackil/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:
will do.

-----Original Message-----

From: Ackil, Josh
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2000 10:44 AM
To: Kolluri, Kris
Subject: REVISED: The Clinton-Gore Administration: From Digital Divide to Digital Opportunity (Small change: Page 2, #1, 2nd Bullet)

Can you pass this along to the Freshmen - next Digital Divide trip is the week of April 9th.

THE CLINTON-GORE ADMINISTRATION:
FROM DIGITAL DIVIDE TO DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY
February 2, 2000

Today, President Clinton will unveil a comprehensive proposal to help bridge the digital divide and create new opportunity for all Americans. This issue has been a top priority for Vice President Gore, who has worked to bridge the Digital Divide by ensuring that all children have access to educational technology. Access to computers and the Internet and the ability to use this technology effectively are becoming increasingly important for full participation in America's economic, political and social life. Unfortunately, unequal access to technology and high-tech skills by income, educational level, race, and geography could deepen and reinforce the divisions that exist within American society. President Clinton believes that we must make access to computers and the Internet as universal as the telephone is today -- in our schools, libraries, communities, and homes.

To make the most of these new opportunities, the President believes we must:

- ? Broaden access to technologies such as computers, the Internet, and high-speed networks;
- ? Provide people the skilled teachers and the training they need to master the information economy;
- ? Promote online content and applications that will help empower all Americans to use new technologies to their fullest potential.

President Clinton will announce specific proposals in his new budget to help accomplish these goals and help create digital opportunity for more Americans -- including \$2 billion in tax incentives to encourage private sector activities such as computer donations, and \$380 million in new and expanded initiatives to serve as a catalyst for public-private partnerships.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S NEW BUDGET INITIATIVES

1. \$2 billion in tax incentives over 10 years to encourage private sector donation of computers, sponsorship of community technology centers, and technology training for workers.
 2. \$150 million to help train all new teachers entering the workforce to use technology effectively.
 3. \$100 million to create 1,000 Community Technology Centers in low-income urban and rural neighborhoods.
 4. \$50 million for a public/private partnership to expand home access to computers and the Internet for low-income families.
 5. \$45 million to promote innovative applications of information and communications technology for under-served communities.
 6. \$25 million to accelerate private sector deployment of broadband networks in under-served urban and rural communities.
 7. \$10 million to prepare Native Americans for careers in Information Technology and other technical fields.
-

To Help Mobilize Public/Private Partnerships To Close the Digital Divide, President Clinton Will Lead A New Markets Trip during the week of April 9th: Closing the Digital Divide requires creative partnerships between industry, non-profit organizations and government. That's why President Clinton will lead a New Markets trip during the week of April 9th designed to mobilize a significant private and public effort to close the digital divide. This trip, which will include leading high-tech CEOs, will

highlight communities that are using information technology to enhance our children's education, expand access to life-long learning, and create economic growth and high-tech, high-wage jobs.

THE CLINTON-GORE AGENDA FOR CREATING DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY

February 2, 2000

Private sector competition and rapid technological progress are powerful forces to bridge the digital divide and make Information Age tools available for more and more Americans. The information technology industry is able to double the amount of computing power available at a given price every 12-18 months, and is now selling low-cost computers and "information appliances" -- such as specialized Internet access devices. Some companies are even offering free, advertiser-supported Internet access. By working with the private sector and community-based organizations, the Administration can accelerate the trend toward expanded access.

But access to technology is only the first step. We also need to give people the skills they need to use technology, to promote content and applications of technology that will help empower under-served communities, and to ensure that teachers can use technology effectively in the classroom. Below is a brief description of the initiatives that President Clinton and Vice President Gore are proposing to help accomplish these goals:

1. \$2 billion over 10 years in tax incentives to encourage private sector donation of computers, sponsorship of community technology centers, and technology training for workers: President Clinton's budget includes \$2 billion in new tax incentives to encourage companies to donate computers to schools, libraries and community technology centers, to sponsor schools, libraries, and community technology centers in designated Empowerment Zones, and to provide basic computer training, workplace literacy, or other basic education for their employees.

? Encouraging companies to donate computers. The President proposes to extend and expand tax deduction that gives companies an incentive to donate computers to schools, libraries and computer technology centers. This enhanced deduction allows companies to deduct more than the cost of their donation. Under current law, this deduction applies to donations of computers to schools only and expires after the year 2000. The President's proposal would extend this provision through June 30, 2004 and would expand it to donations to public libraries or community technology centers in Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, and high-poverty areas.

? Promoting corporate sponsorship of schools, libraries and community technology centers. The President proposes tax relief to encourage companies to sponsor schools and community technology centers in Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, and targeted low income areas. The President's proposal would allocate credits for \$16 million in corporate sponsorship to each of the 31 existing Empowerment Zones and 10 proposed new Empowerment Zones and \$4 million in corporate sponsorship for each of the more than 80 Enterprise Communities. In total, the President's proposal would help support up to nearly \$1 billion in annual sponsorships to help improve schools and community technology centers.

? Supporting technology training for workers. The President's proposal would provide targeted tax relief to encourage companies to provide basic computer training, workplace literacy, or other basic education for employees that lack the basic skills to succeed in the modern workplace. Companies would be allowed to take a 20 percent tax credit for up to \$5,250 in annual expenses per employee. Eligible employees generally would not have received a high school degree or its equivalent.

2. \$150 million to help train all new teachers entering the workforce use technology effectively in the classroom: Under the leadership of President Clinton and Vice President Gore, the United States has made enormous progress in connecting schools to the Internet, and increasing the number of modern computers in the classroom. However, access to computers and the Internet will not help students achieve high academic standards unless teachers are as comfortable with a computer as they are with a chalkboard. President Clinton's budget calls for \$150 million in Department of Education grants -- double the last year's investment of \$75 million -- to ensure that all new teachers entering the workforce are technologically literate and can integrate technology into the curriculum. The need for this investment is clear. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, only 20 percent of teachers report that they are "very well prepared" to integrate technology into classroom. And over the next 10 years, K-12 schools will need to hire 2 million new teachers to fill the vacancies left by retiring teachers and to accommodate increasing student populations.

3. \$100 million to create up to 1,000 Community Technology Centers in low-income urban and rural communities: The President's budget more than triples the Department of Education's support for Community Technology Centers - from \$32.5 million in FY2000 to \$100 million in FY2001. This initiative, championed by Congresswoman Maxine Waters was initially funded at \$10 million in fiscal year 1999. The goal of the initiative is to help close the "digital divide" by providing computers and Information Age tools to children and adults that are not able to afford them at home. These community technology centers will help empower hundreds of thousands of low-income children and adults in a variety of ways. Children will be able to improve their performance in school by having access to high-quality educational software after school and prepare for the high-tech workplace of the 21st century by getting certified with an information technology skill. Adults will be able to use computers and the Internet to take a self-paced adult literacy course; get access to America's Job Bank to see what jobs are available; learn to type up a resume and cover letter using word processing software; learn to start up their own "micro-enterprise" or Web-based business, or acquire new training. A study sponsored by the National Science Foundation confirms that Community Technology Centers are helping to bridge the digital divide. Of the users surveyed: 62 percent had incomes of less than \$15,000; 65 percent took computer classes to improve their job skills; and 41 percent got homework help or tutoring at the center.

4. \$50 million for a public/private partnership to expand home access to computers and the Internet for low-income families: The President's budget includes a new \$50 million Department of Commerce pilot program to expand access to computers and the Internet for low-income families, and to give

these families the skills they need to use these new Information Age tools effectively. This new program will provide competitive grants to public-private partnerships at the local level. Potential partners might include: local school districts seeking to expand parental involvement in education; high-tech companies willing to provide discounts on computers and access; libraries offering training on "information literacy"; employers seeking to upgrade the skills of their workforce using distance learning, and government agencies at all levels seeking to save taxpayer dollars through the electronic delivery of government services. The Administration will continue to work with the private sector and non-profit organizations on the most effective way to design this program.

5. \$45 million to promote innovative applications of information technology for under-served communities: President Clinton's budget will increase the investment in the Department of Commerce's highly-successful Technology Opportunities Program (TOP) to \$45 million -- triple the current level of \$15 million. This program encourages innovative applications of information technology that help empower low-income communities -- public health information systems that raise childhood immunization rates in inner-cities, tele-mentoring for at-risk youth, and electronic networks that strengthen local communities by fostering communication and collaboration.

6. \$25 million to accelerate private sector deployment of high-speed networks in under-served urban and rural communities: High-speed Internet access is becoming as important to the economic vitality of a community as roads and bridges are today. The President will propose a new \$25 million program at the Department of Commerce and the Department of Agriculture to accelerate private sector deployment of broadband networks in under-served urban and rural communities -- using grants and loan guarantees. The potential payoff from these kinds of investments is enormous. One company, for example, has helped people move from "welfare-to-work" by connecting their community with the high-speed networks needed to support telecommuting. This solves some of the biggest barriers associated with welfare-to-work -- lack of childcare and transportation.

7. \$10 million to prepare Native Americans for careers in information technology and other technical fields: The National Science Foundation will support efforts by tribal colleges to increase the number of Native Americans who are prepared to pursue careers in information technology and other technical fields. The ability to use technology is becoming increasingly important in the workplace, and jobs in the rapidly growing information technology sector pay almost 80 percent more than the average private sector wage.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

Access to computers and the Internet and the ability to effectively use this technology are becoming increasingly important for full participation in America's economic, political and social life. People are using the Internet to find lower prices for goods and services, work from home or start their own business, acquire new skills using distance learning, and make better informed decisions about their healthcare needs. The ability to use technology is becoming increasingly important in the workplace, and jobs in the rapidly growing information technology sector pay almost 80

percent more than the average private sector wage.

Technology, used creatively, can also make a big difference in the way teachers teach and students learn. In some classrooms, teachers are using the Internet to keep up with the latest developments in their field, exchange lesson plans with their colleagues, and communicate more frequently with parents. Students are able to log on to the Library of Congress to download primary documents for a history paper, explore the universe with an Internet-connected telescope used by professional astronomers, and engage in more active "learning by doing." Students are also creating powerful Internet-based learning resources that can be used by other students -- such as award-winning Web sites on endangered species, the biology of sleep, human perception of sound, and an exploration of the American judicial system.

Access to computers and the Internet has exploded during the Clinton-Gore Administration. Unfortunately, there is strong evidence of a "digital divide" -- a gap between those individuals and communities that have access to these Information Age tools and those who don't. In some instances, this divide is actually widening. A July 1999 report from the Department of Commerce, based on December 1998 Census Department data, revealed that:

? Better educated Americans more likely to be connected. Between 1997 and 1998, the technology divide between those at the highest and lowest education levels increased 25%. In 1998, those with a college degree are more than eight times likely to have a computer at home and nearly sixteen times as likely to have home Internet access as those with an elementary school education.

? The gap between high- and low-income Americans is increasing. In the last year, the divide between those at the highest and lowest income levels grew 29%. Households with incomes of \$75,000 or higher are more than twenty times more likely to have access to the Internet than those at the lowest income levels, and more than nine times as likely to have a computer at home.

? Whites more likely to be connected than African-Americans or Hispanics. The digital divide is also persistent and growing along racial and ethnic lines. Whites are more likely to have access to the Internet from home than African-Americans or Hispanics have from any location. African-American and Hispanic households are roughly two-fifths as likely to have home Internet access as white households. The gaps between white and Hispanic households, and between white and African-American households, are now more than six percentage points larger than they were in 1994. However, for incomes of \$75,000 and higher, the divide between whites and African-Americans has narrowed considerably in the last year.

? Rural areas less likely to be connected than urban users. Regardless of income level, those living in rural areas are lagging behind in computer ownership and Internet access. At some income levels, those in urban areas are 50% more likely to have Internet access than those earning the same income in rural areas. Low income households in rural areas are the least connected, with connectivity rates in the singles digits for both computers and Internet access.

In addition, data from the National Center for Education Statistics reveals

a "digital divide" in our nation's schools. As of the fall of 1998, 39 percent of classrooms of poor schools were connected to the Internet, as compared to 62 percent for wealthier schools.

A STRONG RECORD OF WORKING TO CLOSE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

President Clinton and Vice President Gore have worked hard to close the digital divide, and to help create opportunity for more Americans in the Information Age.

? President Clinton and Vice President Gore have set a national goal of ensuring that every child is technologically literate. In addition to preparing children for the high-tech workplace of the 21st century, technology can help change the way teachers teach and students learn. Teachers can communicate more frequently with parents, keep up with the latest developments in their field, and exchange lesson plans with their colleagues. Students can conduct research using primary source material, learn the principles of genetics by breeding virtual fruit flies, and learn astronomy by using a professional telescope located 3,000 miles from their classroom.

? As a result of the Clinton-Gore educational technology initiative:

? The number of classrooms connected to the Internet has increased from 3% in 1994 to 51% in 1998.

? The number of schools connected to the Internet has increased from 35% in 1994 to 89% in 1998.

? The "e-rate", part of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, is providing \$2.25 billion in 20% - 90% discounts to connect schools and libraries to the Internet, with the deepest discounts going to the poorest schools that need it most. The e-rate alone has provided Internet access for children in more than 1 million classrooms.

? Our total investment in educational technology at the federal level (including the e-rate) has increased from \$23 million in 1993 to over \$3 billion today.

? Grants supported by the Department of Education are training 400,000 new teachers to use technology effectively in the classroom.

In addition, President Clinton and Vice-President Gore have worked to:

? Expand access to technology for people with disabilities: President Clinton and Vice President Gore have been strong supporters of efforts to make technology more accessible for people with disabilities. Recent actions by the Federal Communications Commission will help ensure that telecommunications equipment, such as cellular phones, is designed to be accessible for people with disabilities.

? Expand access to technology in under-served communities: In addition to the Community Technology Center program, HUD Sec. Andrew Cuomo has created approximately 500 Neighborhood Network learning centers that bring state of the art technology to publicly-assisted housing across America. HUD's Neighborhood Networks are innovative private/public partnerships that establish computer-based multi-service centers to help people in publicly-assisted housing learn critical computer skills and prepare for 21st century jobs.

? Ensure that the Administration makes closing the Digital Divide a top priority. In December, 1999, President Clinton directed members

of the Cabinet to take specific actions to address the digital divide: President Clinton is directing members of his Cabinet (Secretaries of Commerce, Education, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, and Labor) to take specific steps to close the Digital Divide, including:

- ? Continuing to measure the nature and extent of the digital divide by examining the importance of income, education, race, gender, geography and age to Americans' access to Information Age tools;
- ? Expanding the network of Community Technology Centers to provide access to technology for those American who can't afford it;
- ? Promoting applications of the Internet that will empower low-income families, such as the ability to start their own business; and
- ? Upgrading the IT skills of workers in low-income communities.

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Message Sent

To: _____

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Nicole L. Davison/OPD/EOP@EOP
Kymberly M. Escobar/CEQ/EOP@EOP
Alberto O. Feraren/OA/EOP@EOP
Bobby D. Conner/WHO/EOP@EOP
Beth Nolan/WHO/EOP@EOP
Ann O'Leary/OPD/EOP@EOP
Shivaun A. Cooney/WHO/EOP@EOP

Anne W. Bovaird/WHO/EOP@EOP

Rochester M. Johnson/WHO/EOP@EOP
Lisa Zweig/OMB/EOP@EOP
Samir Afridi/WHO/EOP@EOP
Jennifer M. Palmieri/WHO/EOP@EOP
Bridger E. McGaw/OVP@OVP
Ann O'Leary/OPD/EOP@EOP
Brian S. Mason/WHO/EOP@EOP
Jason E. Hartke/WHO/EOP@EOP
Rochelle G. Thompson/WHO/EOP@EOP
Brian A. Barreto/WHO/EOP@EOP
George E. Lewis/OA/EOP@EOP
Kristina Wolfe/OVP@OVP
Maria L. Haley/WHO/EOP@EOP
Phu D. Huynh/WHO/EOP@EOP
Aaron DeCamp/WHO/EOP@EOP
Emily Karcher/WHO/EOP@EOP
John A. Wertman/WHO/EOP@EOP
Joshua J. Ackil/WHO/EOP@EOP

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: "Tommy E. Thomas" <TommyThomas@compuserve.com> ("Tommy E. Thomas"
<TommyThomas@compuserve.com> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 2-FEB-2000 22:18:59.00

SUBJECT: Digital Divide: AOL and CompuServe accessibility

TO: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Jonathan:

A major bone of contention within the "blind community" has been a lawsuit involving the National Federation of the blind (NFB) and America On Line (AOL). The actual suit is being conducted in the Boston courts. I imagine you have the resources to investigate further, if you wish.

Otherwise, here are a couple of web sites that may give you more information:

<http://www.nfb.org>

and

<http://www.acb.org>

I hope this information proves useful to you.

Tommy E. Thomas ICQ: 43653976 <TommyThomas@compuserve.com>

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jason H. Schechter (CN=Jason H. Schechter/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 2-FEB-2000 10:16:59.00

SUBJECT: did you do q&a for gene on digital divide? can i get a copy? thanks

TO: Patrick M. Dorton (CN=Patrick M. Dorton/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [OPD])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Victoria L. Valentine (CN=Victoria L. Valentine/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 2-FEB-2000 11:13:08.00

SUBJECT: TODAY: digital divide conf call

WEBMASTER@aawc.com (WEBMASTER@aawc.com @ inet [OA]) (OA)

READ:UNKNOWN

ted@afrocentricnews.net (ted@afrocentricnews.net @ inet [NSC])

READ:UNKNOWN

afronet@afronet.com (afronet@afronet.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

bcooper@corp.blackvoice.com (bcooper@corp.blackvoice.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

donrojas@tbwt.com (donrojas@tbwt.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

whj@melnet.com (whj@melnet.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

asten@netnoir.com (asten@netnoir.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

reynew@aol.com (reynew@aol.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

dsmith@politicallyblack.com (dsmith@politicallyblack.com @ inet [OA])

READ:UNKNOWN

badubose@aol.com (badubose@aol.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

informer@usbol.com (informer@usbol.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

CONFERENCE CALL ON PRESIDENT CLINTON'S DIGITAL DIVIDE ANNOUNCEMENT

GREG ROHDE, U.S. Commerce Department, Assistant Secretary for
Communications and Information

will be on the call to give details and take your questions on the
President's 2001 Budget initiative announcement to address bridging the
digital divide.

Date: Today, Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Time: 2:00 pm EST

If you (or an appropriate editor or reporter from your media outlet or .com) would like to participate in this conference call please contact me as soon as possible at 202-456-7284 and I will give you the call phone number and information. (You should have already received press paper on this announcement in a previous email. If you did not I would be happy to forward.)

Thanks

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas A. Kalil (CN=Thomas A. Kalil/OU=OPD/O=EOP [OPD])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 15:09:27.00

SUBJECT: Digital divide

TO: Joel K. Wiginton (CN=Joel K. Wiginton/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Final paper - yes happy to meet with Biden's folks
although we really need support on

Approps - Labor, HHS and CJS
Senate Finance (for the tax piece)

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

Unable to convert ARMS_EXT:[ATTACH.D55]ARMS284305146.046 to ASCII,
The following is a HEX DUMP:

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

**THE CLINTON-GORE ADMINISTRATION:
FROM DIGITAL DIVIDE TO DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY
February 2, 2000**

Today, President Clinton will unveil a comprehensive proposal to help bridge the Digital Divide and to help create digital opportunity for all Americans. This issue has also been a top priority for Vice President Gore, who has worked to bridge the Digital Divide by ensuring that all of our children have access to educational technology. Access to computers and the Internet and the ability to effectively use this technology are becoming increasingly important for full participation in America's economic, political and social life. Unfortunately, unequal access to technology and high-tech skills by income, educational level, race, and geography could deepen and reinforce the divisions that exist within American society. President Clinton believes that we must make access to computers and the Internet as universal as the telephone is today -- in our schools, libraries, communities, and homes.

To make the most of these new opportunities, the President believes we must:

- Broaden **access** to technologies such as computers, the Internet, and high-speed networks;
- Provide people the **skilled teachers** and the **training** they need to master the information economy;
- Promote **online content** and **applications** that will help empower all Americans to use new technologies to their fullest potential.

President Clinton will announce specific proposals in his FY2001 budget to help accomplish these goals and help create digital opportunity for more Americans -- including \$2 billion in tax incentives to encourage private sector activities such as computer donations, and \$380 million in new and expanded initiatives to serve as a catalyst for public-private partnerships.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S 2001 BUDGET INITIATIVES

1. **\$2 billion over 10 years in tax incentives to encourage private sector donation of computers, sponsorship of community technology centers, and technology training for workers.**
2. **\$150 million to help train all new teachers entering the workforce to use technology effectively.**
3. **\$100 million to create 1,000 Community Technology Centers in low-income urban and rural neighborhoods.**
4. **\$50 million for a public/private partnership to expand home access to computers and the Internet for low-income families.**
5. **\$45 million to promote innovative applications of information and communications technology for under-served communities.**
6. **\$25 million to accelerate private sector deployment of broadband networks in under-served urban and rural communities.**
7. **\$10 million to prepare Native Americans for careers in Information Technology and other technical fields.**

To Help Mobilize Public/Private Partnerships To Close the Digital Divide, President Clinton Will Lead A New Markets Trip This April: Closing the Digital Divide requires creative partnerships between industry, non-profit organizations and government. That's why President Clinton will lead a New Markets trip this April designed to mobilize a significant private and public effort to close the digital divide. This trip, which will include leading high-tech CEOs, will highlight communities that are using information technology to enhance our children's education, expand access to life-long learning, and create economic growth and high-tech, high-wage jobs.

THE CLINTON-GORE AGENDA FOR CREATING DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY

Private sector competition and rapid technological progress are powerful forces for bridging the digital divide and for making Information Age tools available for more and more Americans. The information technology industry is able to double the amount of computing power available at a given price every 12-18 months, and is now selling low-cost computers and "information appliances" -- such as specialized Internet access devices. Some companies are even offering free, advertiser-supported Internet access. By working with the private sector and community-based organizations, the Administration can accelerate the trend of expanded access.

But access to technology is only the first step. We also need to give more people the skills they need to use technology, promote content and applications of technology that will help empower under-served communities, and ensure that our teachers can use technology effectively in the classroom. Below is a brief description of the initiatives that President Clinton and Vice President Gore are proposing to help accomplish these goals:

1. **\$2 billion over 10 years in tax incentives to encourage private sector donation of computers, sponsorship of community technology centers, and technology training for workers:** President Clinton's budget includes \$2 billion in tax incentives to encourage companies to donate computers to schools, libraries and community technology centers, to sponsor schools, libraries, and community technology centers in designated Empowerment Zones, and to provide basic computer training, workplace literacy, or other basic education for their employees.
 - **Encouraging companies to donate computers.** The President proposes to extend and expand an enhanced tax deduction to provide companies with an incentive to donate computers to schools, libraries and computer technology centers. This enhanced deduction allows companies to deduct more than the cost of their donation. Under current law, this enhanced deduction applies to donations of computers to schools only and expires after the year 2000. The President's proposal would extend this provision through June 30, 2004 and would expand it to donations to public libraries or community technology centers in Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, and high-poverty areas.
 - **Promoting corporate sponsorship of schools, libraries and community technology centers.** The President proposes tax relief to encourage companies to sponsor schools and community technology centers in Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities and targeted low-income areas. The President's proposal would allocate credits for \$16 million in corporate sponsorship to each of the 31 existing Empowerment Zones and 10 proposed new Empowerment Zones and \$4 million in corporate sponsorship for each of the more than 80 Enterprise Communities. In total, the President's proposal would help support up to nearly \$1 billion in annual sponsorships to help improve schools and community technology centers.
 - **Supporting technology training for workers.** The President's proposal would provide targeted tax relief to encourage companies to provide basic computer training, workplace literacy, or other basic education for employees that lack the basic skills to succeed in the modern workplace. Companies would be allowed to take a 20 percent tax credit for up to \$5,250 in annual expenses per employee. Eligible employees generally would not have received a high school degree or its equivalent.
2. **\$150 million to help train all new teachers entering the workforce use technology effectively in the classroom:** Under the leadership of President Clinton and Vice President Gore, the United States has made enormous progress in connecting schools to the Internet, and increasing the number of modern computers in the classroom. However, access to computers and the Internet will not help students achieve high academic standards unless teachers are as comfortable with a computer as they are with a chalkboard. President Clinton's budget calls for \$150 million in Department of Education grants -- double the last year's investment of \$75 million -- to ensure that all new teachers entering the workforce are technologically literate and can integrate technology into the curriculum. The need for this investment is clear. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, only 20 percent of teachers report that they are "very well prepared" to integrate technology into classroom. And over the next 10 years, K-12 schools will need to hire 2 million new teachers to fill the vacancies left by retiring teachers and to accommodate increasing student populations.

Automated Records Management System
Hex-Dump Conversion

3. **\$100 million to create up to 1,000 Community Technology Centers in low-income urban and rural communities:** The President's budget more than triples the Department of Education's support for Community Technology Centers - from \$32.5 million in FY2000 to \$100 million in FY2001. This initiative, championed by Congresswoman Maxine Waters was initially funded at \$10 million in fiscal year 1999. The goal of the initiative is to help close the "digital divide" by providing computers and Information Age tools to children and adults that are not able to afford them at home. These community technology centers will help empower hundreds of thousands of low-income children and adults in a variety of ways. Children will be able to improve their performance in school by having access to high-quality educational software after school and prepare for the high-tech workplace of the 21st century by getting certified with an information technology skill. Adults will be able to use computers and the Internet to take a self-paced adult literacy course; get access to America's Job Bank to see what jobs are available; learn to type up a resume and cover letter using word processing software; learn to start up their own "micro-enterprise" or Web-based business, or acquire new training. A study sponsored by the National Science Foundation confirms that Community Technology Centers are helping to bridge the digital divide. Of the users surveyed: 62 percent had incomes of less than \$15,000; 65 percent took computer classes to improve their job skills; and 41 percent got homework help or tutoring at the center.
4. **\$50 million for a public/private partnership to expand home access to computers and the Internet for low-income families:** The President's budget includes a new \$50 million Department of Commerce pilot program to expand access to computers and the Internet for low-income families, and to give these families the skills they need to use these new Information Age tools effectively. This new program will provide competitive grants to public-private partnerships at the local level. Potential partners might include: local school districts seeking to expand parental involvement in education; high-tech companies willing to provide discounts on computers and access; libraries offering training on "information literacy"; employers seeking to upgrade the skills of their workforce using distance learning, and government agencies at all levels seeking to save taxpayer dollars through the electronic delivery of government services. The Administration will continue to work with the private sector and non-profit organizations on the most effective way to design this program.
5. **\$45 million to promote innovative applications of information technology for under-served communities:** President Clinton's budget will increase the investment in the Department of Commerce's highly-successful Technology Opportunities Program (TOP) to \$45 million -- triple the current level of \$15 million. This program encourages innovative applications of information technology that help empower low-income communities -- public health information systems that raise childhood immunization rates in inner-cities, tele-mentoring for at-risk youth, and electronic networks that strengthen local communities by fostering communication and collaboration.
6. **\$25 million to accelerate private sector deployment of high-speed networks in under-served urban and rural communities:** High-speed Internet access is becoming as important to the economic vitality of a community as roads and bridges are today. The President will propose a new \$25 million program at the Department of Commerce and the Department of Agriculture to accelerate private sector deployment of broadband networks in under-served urban and rural communities -- using grants and loan guarantees. The potential payoff from these kinds of investments is enormous. One company, for example, has helped people move from "welfare-to-work" by connecting their community with the high-speed networks needed to support telecommuting. This solves some of the biggest barriers associated with welfare-to-work -- lack of childcare and transportation.
7. **\$10 million to prepare Native Americans for careers in information technology and other technical fields:** The National Science Foundation will support efforts by tribal colleges to increase the number of Native Americans who are prepared to pursue careers in information technology and other technical fields. The ability to use technology is becoming increasingly important in the workplace, and jobs in the rapidly growing information technology sector pay almost 80 percent more than the average private sector wage.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

Access to computers and the Internet and the ability to effectively use this technology are becoming increasingly important for full participation in America's economic, political and social life. People are using the Internet to find lower prices for goods and services, work from home or start their own business, acquire new skills using distance learning, and make better informed decisions about their healthcare needs. The ability to use technology is becoming increasingly important in the workplace, and jobs in the rapidly growing information technology sector pay almost 80 percent more than the average private sector wage.

Technology, used creatively, can also make a big difference in the way teachers teach and students learn. In some classrooms, teachers are using the Internet to keep up with the latest developments in their field, exchange lesson plans with their colleagues, and communicate more frequently with parents. Students are able to log on to the Library of Congress to download primary documents for a history paper, explore the universe with an Internet-connected telescope used by professional astronomers, and engage in more active "learning by doing." Students are also creating powerful Internet-based learning resources that can be used by other students – such as award-winning Web sites on endangered species, the biology of sleep, human perception of sound, and an exploration of the American judicial system.

Access to computers and the Internet has exploded during the Clinton-Gore Administration. Unfortunately, there is strong evidence of a "digital divide" -- a gap between those individuals and communities that have access to these Information Age tools and those who don't. In some instances, this divide is actually widening. A July 1999 report from the Department of Commerce, based on December 1998 Census Department data, revealed that:

- **Better educated Americans more likely to be connected.** Between 1997 and 1998, the technology divide between those at the highest and lowest education levels increased 25%. In 1998, those with a college degree are more than *eight times* likely to have a computer at home and nearly *sixteen times* as likely to have home Internet access as those with an elementary school education.
- **The gap between high- and low-income Americans is increasing.** In the last year, the divide between those at the highest and lowest income levels grew 29%. Households with incomes of \$75,000 or higher are more than *twenty times* more likely to have access to the Internet than those at the lowest income levels, and more than *nine times* as likely to have a computer at home.
- **Whites more likely to be connected than African-Americans or Hispanics.** The digital divide is also persistent and growing along racial and ethnic lines. Whites are more likely to have access to the Internet from home than African-Americans or Hispanics have from *any* location. African-American and Hispanic households are roughly *two-fifths* as likely to have home Internet access as white households. The gaps between white and Hispanic households, and between white and African-American households, are now more than six percentage points larger than they were in 1994. However, for incomes of \$75,000 and higher, the divide between whites and African-Americans has narrowed considerably in the last year.
- **Rural areas less likely to be connected than urban users.** Regardless of income level, those living in rural areas are lagging behind in computer ownership and Internet access. At some income levels, those in urban areas are 50% more likely to have Internet access than those earning the same income in rural areas. Low income households in rural areas are the least connected, with connectivity rates in the singles digits for both computers and Internet access.

In addition, data from the National Center for Education Statistics reveals a "digital divide" in our nation's schools. As of the fall of 1998, 39 percent of classrooms of poor schools were connected to the Internet, as compared to 62 percent for wealthier schools.

A STRONG RECORD OF WORKING TO CLOSE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

President Clinton and Vice President Gore have worked hard to close the digital divide, and to help create opportunity for more Americans in the Information Age.

- President Clinton and Vice President Gore have set a national goal of **ensuring that every child is technologically literate**. In addition to preparing children for the high-tech workplace of the 21st century, technology can help change the way teachers teach and students learn. Teachers can communicate more frequently with parents, keep up with the latest developments in their field, and exchange lesson plans with their colleagues. Students can conduct research using primary source material, learn the principles of genetics by breeding virtual fruit flies, and learn astronomy by using a professional telescope located 3,000 miles from their classroom.
- **As a result of the Clinton-Gore educational technology initiative:**
 - The number of **classrooms** connected to the Internet has increased from 3% in 1994 to 51% in 1998.
 - The number of schools connected to the Internet has increased from 35% in 1994 to 89% in 1998.
 - The "e-rate", part of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, is providing \$2.25 billion in 20% - 90% discounts to connect schools and libraries to the Internet, with the deepest discounts going to the poorest schools that need it most. The e-rate alone has provided Internet access for children in more than 1 million classrooms.
 - Our total investment in educational technology at the federal level (including the e-rate) has increased from \$23 million in 1993 to over \$3 billion today.
 - Grants supported by the Department of Education are training 400,000 new teachers to use technology effectively in the classroom.

In addition, President Clinton and Vice-President Gore have worked to:

- **Expand access to technology for people with disabilities:** President Clinton and Vice President Gore have been strong supporters of efforts to make technology more accessible for people with disabilities. Recent actions by the Federal Communications Commission will help ensure that telecommunications equipment, such as cellular phones, is designed to be accessible for people with disabilities.
- **Expand access to technology in under-served communities:** In addition to the Community Technology Center program, HUD Sec. Andrew Cuomo has created approximately 500 Neighborhood Network learning centers that bring state of the art technology to publicly-assisted housing across America. HUD's Neighborhood Networks are innovative private/public partnerships that establish computer-based multi-service centers to help people in publicly-assisted housing learn critical computer skills and prepare for 21st century jobs.
- **Ensure that the Administration makes closing the Digital Divide a top priority.** In December, 1999, President Clinton directed members of the Cabinet to take specific actions to address the digital divide: President Clinton is directing members of his Cabinet (Secretaries of Commerce, Education, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, and Labor) to take specific steps to close the Digital Divide, including:
 - Continuing to measure the nature and extent of the digital divide by examining the importance of income, education, race, gender, geography and age to Americans' access to Information Age tools;
 - Expanding the network of Community Technology Centers to provide access to technology for those American who can't afford it;
 - Promoting applications of the Internet that will empower low-income families, such as the ability to start their own business; and
 - Upgrading the IT skills of workers in low-income communities.

ARMS Email System
RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Mark A. Kitchens (CN=Mark A. Kitchens/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 18:14:32.00

SUBJECT: Digital Divide Articles and Interview Transcripts

TO: Lisa Ferdinando (CN=Lisa Ferdinando/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jennifer M. Palmieri (CN=Jennifer M. Palmieri/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Dorinda A. Salcido (CN=Dorinda A. Salcido/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Joseph P. Lockhart (CN=Joseph P. Lockhart/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:
Contents:

1. Wired News Interview with Secretary Daley
2. CNN All Politics Article
3. Newsbytes Article
4. USA Today.com Article
5. Washington Post Interview with Secretary Riley

Wired News

Up-Close 'Digital Divide' Q&A
by Declan McCullagh

2:10 p.m. 2.Feb.2000 PST

Wired News caught up with Commerce Secretary William Daley on the phone after he spoke at the Ralph Bunche school in Harlem. The event was designed to highlight the Clinton administration's efforts to close the "digital divide," which the president also spoke about in Washington on Wednesday. The proposal, part of Clinton's proposed budget, includes \$380 million in new federal programs and \$2 billion in tax incentives to prompt corporations to donate computers and to train workers.

Clinton Tackles 'Digital Divide'

Learn more in Making the Grade
Read more Politics -- from Wired News

Wired News: What was the initial reaction to the announcement?

William Daley: We did an event today. It was the first of our 12 digital tour events that we will do that came out of our summit that we did in the fall of 1999 [designed] to highlight the digital divide and the need to address it. We did it at the [Ralph Bunche school] in Harlem and had a whole bunch of private and public sector people there.... Everyone was every excited about it for two reasons. One, they know these schools in the very urban and very rural areas need help. Two, they know these kids have to master these technologies to be competitive.

WN: One chart in your 1999 Falling Through the Net report said from 1994 to 1998 computer ownership by whites increased 72 percent and ownership by blacks increased 125 percent. Is there really that big of a divide?

Daley: The one thing that was shown [is that] the gap is getting wider between black and white, rural and urban.... I don't have the chart you have in front of me but overall if you look at the statistics, in the '97 report if you look at white Americans in 1997, 21 percent were connected. In 1998, 28 percent were connected. ... The gap in usage of the Internet is still not only substantially wide, but you see a substantial jump in whites, but not among blacks. There's no question that more people are using the Internet, but the fact is that more people who have access to it -- if you like, at white households or African American households, it's pretty substantially different.

WN: U.S. companies must spend tens of billions a year on remedial training. Is \$2 billion over 10 years -- \$200 million a year -- really going to make a difference?

Daley: I think it may. We hope it does. We hope [companies will] train people to do the jobs of the future. Sure, companies spend lots of money on different training programs, but here we're talking about training for new technologies and new computers.... If you're able to get a job in these sectors, you can make a better salary.

WN: Will the computers to be given to schools and libraries be equipped with blocking or filtering software?

Daley: That's a decision that ends up being made at the local level. I don't know what their policy would be but I'd imagine there would be something.

WN: Companies currently are offering free PC and Internet services, as long as you don't mind some ads. Isn't the market doing the right thing without prompting from the federal government?

Daley: The government is not trying to solve this problem alone. I believe the marketplace is going to make a major move to solve this problem. What we're trying to do is stimulate a tremendous awareness -- that if this isn't solved, if people are not trained, if you have a large bulk of the American workforce [offline], that would be a negative. Another gap in our citizenry is not good for our civil society, for our country.

WN: Why don't the feds just buy computers for the most needy?

Daley: It's obvious that it's not just having a computer. You have to have people who are trained on it, you need an education system, you need [to handle] retraining. So it isn't just giving them a computer and saying now you're OK, go to work.

WN: Have you heard from the Republican leadership regarding their support for this part of the president's budget?

Daley: My sense is that the Republican leadership and Republican members

understand that government has to work with the private sector. I find very few people who dismiss the whole notion.... It's pretty obvious that the greater use of these technologies, the greater efficient our country will be.... I'd be very surprised if there were not a pretty broad level of support on the issues.

WN: Vice President Gore has made wiring schools a campaign theme. What about the politics of this plan -- won't people think it's simply designed to give a boost to Gore?

Daley: I don't think there's any question that the vice president has been in the forefront of technology and these new technologies and the Internet.... The fact is the budget is put out every year at the beginning of February.... The president has been very involved in this issue. The fact is that anything that happens this year, people will interpret as political.

WN: What else needs to be done?

Daley: There needs to be a drive by the community to address this at that level. It won't be solved by Washington. We can put a few things in the budget.... [But the solution lies] with hundreds of thousands of volunteers that work in schools along with donation of equipment and teacher training. The marketplace, I believe, will eventually solve this.

CNN All Politics

President Clinton announces initiative to 'help bridge the digital divide'
February 2, 2000

Web posted at: 2:23 p.m. EST (1923 GMT)

WASHINGTON (CNN) -- President Bill Clinton announced a \$2 billion proposal Wednesday that would increase access to computers and the Internet in low-income neighborhoods, bridging what he has frequently called the "digital divide."

"It would be tragic if this instrument that has

done more to break down barriers between people than anything in all human history built a new wall because not everybody had access to it," he said of the Internet.

Clinton spent the morning touring a computer lab at Ballou High School in southeast Washington, D.C., accompanied by members of Congress, Washington Mayor Anthony Williams and America Online Chairman Steve Case, among others. The president cautioned the group that the failure to increase access to the World Wide Web would "widen inequality in our society."

"Our big goal," Clinton said during his speech at the school, "should be to make connection to the Internet as common as connection to telephones is today."

Clinton had previously set a goal of helping every American get connected to the Internet -- not just classrooms and libraries. "We should start by making sure that every community has a technology center that serves not just young people, but adults as well," he said.

To achieve that goal, the Clinton Administration has been working with the technology industry, private foundations, nonprofit organizations and civil rights groups to increase Internet accessibility.

The proposal unveiled Wednesday, to be included in the president's Fiscal Year 2001 budget request, includes \$2 billion over 10 years in tax incentives to encourage businesses to donate computers and sponsor technology training for workers. It also includes: \$150 million for teacher technology training; \$100 million to establish 1,000 Community Technology Centers in low-income urban and rural neighborhoods; and, \$50 million to expand home access to

computers and the Internet for low-income families.

"Now at a time when our country has the longest economic expansion in history," Clinton said, "we must close the digital divide."

A July 1999 Commerce Department report found that African American and Hispanic households are 60 percent less likely to have Internet access as white families. Additionally, urban-area households with incomes of at least \$75,000 are more than 20 times as likely to have Internet access as households with lower income levels.

"Everybody ought to have access to a computer, everybody ought to have access to the Internet, everybody ought to know how to use it, and then we ought to make sure everybody can get the maximum use out of it," Clinton said of his proposal.

The president recounted how in 1994, when the discounted Internet service provided to schools and libraries known as E-Rate began, only 3 percent of America's schools had Internet access. "But now, 90 percent of the schools in the United States today have at least one Internet connection," the president said. "That's a big step forward and I'm proud of that."

By the end of this year, he said, he aims to ensure that figure is up to 100 percent.

"Imagine what it will be like when every single child in this country can just stretch across a keyboard and pull up every book ever written," he said. "That's the future we're trying to build."

Newsbytes

Clinton Proposes Sweeping Digital Divide Program

By David McGuire, Newsbytes
WASHINGTON, DC, U.S.A.,
02 Feb 2000, 4:41 PM CST

In a bid to bridge the so-called "digital divide" between information technology haves and have-nots, President Clinton today

proposed
\$2 billion in tax incentives and \$380 million in new
programs aimed at
providing computers, Internet connections and technical
training to
underprivileged Americans.

The administration aims to "speed up by 10 years or even
five years the
time by which every American student (and) worker is
technologically
literate," National Economic Advisor Gene Sperling said
at a White
House press conference today.

Perhaps the most substantial element of the Clinton
proposal is the \$2
billion tax incentive package, which is aimed at
encouraging corporations
to donate equipment and funds to schools, libraries and
community
technology centers.

Under the proposed package, corporations would also be
able to take a
20 percent tax credit for costs incurred from technical
training.

In terms of new programs, the Clinton proposal calls for
\$150 million to
help train teachers to use technology and \$100 million
to create 1,000
community technology centers in low-income areas.

Clinton also hopes to earmark \$50 million for use in a
public private
partnership with technology companies. Working with a
handful of as yet
unnamed high-tech firms, the Administration would use
the partnership to
expand home Internet access for low-income families,
Sperling said.

The Administration has been in contact with a number of
companies and
Sperling said they anticipate raising another \$50
million in private funds
to go along with the money provided in the proposal.

Other aspects of the proposal include initiatives to
spur the deployment
of high-speed networks (through cable, digital
subscriber lines and other
means) to under-served urban and rural communities and

an initiative

aimed at providing technical education to Native Americans.

Concern about the digital divide came out of a Commerce Department

report, released last year called "Falling Through the Net: A Report on the Telecommunications and Information Technology Gap in America,"

published by the US Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) last year.

The "Falling Through the Net" report indicated that, despite the exponential growth of the Internet and plummeting computer prices, the gaps between technology haves and have-nots have actually widened along racial and economic lines in recent years.

While high-income and middle-income white families are getting connected online seemingly en masse, African-American families were only two-fifths as likely as white families to have Internet access in 1998, according to the report. The technology gap between white households and African American households is 6 percent larger today than it was in 1997, the report found.

Reported by Newsbytes.com, <http://www.newsbytes.com>.

USA Today.com

Clinton wants to close digital divide

WASHINGTON - Looking ahead to a day when all Americans are connected to the Internet, President Clinton Wednesday proposed a \$2 billion plan to help low-income families gain access to computers and the World Wide Web.

Clinton toured a computer lab at Ballou High School and then cautioned a group of students, educators and high-tech executives that failure to bridge the "digital divide" between the rich and the poor

could "widen inequality in
our society."

"It would be tragic if this instrument that has done
more to break down
barriers between people than anything in all human
history built a new wall
because not everybody had access to it," he said.

Clinton's plan calls for \$2 billion in tax incentives
over 10 years, as well as
\$380 million in expanded federal grants, to encourage
the private sector to
donate computers, sponsor community technology centers
and train
workers.

"Our big goal," Clinton said, "should be to make
connection to the Internet
as common as connection to telephones is today."

Late last year, Clinton set a goal of connecting all
Americans to the Internet,
not just classrooms and libraries. "We should start by
making sure that
every community has a technology center that serves not
just young people,
but adults as well," he said today.

The president also said he will lead a group of
high-tech executives on a trip
to impoverished areas in April as part of his "new
markets" initiative to
direct investment to areas that haven't shared in the
nation's good economic
times.

"Now at a time when our country has the longest
economic expansion in
history," Clinton said, "we must close the digital
divide."

The package included a request for \$10 million to
prepare American Indians
for careers in information technology and other
technical fields. Members of
the Oglala Sioux nation beseeched Clinton to boost job
prospects in their
community during a stop at South Dakota's Pine Ridge
Reservation on his
first new-markets tour last year.

A Commerce Department report in July found that black
and Hispanic

households are only 40% as likely to have Internet access as white families.

And households with incomes of \$75,000 and above in urban areas are more than 20 times as likely to have Internet access as households at the lowest income levels.

America Online Chairman Steve Case, whose company and private foundation already are working with schools, private groups and government to widen access to computers, joined Clinton at Ballou and said "too many people are being left behind."

Case noted that there always have been a gap between the haves and have-nots.

"The real question that we face today is whether the Internet is going to widen that gap or close it," he said.

The Clinton administration has been working with the computer industry, private foundations, nonprofit organizations and civil rights groups to make the Internet more accessible.

"I thank the high-tech companies that are already doing so much in this area - and I hope the new tax incentives I have proposed will encourage others to join us," Clinton said. "If we take these steps, we will go a long way toward our goal of bringing opportunity to every community."

The administration says more than 50% of America's schools and over 80% of its classrooms are wired for the Internet. The goal is to have all schools connected by the end of this year.

Washington Post OnPolitics

Education Secretary Richard Riley speaks on the Digital Divide

Thursday, February 3, 2000

The American economy continues to enjoy a boom relying in no small part to the astronomical growth of the technology industry. But despite technological innovation and the creation of wealth from the Internet, there remains a large gap between those who benefit from that technology boom and those who don't even have access to it. President Clinton announced a proposal yesterday to deal with this "digital divide" and create opportunities for citizens to gain training, develop skills and get access to technology. The issue is also one of the focuses of Vice President Gore's bid for the White House.

Education Secretary Richard Riley, who recently joined Gore on the campaign stump, joined "Free Media" on Thursday, Feb. 3 to discuss the Clinton administration's plans for dealing with the digital divide. The transcript follows:

Free Media: Good afternoon, Secretary Riley, and welcome. President Clinton's plan on the digital divide outlines some very specific budgetary and other steps. Can you talk a bit about how this plan would be implemented, and what kind of roadblocks the administration would face in Congress?

Richard Riley: The president's proposal really is part of his new markets initiative -- that is, to identify parts of our powerful economy that really are missing out on that. And the digital divide is a very important part of that -- areas that are poor, often minorities, Native American reservations and other areas that the president has identified. I think the Congress would be very receptive to these proposals.

For example, the community technology centers have been very successful in poor urban areas. We have in the current budget \$32 million with approximately 320 centers in communities around the country. The president's proposal is to raise that to \$100 million, which would fund 1,000 centers. They would have on-site teachers and computers, and adults and students would be able to use them as they are now.

Training teachers to teach with technology is key, and the president proposed doubling that. This is primarily for new teachers, but training is available for teachers who need special help as well. The current budgetary allotment is \$75 million, and he wants to expand it to \$150.

The other issue is distance learning. The president proposes several budget items to deal with Native Americans, expanding broadband telecommunications capabilities to rural areas, and disability communities.

Washington, D.C.: Secretary Riley,

Being from South Carolina, where you led a reluctant legislature to pass major education reforms, I'm sure you must have some insight on the technology challenges facing our public schools, especially in rural and

lower income areas. While many schools have computers in the classroom, many teachers don't have the training or expertise to utilize the technology available. What can be done to address this issue?

P.S., As a fellow Furman University alum, I can't tell you how proud I am of your efforts as Secretary on behalf of our children.

Richard Riley: Our main program dealing with technology is called the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund. It is funded this year at \$425 million. That money goes down to the states, and then the states develop their plans for getting technology into the classroom. They can use it for four purposes:

1. To connect the school or classrooms to the Internet;
2. Hardware -- computers
3. Software
4. Teacher preparation or professional development -- enabling teachers to become proficient in teaching with technology. State and local school districts would handle that in the way that best serves their purposes.

That program in 1996 was zero. It has grown, and it is a large basic program controlled by the states, who would develop their own plans, but it is the federal government saying that technology is important. Around 7 percent of all education money spent on K-12 comes from the federal government. However, 25 percent of the funding for use of technology in K-12 schools comes from the federal government. So you can see it is a priority use of federal dollars going to education.

I was with the president of Furman, David Shi, yesterday, when I spoke to the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. I, too, am very proud of Furman.

Silver Spring, Md.: I appreciate the effort to provide Internet training and access to members of the community who do not have ready access to the expensive technology. I wonder, though, why it seems to be at the expense of basic, proven resources such as reading materials -- the budgets of school and public libraries to acquire reading materials is pathetically low -- when all research documents that in order to read proficiently, one must spend lots of time reading.

The Internet, to be sure, is full of glamor and information -- of decidedly differing quality and validity -- but one still has to be able to read critically to get the most effective use of it. What will be the resource for that critical practice? The Internet itself? I don't think so.

Richard Riley: I thoroughly agree with the opinion in the question. And reading is extremely important, and I don't think anyone is stronger on supporting books and libraries than I am. When you look at the federal support system for education, the idea of technology is a relatively new thing, and it was felt that it was something that the federal government should be supportive of.

One of the biggest technology programs is the E-rate. It is not a tax, but it is a rate adjustment which enables schools, both public and private, and libraries, to have full use of the Internet with discounts. Those discounts are significant in poor areas -- up to 90 percent -- but there are discounts in all areas. That's been a tremendous benefit to libraries. Most of the costs of library books are local and state costs.

But I thoroughly agree with the idea of books and reading materials. I read to my grandchildren, and I think all parents should read to their children. If you can't read you certainly can't use the Internet.

I was at a conference in Holland, and they had an elementary school where the way children -- first-grade children -- were learning to use the Internet was to use computers to fill out their applications for library cards.

Washington, D.C.: I think we should wire schools, and any plan to get technology in front of kids is better than none. But technology is developing at an unbelievably fast rate. Getting computers in schools is one thing. How do we keep up with upgrades and upkeep of the machines and equipment once they're in? What's the plan for maintenance?

Richard Riley: In the program I mentioned, with \$425 million going to the states, that is an option that the states would have -- computers and software, or teachers. That is a legitimate use of those funds.

That is a good question -- technology is changing as we speak.

Free Media: What is your response to Education Week's assessment of American schools? Are there one or two specific things -- more teacher training and testing and smaller class sizes -- that could go a long way to fixing the problems?

Richard Riley: The variety of quality in our schools is troublesome. We have any number of high-quality schools that all of us are proud of, and then we have a lot of average schools and we have low-performing schools. We are addressing the low-performing schools in our proposals in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) reauthorization in Congress. It will be discussed and debated this year. In that, we propose a second stage in identifying low-performing schools. Identifying a second stage, moving the timelines much tighter, and requiring specific improvements to take place in the instances where federal dollars are going toward the schools. These are generally Title I schools where the federal government is involved. We require certain things, like 95 percent of teachers be certified, and 95 percent of teachers be teaching in their field. This is very important, and if falls back on the standards movement, which is out there in the states. I'm strongly supportive of it, and it says that to

get s

tandards in the classroom, you must have quality teachers. In poor areas, it is often difficult to pay teachers what they should receive and to give them working conditions such as technology, buildings, etc. That's when you end up with teachers who are not qualified. We are taking bold steps and certainly hope Congress will pass these measures.

Boston, Mass.: At what age do you think we should begin to address the digital divide. In other words, what age bracket can we make the most impact with for training and educational purposes?

Richard Riley: That is a very good question, and I don't know if I am qualified to answer it, except to say that young children should be familiar with technology to the extent that it is not foreign to them. Teachers really have to decide how fast to involve them in the use of technology tools in terms of their learning. It is a very powerful tool for learning and for research, and we of course urge all teachers to be very careful about that very question. But all students, when they finish high school or college and move into the world, they're going to move into a technological world. And they must, if properly educated, have good use of and be comfortable with using technology.

Free Media: That was our last question today for Education Secretary Richard Riley. Thanks to Secretary Riley, and to everyone who joined us.

ARMS Email System
RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 21:52:05.00

SUBJECT: Clinton-Gore: From Digital Divide to Digital Opportunity

16Email (16Email [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

As I mentioned a couple of days ago, bridging the "Digital Divide" is a top priority for the Clinton-Gore Administration. Here's some information relating to an event yesterday where President Clinton announced technology initiatives in this year's budget.

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THE CLINTON-GORE ADMINISTRATION:
FROM DIGITAL DIVIDE TO DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY
February 2, 2000

Today, President Clinton will unveil a comprehensive proposal to help bridge the digital divide and create new opportunity for all Americans. This issue has been a top priority for Vice President Gore, who has worked to bridge the Digital Divide by ensuring that all children have access to educational technology. Access to computers and the Internet and the ability to use this technology effectively are becoming increasingly important for full participation in America's economic, political and social life. Unfortunately, unequal access to technology and high-tech skills by income, educational level, race, disability, and geography could deepen and reinforce the divisions that exist within American society. President Clinton believes that we must make access to computers and the Internet as universal as the telephone is today -- in our schools, libraries, communities, and homes.

To make the most of these new opportunities, the President believes we must:

- + Broaden ACCESS to technologies such as computers, the Internet, and high-speed networks;
- + Provide people the SKILLED TEACHERS and the TRAINING they need to master the information economy;
- + Promote ONLINE CONTENT and APPLICATIONS that will help empower all Americans to use new technologies to their fullest potential.

President Clinton will announce specific proposals in his new budget to

help accomplish these goals and help create digital opportunity for more Americans -- including \$2 billion in tax incentives to encourage private sector activities such as computer donations, and \$380 million in new and expanded initiatives to serve as a catalyst for public-private partnerships.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S NEW BUDGET INITIATIVES

1. \$2 Billion In Tax Incentives Over 10 Years To Encourage Private Sector Donation Of Computers, Sponsorship Of Community Technology Centers, And Technology Training For Workers.
2. \$150 Million To Help Train All New Teachers Entering The Workforce To Use Technology Effectively.
3. \$100 Million To Create 1,000 Community Technology Centers In Low-Income Urban And Rural Neighborhoods.
4. \$50 Million For A Public/Private Partnership To Expand Home Access To Computers And The Internet For Low-Income Families.
5. \$45 Million To Promote Innovative Applications Of Information And Communications Technology For Under-Served Communities.
6. \$25 Million To Accelerate Private Sector Deployment Of Broadband Networks In Under-Served Urban And Rural Communities.
7. \$10 Million To Prepare Native Americans For Careers In Information Technology And Other Technical Fields.

TO HELP MOBILIZE PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS TO CLOSE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE, PRESIDENT CLINTON WILL LEAD A NEW MARKETS TRIP DURING THE WEEK OF APRIL 9TH: Closing the Digital Divide requires creative partnerships between industry, non-profit organizations and government. That's why President Clinton will lead a New Markets trip during the week of April 9th designed to mobilize a significant private and public effort to close the digital divide. This trip, which will include leading high-tech CEOs, will highlight communities that are using information technology to enhance our children's education, expand access to life-long learning, and create economic growth and high-tech, high-wage jobs.

THE CLINTON-GORE AGENDA FOR CREATING DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY February 2, 2000

Private sector competition and rapid technological progress are powerful forces to bridge the digital divide and make Information Age tools

available for more and more Americans. The information technology industry is able to double the amount of computing power available at a given price every 12-18 months, and is now selling low-cost computers and 'information appliances' -- such as specialized Internet access devices. Some companies are even offering free, advertiser-supported Internet access. By working with the private sector and community-based organizations, the Administration can accelerate the trend toward expanded access.

But access to technology is only the first step. We also need to give people the skills they need to use technology, to promote content and applications of technology that will help empower under-served communities, and to ensure that teachers can use technology effectively in the classroom. Below is a brief description of the initiatives that President Clinton and Vice President Gore are proposing to help accomplish these goals:

1. \$2 BILLION OVER 10 YEARS IN TAX INCENTIVES TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE SECTOR DONATION OF COMPUTERS, SPONSORSHIP OF COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY CENTERS, AND TECHNOLOGY TRAINING FOR WORKERS: President Clinton's budget includes \$2 billion in new tax incentives to encourage companies to donate computers to schools, libraries and community technology centers, to sponsor schools, libraries, and community technology centers in designated Empowerment Zones, and to provide basic computer training, workplace literacy, or other basic education for their employees.

+ **ENCOURAGING COMPANIES TO DONATE COMPUTERS.** The President proposes to extend and expand tax deduction that gives companies an incentive to donate computers to schools, libraries and computer technology centers. This enhanced deduction allows companies to deduct more than the cost of their donation. Under current law, this deduction applies to donations of computers to schools only and expires after the year 2000. The President's proposal would extend this provision through June 30, 2004 and would expand it to donations to public libraries or community technology centers in Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, and high-poverty areas.

+ **PROMOTING CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP OF SCHOOLS, LIBRARIES AND COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY CENTERS.** The President proposes tax relief to encourage companies to sponsor schools and community technology centers in Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities. The President's proposal would allocate credits for \$16 million in corporate sponsorship to each of the 31 existing Empowerment Zones and 10 proposed new Empowerment Zones and \$4 million in corporate sponsorship for each of the more than 80 Enterprise Communities. In total, the President's proposal would help support up to nearly \$1 billion in annual sponsorships to help improve schools and community technology centers.

+ **SUPPORTING TECHNOLOGY TRAINING FOR WORKERS.** The President's proposal would provide targeted tax relief to encourage companies to provide basic computer training, workplace literacy, or other basic education for employees that lack the basic skills to succeed in the modern workplace. Companies would be allowed to take a 20 percent tax credit for up to \$5,250 in annual expenses per employee. Eligible

employees generally would not have received a high school degree or its equivalent.

2. \$150 MILLION TO HELP TRAIN ALL NEW TEACHERS ENTERING THE WORKFORCE USE TECHNOLOGY EFFECTIVELY IN THE CLASSROOM:

Under the leadership of President Clinton and Vice President Gore, the United States has made enormous progress in connecting schools to the Internet, and increasing the number of modern computers in the classroom. However, access to computers and the Internet will not help students achieve high academic standards unless teachers are as comfortable with a computer as they are with a chalkboard. President Clinton's budget calls for \$150 million in Department of Education grants -- double the last year's investment of \$75 million -- to ensure that all new teachers entering the workforce are technologically literate and can integrate technology into the curriculum. The need for this investment is clear. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, only 20 percent of teachers report that they are 'very well prepared' to integrate technology into classroom. And over the next 10 years, K-12 schools will need to hire 2 million new teachers to fill the vacancies left by retiring teachers and to accommodate increasing student populations.

3. \$100 MILLION TO CREATE UP TO 1,000 COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY CENTERS IN LOW-INCOME URBAN AND RURAL COMMUNITIES:

The President's budget more than triples the Department of Education's support for Community Technology Centers - from \$32.5 million in FY2000 to \$100 million in FY2001. This initiative, championed by Congresswoman Maxine Waters was initially funded at \$10 million in fiscal year 1999. The goal of the initiative is to help close the 'digital divide' by providing computers and Information Age tools to children and adults that are not able to afford them at home. These community technology centers will help empower hundreds of thousands of low-income children and adults in a variety of ways. Children will be able to improve their performance in school by having access to high-quality educational software after school and prepare for the high-tech workplace of the 21st century by getting certified with an information technology skill. Adults will be able to use computers and the Internet to take a self-paced adult literacy course; get access to America's Job Bank to see what jobs are available; learn to type up a resume and cover letter using word processing software; learn to start up their own 'micro-enterprise' or Web-based business, or acquire new training. A study sponsored by the National Science Foundation confirms that Community Technology Centers are helping to bridge the digital divide. Of the users surveyed: 62 percent had incomes of less than \$15,000; 65 percent took computer classes to improve their job skills; and 41 percent got homework help or tutoring at the center.

4. \$50 MILLION FOR A PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP TO EXPAND HOME ACCESS TO COMPUTERS AND THE INTERNET FOR LOW-INCOME FAMILIES:

The President's budget includes a new \$50 million Department of Commerce pilot program to expand access to computers and the Internet for low-income families, and to give these families the skills they need to use these new Information Age tools effectively. This new program will provide competitive grants to public-private partnerships at the local level. Potential partners might include: local school districts seeking to expand parental involvement in education; high-tech companies willing to provide discounts

on computers and access; libraries offering training on 'information literacy'; employers seeking to upgrade the skills of their workforce using distance learning, and government agencies at all levels seeking to save taxpayer dollars through the electronic delivery of government services. The Administration will continue to work with the private sector and non-profit organizations on the most effective way to design this program.

5. **\$45 MILLION TO PROMOTE INNOVATIVE APPLICATIONS OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR UNDER-SERVED COMMUNITIES:** President Clinton's budget will increase the investment in the Department of Commerce's highly-successful Technology Opportunities Program (TOP) to \$45 million -- triple the current level of \$15 million. This program encourages innovative applications of information technology that help empower low-income communities -- public health information systems that raise childhood immunization rates in inner-cities, tele-mentoring for at-risk youth, and electronic networks that strengthen local communities by fostering communication and collaboration.

6. **\$25 MILLION TO ACCELERATE PRIVATE SECTOR DEPLOYMENT OF HIGH-SPEED NETWORKS IN UNDER-SERVED URBAN AND RURAL COMMUNITIES:** High-speed Internet access is becoming as important to the economic vitality of a community as roads and bridges are today. The President will propose a new \$25 million program at the Department of Commerce and the Department of Agriculture to accelerate private sector deployment of broadband networks in under-served urban and rural communities -- using grants and loan guarantees. The potential payoff from these kinds of investments is enormous. One company, for example, has helped people move from 'welfare-to-work' by connecting their community with the high-speed networks needed to support telecommuting. This solves some of the biggest barriers associated with welfare-to-work -- lack of childcare and transportation.

7. **\$10 MILLION TO PREPARE NATIVE AMERICANS FOR CAREERS IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND OTHER TECHNICAL FIELDS:** The National Science Foundation will support efforts by tribal colleges to increase the number of Native Americans who are prepared to pursue careers in information technology and other technical fields.

The ability to use technology is becoming increasingly important in the workplace, and jobs in the rapidly growing information technology sector pay almost 80 percent more than the average private sector wage.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

Access to computers and the Internet and the ability to effectively use this technology are becoming increasingly important for full participation in America's economic, political and social life. People are using the Internet to find lower prices for goods and services, work from home or start their own business, acquire new skills using distance learning, and make better informed decisions about their healthcare needs. The ability to use technology is becoming increasingly important in the workplace, and jobs in the rapidly growing information technology sector pay almost 80

percent more than the average private sector wage.

Technology, used creatively, can also make a big difference in the way teachers teach and students learn. In some classrooms, teachers are using the Internet to keep up with the latest developments in their field, exchange lesson plans with their colleagues, and communicate more frequently with parents. Students are able to log on to the Library of Congress to download primary documents for a history paper, explore the universe with an Internet-connected telescope used by professional astronomers, and engage in more active 'learning by doing.' Students are also creating powerful Internet-based learning resources that can be used by other students -- such as award-winning Web sites on endangered species, the biology of sleep, human perception of sound, and an exploration of the American judicial system.

Access to computers and the Internet has exploded during the Clinton-Gore Administration. Unfortunately, there is strong evidence of a 'digital divide' -- a gap between those individuals and communities that have access to these Information Age tools and those who don't. In some instances, this divide is actually widening. A July 1999 report from the Department of Commerce, based on December 1998 Census Department data, revealed that:

+ **BETTER EDUCATED AMERICANS MORE LIKELY TO BE CONNECTED.** Between 1997 and 1998, the technology divide between those at the highest and lowest education levels increased 25%. In 1998, those with a college degree are more than eight times likely to have a computer at home and nearly sixteen times as likely to have home Internet access as those with an elementary school education.

+ **THE GAP BETWEEN HIGH- AND LOW-INCOME AMERICANS IS INCREASING.** In the last year, the divide between those at the highest and lowest income levels grew 29%. Households with incomes of \$75,000 or higher are more than twenty times more likely to have access to the Internet than those at the lowest income levels, and more than nine times as likely to have a computer at home.

+ **WHITES MORE LIKELY TO BE CONNECTED THAN AFRICAN-AMERICANS OR HISPANICS.** The digital divide is also persistent and growing along racial and ethnic lines. Whites are more likely to have access to the Internet from home than African-Americans or Hispanics have from any location. African-American and Hispanic households are roughly two-fifths as likely to have home Internet access as white households. The gaps between white and Hispanic households, and between white and African-American households, are now more than six percentage points larger than they were in 1994. However, for incomes of \$75,000 and higher, the divide between whites and African-Americans has narrowed considerably in the last year.

+ **RURAL AREAS LESS LIKELY TO BE CONNECTED THAN URBAN USERS.** Regardless of income level, those living in rural areas are lagging behind in computer ownership and Internet access. At some income levels, those in urban areas are 50% more likely to have Internet access than those earning the same income in rural areas. Low income households in rural areas are the least connected, with connectivity rates in the singles digits for

both computers and Internet access.

In addition, data from the National Center for Education Statistics reveals a 'digital divide' in our nation's schools. As of the fall of 1998, 39 percent of classrooms of poor schools were connected to the Internet, as compared to 62 percent for wealthier schools.

A STRONG RECORD OF WORKING TO CLOSE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

President Clinton and Vice President Gore have worked hard to close the digital divide, and to help create opportunity for more Americans in the Information Age.

- + President Clinton and Vice President Gore have set a national goal of ensuring that every child is technologically literate. In addition to preparing children for the high-tech workplace of the 21st century, technology can help change the way teachers teach and students learn. Teachers can communicate more frequently with parents, keep up with the latest developments in their field, and exchange lesson plans with their colleagues. Students can conduct research using primary source material, learn the principles of genetics by breeding virtual fruit flies, and learn astronomy by using a professional telescope located 3,000 miles from their classroom.

+ AS A RESULT OF THE CLINTON-GORE EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE:

- + The number of CLASSROOMS connected to the Internet has increased from 3% in 1994 to 51% in 1998.

- + The number of schools connected to the Internet has increased from 35% in 1994 to 89% in 1998.

- + The 'e-rate', part of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, is providing \$2.25 billion in 20% - 90% discounts to connect schools and libraries to the Internet, with the deepest discounts going to the poorest schools that need it most. The e-rate alone has provided Internet access for children in more than 1 million classrooms.

- + Our total investment in educational technology at the federal level (including the e-rate) has increased from \$23 million in 1993 to over \$3 billion today.

- + Grants supported by the Department of Education are training 400,000 new teachers to use technology effectively in the classroom.

IN ADDITION, PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE-PRESIDENT GORE HAVE WORKED TO:

- + EXPAND ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES: President Clinton and Vice President Gore have been strong supporters of efforts to make technology more accessible for people with disabilities. Recent actions by the Federal Communications Commission will help ensure that telecommunications equipment, such as cellular phones, is designed to be accessible for people with disabilities.

+ **EXPAND ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY IN UNDER-SERVED COMMUNITIES:** In addition to the Community Technology Center program, HUD Sec. Andrew Cuomo has created approximately 500 Neighborhood Network learning centers that bring state of the art technology to publicly-assisted housing across America. HUD's Neighborhood Networks are innovative private/public partnerships that establish computer-based multi-service centers to help people in publicly-assisted housing learn critical computer skills and prepare for 21st century jobs.

+ **ENSURE THAT THE ADMINISTRATION MAKES CLOSING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE A TOP PRIORITY.** In December, 1999, President Clinton directed members of the Cabinet to take specific actions to address the digital divide: President Clinton is directing members of his Cabinet (Secretaries of Commerce, Education, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, and Labor) to take specific steps to close the Digital Divide, including:

+ Continuing to measure the nature and extent of the digital divide by examining the importance of income, education, race, gender, geography and age to Americans' access to Information Age tools;

+ Expanding the network of Community Technology Centers to provide access to technology for those American who can't afford it;

+ Promoting applications of the Internet that will empower low-income families, such as the ability to start their own business; and

+ Upgrading the IT skills of workers in low-income communities.

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Joel K. Wiginton (CN=Joel K. Wiginton/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 10:15:44.00

SUBJECT: digital divide

TO: Lisa M. Kountoupes (CN=Lisa M. Kountoupes/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Thomas A. Kalil (CN=Thomas A. Kalil/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [OPD])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Glen Shor, a friend of mine and Meehan's new LD and Deputy CoS, called regarding the digital divide. Apparently, he wants to get his boss more involved.

Lisa, if you get a chance, could you call him back -- 5-3411. Thanks.

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: "Miers, John (NIMH)" <jmiers@mail.nih.gov> ("Miers, John (NIMH)" <jmiers@mail.nih.gov> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 14:07:40.00

SUBJECT: RE: Digital Divide

TO: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

I would like to speak with you about how much time and effort may be involved in this. I am currently with the Employees Concerned with Disability at the NIH, and am very interested.

Thanks,

John Miers

John G. Miers, M.B.A
Office of Science Policy and Program Planning
National Institute of Mental Health, NIH
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Bethesda, MD 20892-9667
Telephone (301) 443-4335
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-----Original Message-----

From: Jonathan_M_Young@who.eop.gov
[mailto:Jonathan_M_Young@who.eop.gov]
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2000 9:46 PM
Subject: Digital Divide

As the President mentioned in his State of the Union Address, one of the year's major priorities for the Clinton-Gore Administration concerns access to our breathtaking technological advances. Computers and the internet are transforming our society, but not everyone is sharing equally in the opportunities they promise. "We must close the digital divide between those who've got the tools and those who don't," the President said. I'm writing to identify people interested in working more closely on this issue, and helping me to understand how we can most effectively ensure that people with disabilities have equal access to digital technology.

If you are interested in joining in this endeavor, please reply to this email with your name, organizational affiliation (if you don't have one,

that's fine too), home town, and a phone number where I can reach you. If you'd like, I invite you to write a brief description of who you are and your interests in technology. Thanks.

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Andrea Kane (CN=Andrea Kane/OU=OPD/O=EOP [OPD])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 13:29:35.00

SUBJECT: VA & digital divide

TO: pbravo (pbravo @ acf.dhhs.gov @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: eparker (eparker @ acf.dhhs.gov [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

seeing the press stories on the President's digital divide event yesterday reminds me...what's the status of doing a Q&A on Gilmore's question about using TANF funds for computers?

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. email	From: external email address To: Jonathan Young Re: Digital Divide- response of interest [Personal Information] [partial] (2 pages)	02/03/2000	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Automated Records Management System [Email]
WHO ([Digital Divide...])
OA/Box Number: 500000

FOLDER TITLE:

[02/02/2000 - 02/04/2000]

2019-0203-F
jn708

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]

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]

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.

ARMS Email System
RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

[001]

CREATOR: [REDACTED] (b)(6) [UNKNOWN]

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 23:54:16.00

SUBJECT: Re: Digital Divide-response of interest

TO: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Dear Mr. Young,

I would most certainly be interested in helping you address the issues in the digital divide. I am a disAbled mother of a homeschooled son. I have multiple disAbilities. I want to find ways that I can assist other persons with disAbilities in getting equipment and training, having accessibility and support, both morale support and financial support.

I started an email group with similar desires in mind, to help those that are disAbled not just get involved with the new technology, but to help them better themselves and learn to stand for themselves.

My personal info is:

[REDACTED]
(b)(6)

To write me as the listowner:

[REDACTED]
(b)(6)

To subscribe:

homeschool-space-subscribe@eGroups.com
Homeschool SPACE is a very new email list for disAbled parents. All are welcome and encouraged to subscribe.

Technology interests:

Studying - accessibility issues, web design, CAD, graphics (desire to create digital artwork), programming, online writing, sound recording, music production online.

Skills - word processing, spreadsheets,

QuickBooks, databases, plus more (resume available upon request), typing speed 70-80 wpm, keystrokes 10-12,000 kph. Have been in computers since 1987. Also am a singer/songwriter.

I am currently on Social Security disAbility, and not able to maintain a full-time job. I do have time at home to spend on the computer when the physical reality of it does not cause me so much pain that I cannot sit any longer. One of the challenges of the new technology is the entire aspect of sitting at a desk, being immobile, or improperly seated. This, of course, contributes to the pain (and physical deterioration) cycle which then affects the emotional well-being of a person. This challenge also needs to be addressed regarding persons with disAbilities.

I see a real need to communicate not just to persons with disAbilities, but to the general public about internet capabilities for all. Education to implement the information superhighway will not just include those education forces that are out there with financial means, but must, it must include those that do not have the funding, such as homeschoolers on limited budgets, persons with disAbilities who may not even have access to computers or assistive living technology, single parents that are close to the poverty level who may never have the time to learn about the internet because of the daily grind, seniors that could easily learn about computers with help, and minorities that may not have the capability due to language or cultural complications.

There is so much potential for technology to help so many people. It is so very exciting to see it happen. I have a very personal interest in seeing those with disAbilities understand and grab hold of this same excitement through the use of technology in their personal lives. Persons with disAbilities are very similar to homeschoolers because they don't fit into the regular schools, though their differences are not necessarily by choice.

On a personal note, we had a fire this past week at my house (everyone okay). On top of that, I knew two people on Flight 261 (Linda and Joe Knight) and was very sad about the loss, taking an entire day to hope that they would be found. Please accept my apologies for not giving you an

immediate response.

I'll be looking forward to contact from you regarding the Digital Divide. Good luck with this noble venture.

(b)(6)

(This post sent text only, with a character width of 50 characters so those with visual impairments may easily adapt it to their computer screens.)

>As the President mentioned in his State of the Union Address, one of the
>year's major priorities for the Clinton-Gore Administration concerns access
>to our breathtaking technological advances. Computers and the internet are
>transforming our society, but not everyone is sharing equally in the
>opportunities they promise. "We must close the digital divide between
>those who've got the tools and those who don't," the President said. I'm
>writing to identify people interested in working more closely on this
>issue, and helping me to understand how we can most effectively ensure that
>people with disabilities have equal access to digital technology.
>
>If you are interested in joining in this endeavor, please reply to this
>email with your name, organizational affiliation (if you don't have one,
>that's fine too), home town, and a phone number where I can reach you. If
>you'd like, I invite you to write a brief description of who you are and
>your interests in technology. Thanks.
>
>

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jim Puzzanghera <jpuzzanghera@krwashington.com> (Jim Puzzanghera
<jpuzzanghera@krwashington.com> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 13:41:00.00

SUBJECT: Merc Digital Divide story

TO: Elizabeth R. Newman (CN=Elizabeth R. Newman/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Elizabeth,

Here's the link

<http://www.mercurycenter.com/premium/business/docs/digital03.htm>

--

Jim Puzzanghera

Washington Bureau Chief

San Jose Mercury News

700 National Press Building

Washington, D.C. 20045

Voice: 202-383-6043

Fax: 202-638-3788

Email: jpuzzanghera@krwashington.com

National and California political news at

<http://www.mercurycenter.com/nation/politics>

ARMS Email System
RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Stephen N. Boyd (CN=Stephen N. Boyd/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 20:20:36.00

SUBJECT: SoTU and digital divide background info

TO: christa.robinson@turner.com (christa.robinson@turner.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:
Hey Christa -- Great talking with you. Here is the info you requested.

1. Digital Divide material
2. State of the Union summary + full backgrounders
3. Economic growth fact sheet

PRESIDENT CLINTON ANNOUNCES NEW PROPOSAL TO CLOSE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE AND INCREASE DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY

Ballou High School, Washington, DC
Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Today, in an address at Ballou High School in Washington, DC, President Clinton will announce a new proposal to close the digital divide and increase digital opportunity for all Americans.

President Clinton will first tour the computer center at Ballou High School accompanied by Steve Case, Chief Executive Officer, America Online, and David Sterling, President, Epiclearning.com. Darnell Curley, computer coordinator of Ballou's computer training center and graduate of Ballou, will lead the tour.

Following the tour of the computer center, the President will announce a new proposal to close the digital divide in remarks to students, teachers and community, government and business leaders at the Ballou High School Gymnasium. The President will be joined on stage by Steve Case, CEO, America Online; David Sterling, President, Epiclearning.com; Julie Evans, Chief Executive Officer, NetDay; Angela Lee, Vice President, AT&T; Darnell Curley, Computer Coordinator, Ballou High School; Superintendent of DC Schools Arlene Ackerman; and Dr. Wilma Durham and Dr. Art Bridges, Co-Principals of Ballou High School.

Ballou High School currently offers a variety of computer technology classes ranging from Basic Keyboarding to Computer Programming to a Computer Repair class, giving students a chance to receive A+ computer technician certification and secure jobs in the workforce. Ballou also offers services to the community such as computer workshops held in the evenings for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipients. Currently, Ballou has approximately 140 computers and is partially wired.

Ballou High School has formed partnerships with several private companies

and labor unions, which have committed significant resources to the High School to help bridge the digital divide and to ensure that students from Ballou have an opportunity to thrive in the Information Age. This partnership is part of NextDay, an effort to bring technology to our poorest schools that grew out of NetDay, which President Clinton and Vice President Gore helped launch in March 1996. Many of these companies have also made national commitments to help bridge the digital divide. Elements of the Ballou partnership with private companies include the following: 1) Epiclearning.com has committed to launch a technical training and certification program that will allow Ballou students to compete for jobs with starting salaries of \$32,000 - \$37,000; 2) 3M Corporation has committed to supply fiber and electronics equipment. 3) Cisco Corporation has committed to supply networking equipment for the school; 3) AT&T has committed to help train teachers to use technology effectively; 4) and AFL-CIO, Communication Workers of America and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers are committed to help wire the school.

In addition, the PowerUP program a coalition of a number of companies (including AOL), agencies, and non-profits working to bridge the digital divide through access to computers, will make Ballou High School a site later this year.

A number of Members of Congress are expected to attend the event including:

Senator Robert Bennett (R-UT), Representative Xavier Becerra (D-CA), Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX), Representative Stephanie Tubbs Jones (D-OH), Representative William Jefferson (D-LA), Representative Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX), Representative John Lewis (D-GA), Representative Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), Representative Adam Smith (D-WA), Representative Ellen Tauscher (D-CA), Representative Maxine Waters (D-CA), and Representative David Wu (D,OR). B b vvv

Order of Speakers:

Dr. Wilma Durham, Principal, Ballou High School
David Sterling, President, Epiclearning.com
Steve Case, CEO, America Online
Darnell Curley, Computer Coordinator, Ballou High School
President Clinton
###

THE CLINTON-GORE ADMINISTRATION:
FROM DIGITAL DIVIDE TO DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY
February 2, 2000

Today, President Clinton will unveil a comprehensive proposal to help bridge the digital divide and create new opportunity for all Americans. This issue has been a top priority for Vice President Gore, who has worked to bridge the Digital Divide by ensuring that all children have access to educational technology. Access to computers and the Internet and the

ability to use this technology effectively are becoming increasingly important for full participation in America's economic, political and social life. Unfortunately, unequal access to technology and high-tech skills by income, educational level, race, and geography could deepen and reinforce the divisions that exist within American society. President Clinton believes that we must make access to computers and the Internet as universal as the telephone is today -- in our schools, libraries, communities, and homes.

To make the most of these new opportunities, the President believes we must:

- ú Broaden access to technologies such as computers, the Internet, and high-speed networks;
- ú Provide people the skilled teachers and the training they need to master the information economy;
- ú Promote online content and applications that will help empower all Americans to use new technologies to their fullest potential.

President Clinton will announce specific proposals in his new budget to help accomplish these goals and help create digital opportunity for more Americans -- including \$2 billion in tax incentives to encourage private sector activities such as computer donations, and \$380 million in new and expanded initiatives to serve as a catalyst for public-private partnerships.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S NEW BUDGET INITIATIVES

1. \$2 billion in tax incentives over 10 years to encourage private sector donation of computers, sponsorship of community technology centers, and technology training for workers.
2. \$150 million to help train all new teachers entering the workforce to use technology effectively.
3. \$100 million to create 1,000 Community Technology Centers in low-income urban and rural neighborhoods.
4. \$50 million for a public/private partnership to expand home access to computers and the Internet for low-income families.
5. \$45 million to promote innovative applications of information and communications technology for under-served communities.
6. \$25 million to accelerate private sector deployment of broadband networks in under-served urban and rural communities.
7. \$10 million to prepare Native Americans for careers in Information Technology and other technical fields.

To Help Mobilize Public/Private Partnerships To Close the Digital Divide, President Clinton Will Lead A New Markets Trip during the week of April 9th: Closing the Digital Divide requires creative partnerships between

industry, non-profit organizations and government. That's why President Clinton will lead a New Markets trip during the week of April 9th designed to mobilize a significant private and public effort to close the digital divide. This trip, which will include leading high-tech CEOs, will highlight communities that are using information technology to enhance our children's education, expand access to life-long learning, and create economic growth and high-tech, high-wage jobs.

THE CLINTON-GORE AGENDA FOR CREATING DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY February 2, 2000

Private sector competition and rapid technological progress are powerful forces to bridge the digital divide and make Information Age tools available for more and more Americans. The information technology industry is able to double the amount of computing power available at a given price every 12-18 months, and is now selling low-cost computers and "information appliances" -- such as specialized Internet access devices. Some companies are even offering free, advertiser-supported Internet access. By working with the private sector and community-based organizations, the Administration can accelerate the trend toward expanded access.

But access to technology is only the first step. We also need to give people the skills they need to use technology, to promote content and applications of technology that will help empower under-served communities, and to ensure that teachers can use technology effectively in the classroom. Below is a brief description of the initiatives that President Clinton and Vice President Gore are proposing to help accomplish these goals:

1. \$2 billion over 10 years in tax incentives to encourage private sector donation of computers, sponsorship of community technology centers, and technology training for workers: President Clinton's budget includes \$2 billion in new tax incentives to encourage companies to donate computers to schools, libraries and community technology centers, to sponsor schools, libraries, and community technology centers in designated Empowerment Zones, and to provide basic computer training, workplace literacy, or other basic education for their employees.

- Encouraging companies to donate computers. The President proposes to extend and expand tax deduction that gives companies an incentive to donate computers to schools, libraries and computer technology centers. This enhanced deduction allows companies to deduct more than the cost of their donation. Under current law, this deduction applies to donations of computers to schools only and expires after the year 2000. The President's proposal would extend this provision through June 30, 2004 and would expand it to donations to public libraries or community technology centers in Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, and high-poverty areas.

- Promoting corporate sponsorship of schools, libraries and community technology centers. The President proposes tax relief to encourage companies to sponsor schools and community technology centers in Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, and targeted low income areas. The President's proposal would allocate credits for \$16 million

in corporate sponsorship to each of the 31 existing Empowerment Zones and 10 proposed new Empowerment Zones and \$4 million in corporate sponsorship for each of the more than 80 Enterprise Communities. In total, the President's proposal would help support up to nearly \$1 billion in annual sponsorships to help improve schools and community technology centers.

- Supporting technology training for workers. The President's proposal would provide targeted tax relief to encourage companies to provide basic computer training, workplace literacy, or other basic education for employees that lack the basic skills to succeed in the modern workplace. Companies would be allowed to take a 20 percent tax credit for up to \$5,250 in annual expenses per employee. Eligible employees generally would not have received a high school degree or its equivalent.

2. \$150 million to help train all new teachers entering the workforce use technology effectively in the classroom: Under the leadership of President Clinton and Vice President Gore, the United States has made enormous progress in connecting schools to the Internet, and increasing the number of modern computers in the classroom. However, access to computers and the Internet will not help students achieve high academic standards unless teachers are as comfortable with a computer as they are with a chalkboard. President Clinton's budget calls for \$150 million in Department of Education grants -- double the last year's investment of \$75 million -- to ensure that all new teachers entering the workforce are technologically literate and can integrate technology into the curriculum. The need for this investment is clear. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, only 20 percent of teachers report that they are "very well prepared" to integrate technology into classroom. And over the next 10 years, K-12 schools will need to hire 2 million new teachers to fill the vacancies left by retiring teachers and to accommodate increasing student populations.

3. \$100 million to create up to 1,000 Community Technology Centers in low-income urban and rural communities: The President's budget more than triples the Department of Education's support for Community Technology Centers - from \$32.5 million in FY2000 to \$100 million in FY2001. This initiative, championed by Congresswoman Maxine Waters was initially funded at \$10 million in fiscal year 1999. The goal of the initiative is to help close the digital divide by providing computers and Information Age tools to children and adults that are not able to afford them at home. These community technology centers will help empower hundreds of thousands of low-income children and adults in a variety of ways. Children will be able to improve their performance in school by having access to high-quality educational software after school and prepare for the high-tech workplace of the 21st century by getting certified with an information technology skill. Adults will be able to use computers and the Internet to take a self-paced adult literacy course; get access to America's Job Bank to see what jobs are available; learn to type up a resume and cover letter using word processing software; learn to start up their own micro-enterprise or Web-based business, or acquire new training. A study sponsored by the National Science Foundation confirms that Community Technology Centers are helping to bridge the digital divide. Of the users surveyed: 62 percent had incomes of less than \$15,000; 65 percent took computer classes to improve their job skills; and 41 percent got homework help or tutoring at the center.

4. \$50 million for a public/private partnership to expand home access to computers and the Internet for low-income families: The President's budget includes a new \$50 million Department of Commerce pilot program to expand access to computers and the Internet for low-income families, and to give these families the skills they need to use these new Information Age tools effectively. This new program will provide competitive grants to public-private partnerships at the local level. Potential partners might include: local school districts seeking to expand parental involvement in education; high-tech companies willing to provide discounts on computers and access; libraries offering training on "information literacy"; employers seeking to upgrade the skills of their workforce using distance learning, and government agencies at all levels seeking to save taxpayer dollars through the electronic delivery of government services. The Administration will continue to work with the private sector and non-profit organizations on the most effective way to design this program.

5. \$45 million to promote innovative applications of information technology for under-served communities: President Clinton's budget will increase the investment in the Department of Commerce's highly-successful Technology Opportunities Program (TOP) to \$45 million -- triple the current level of \$15 million. This program encourages innovative applications of information technology that help empower low-income communities -- public health information systems that raise childhood immunization rates in inner-cities, tele-mentoring for at-risk youth, and electronic networks that strengthen local communities by fostering communication and collaboration.

6. \$25 million to accelerate private sector deployment of high-speed networks in under-served urban and rural communities: High-speed Internet access is becoming as important to the economic vitality of a community as roads and bridges are today. The President will propose a new \$25 million program at the Department of Commerce and the Department of Agriculture to accelerate private sector deployment of broadband networks in under-served urban and rural communities -- using grants and loan guarantees. The potential payoff from these kinds of investments is enormous. One company, for example, has helped people move from "welfare-to-work" by connecting their community with the high-speed networks needed to support telecommuting. This solves some of the biggest barriers associated with welfare-to-work -- lack of childcare and transportation.

7. \$10 million to prepare Native Americans for careers in information technology and other technical fields: The National Science Foundation will support efforts by tribal colleges to increase the number of Native Americans who are prepared to pursue careers in information technology and other technical fields. The ability to use technology is becoming increasingly important in the workplace, and jobs in the rapidly growing information technology sector pay almost 80 percent more than the average private sector wage.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

Access to computers and the Internet and the ability to effectively use this technology are becoming increasingly important for full participation in America's economic, political and social life. People are using the Internet to find lower prices for goods and services, work from home or start their own business, acquire new skills using distance learning, and make better informed decisions about their healthcare needs. The ability to use technology is becoming increasingly important in the workplace, and jobs in the rapidly growing information technology sector pay almost 80 percent more than the average private sector wage.

Technology, used creatively, can also make a big difference in the way teachers teach and students learn. In some classrooms, teachers are using the Internet to keep up with the latest developments in their field, exchange lesson plans with their colleagues, and communicate more frequently with parents. Students are able to log on to the Library of Congress to download primary documents for a history paper, explore the universe with an Internet-connected telescope used by professional astronomers, and engage in more active "learning by doing." Students are also creating powerful Internet-based learning resources that can be used by other students -- such as award-winning Web sites on endangered species, the biology of sleep, human perception of sound, and an exploration of the American judicial system.

Access to computers and the Internet has exploded during the Clinton-Gore Administration. Unfortunately, there is strong evidence of a "digital divide" -- a gap between those individuals and communities that have access to these Information Age tools and those who don't. In some instances, this divide is actually widening. A July 1999 report from the Department of Commerce, based on December 1998 Census Department data, revealed that:

- ú Better educated Americans more likely to be connected. Between 1997 and 1998, the technology divide between those at the highest and lowest education levels increased 25%. In 1998, those with a college degree are more than eight times likely to have a computer at home and nearly sixteen times as likely to have home Internet access as those with an elementary school education.

- ú The gap between high- and low-income Americans is increasing. In the last year, the divide between those at the highest and lowest income levels grew 29%. Households with incomes of \$75,000 or higher are more than twenty times more likely to have access to the Internet than those at the lowest income levels, and more than nine times as likely to have a computer at home.

- ú Whites more likely to be connected than African-Americans or Hispanics. The digital divide is also persistent and growing along racial and ethnic lines. Whites are more likely to have access to the Internet from home than African-Americans or Hispanics have from any location.

African-American and Hispanic households are roughly two-fifths as likely to have home Internet access as white households. The gaps between white and Hispanic households, and between white and African-American households, are now more than six percentage points larger than they were in 1994. However, for incomes of \$75,000 and higher, the divide between whites and African-Americans has narrowed considerably in the last year.

- ú Rural areas less likely to be connected than urban users. Regardless of

income level, those living in rural areas are lagging behind in computer ownership and Internet access. At some income levels, those in urban areas are 50% more likely to have Internet access than those earning the same income in rural areas. Low income households in rural areas are the least connected, with connectivity rates in the singles digits for both computers and Internet access.

In addition, data from the National Center for Education Statistics reveals a "digital divide" in our nation's schools. As of the fall of 1998, 39 percent of classrooms of poor schools were connected to the Internet, as compared to 62 percent for wealthier schools.

A STRONG RECORD OF WORKING TO CLOSE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

President Clinton and Vice President Gore have worked hard to close the digital divide, and to help create opportunity for more Americans in the Information Age.

- ú President Clinton and Vice President Gore have set a national goal of ensuring that every child is technologically literate. In addition to preparing children for the high-tech workplace of the 21st century, technology can help change the way teachers teach and students learn. Teachers can communicate more frequently with parents, keep up with the latest developments in their field, and exchange lesson plans with their colleagues. Students can conduct research using primary source material, learn the principles of genetics by breeding virtual fruit flies, and learn astronomy by using a professional telescope located 3,000 miles from their classroom.

- ú As a result of the Clinton-Gore educational technology initiative:

- ú The number of classrooms connected to the Internet has increased from 3% in 1994 to 51% in 1998.

- ú The number of schools connected to the Internet has increased from 35% in 1994 to 89% in 1998.

- ú The "e-rate", part of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, is providing \$2.25 billion in 20% - 90% discounts to connect schools and libraries to the Internet, with the deepest discounts going to the poorest schools that need it most. The e-rate alone has provided Internet access for children in more than 1 million classrooms.

- ú Our total investment in educational technology at the federal level (including the e-rate) has increased from \$23 million in 1993 to over \$3 billion today.

- ú Grants supported by the Department of Education are training 400,000 new teachers to use technology effectively in the classroom.

In addition, President Clinton and Vice-President Gore have worked to:

- ú Expand access to technology for people with disabilities: President Clinton and Vice President Gore have been strong supporters of efforts to make technology more accessible for people with disabilities. Recent actions by the Federal Communications Commission will help ensure that telecommunications equipment, such as cellular phones, is designed to be accessible for people with disabilities.

- ú Expand access to technology in under-served communities: In addition to the Community Technology Center program, HUD Sec. Andrew Cuomo has

created approximately 500 Neighborhood Network learning centers that bring state of the art technology to publicly-assisted housing across America. HUD's Neighborhood Networks are innovative private/public partnerships that establish computer-based multi-service centers to help people in publicly-assisted housing learn critical computer skills and prepare for 21st century jobs.

ú Ensure that the Administration makes closing the Digital Divide a top priority. In December, 1999, President Clinton directed members of the Cabinet to take specific actions to address the digital divide:

President Clinton is directing members of his Cabinet (Secretaries of Commerce, Education, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, and Labor) to take specific steps to close the Digital Divide, including:

- ú Continuing to measure the nature and extent of the digital divide by examining the importance of income, education, race, gender, geography and age to Americans' access to Information Age tools;
- ú Expanding the network of Community Technology Centers to provide access to technology for those American who can't afford it;
- ú Promoting applications of the Internet that will empower low-income families, such as the ability to start their own business; and
- ú Upgrading the IT skills of workers in low-income communities.

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Outline of President Clinton's State of the Union Address
January 27, 2000

Fiscal Discipline and Economic Prosperity

- ú Maintaining Fiscal Discipline
- ú Paying Down the Debt by 2013
- ú Protecting and Strengthening Social Security
- ú Nearing the Longest Economic Expansion

Opportunity and Responsibility in Education

- ú Proposing Largest Head Start Expansion in History
- ú Promoting Early Learning
- ú Fixing Failing Schools and Rewarding Success
- ú Class Size Reduction
- ú Small, Safe and Successful High Schools
- ú Teaching to High Standards
- ú Charter Schools
- ú School Construction and Modernization
- ú Preventing Youth Violence
- ú College Opportunity Tax Cut
- ú \$1 Billion to Pell Grants, SEOG, etc.
- ú \$400 Million to Keep Youth on Track for Success

Rewarding Work and Strengthening Families

- ú Expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)
- ú Minimum Wage Increase
- ú Ensuring Equal Pay
- ú Housing Vouchers for Hard-Pressed Working Families
- ú Homeless Initiative
- ú Millions Move from Welfare to Work
- ú New Initiatives to Collect More Child Support
- ú New Fathers Work/Families Win Grants
- ú Helping Long-Term Recipients Move from Welfare to Work
- ú Second Chance Homes
- ú Helping Low-Income Families Afford Child Care
- ú Assisting 8 Million Families with Child Care Expenses
- ú Creating New Child Care Tax Incentives for Businesses
- ú Supporting High Quality Early Childhood Educators
- ú Promoting Early Learning
- ú Campus Based Child Care
- ú Retirement Security Accounts
- ú Expand Pension Coverage for Small Businesses
- ú Tax Relief for Working Families

Health Care

- ú Patients , Bill of Rights
- ú Health Insurance Coverage Initiative
- ú Strengthening and Modernizing Medicare
- ú Long-Term Care Initiative
- ú Increasing Federal Mental Health Funding
- ú Preventing Medical Errors/Improving Care
- ú Major New Investment to Combat HIV and AIDS

Responsibility and Crime

- ú 21st Century Policing Initiative
- ú National Gun Enforcement Initiative
- ú Funding Innovative Smart Gun Technology
- ú Passing Common Sense Gun Legislation

Opening New Markets

- ú New Markets Initiative
- ú Delta Initiative
- ú Native American Initiative
- ú Strengthening the Farm Safety Net
- ú From Digital Divide to Digital Opportunity

Global Change and American Leadership

- ú Benefits of Expanding International Trade
- ú Forging a New Consensus on Trade
- ú Trade Agreements Enforcement Initiative
- ú Child Labor
- ú African Growth and Opportunity Act
- ú Caribbean Basin Trade Initiative
- ú Building Democracy Around the World

- ú Leading a Global Campaign Against AIDS and Disease
- ú U.S.-China Trade Agreement
- ú Building Peace in the Middle East
- ú Bringing Peace to Northern Ireland
- ú Reversing Ethnic Cleansing in Kosovo
- ú Protecting Computer Networks Against Cyber Attack
- ú Combating International Crime
- ú Aiding Colombia in its Fight Against Drugs
- ú Debt Relief
- ú Leading the Way in Global Non-Proliferation
- ú Maintaining the Strongest Military in the World

Responsibility, Opportunity and the Environment

- ú Lands Legacy
- ú Climate Change
- ú Tax Credits for Energy-Efficiency
- ú Clean Energy for the 21st Century
- ú Livable Communities

The Opportunity and Responsibility of Science and Technology

- ú Major New Investments in Science and Technology
- ú Protecting Americans' Personal Privacy

Community

Service and Philanthropy

- ú AmeriCorps and Encouraging Community Service
- ú Faith-Based and Community Organizations
- ú Increasing Charitable Giving

One America

- ú Civil Rights Enforcement
- ú The Employment Non-Discrimination Act (&ENDA 8)
- ú The Hate Crimes Prevention Act
- ú English Literacy/Civics Initiative
- ú Fairness to Immigrants

Governmental and Political Reform

- ú Enact Bipartisan Campaign Finance Reform
- ú Reinventing Government

FISCAL DISCIPLINE
AND NEARING THE LONGEST ECONOMIC EXPANSION IN U.S. HISTORY

Maintaining Fiscal Discipline

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. The President and the Vice President set a new path of fiscal responsibility, opening markets, and investing in our people and new technologies. We passed strong deficit reduction packages in both 1993 and in 1997, and made tough choices in each and every budget. This has put the nation on a course of fiscal discipline, while continuing to invest in our people and our future.

Now we see the results of the last seven years: the first back-to-back budget surpluses in 42 years; last year's surplus of \$124 billion was the largest in our history. The latest numbers from the Treasury indicate the surplus for this year will be even larger. In just the last two years, we've already paid down \$140 billion of the national debt. Because we've resisted efforts to push our nation off the path of fiscal discipline with large and irresponsible tax cuts, our debt is \$1.7 trillion less this year than it was projected to be back in 1993.

Last year, the President asked the Congress to use every single dollar of our Social Security surplus to pay down the debt, and to use the interest savings from that debt reduction to lengthen the life of Social Security. This year the President has announced that because of the choices we have made, the budget he will submit for 2001 accelerates the date that we will be able to pay off our debt to 2013 -- two years earlier than we had originally planned. The President will do this by protecting Social Security funds, and dedicating the interest savings to Social Security, allowing us, in addition to paying off the debt, to extend the solvency of the Social Security trust fund to at least 2050. We will also be able to make Medicare secure now, through 2025. And we will be debt-free for the first time since 1835, when our nation just had 24 states and fewer than 15 million people.

Paying Down the Debt by 2013

In the State of the Union address, President Clinton will announce that his budget for 2001 would put America in a position to pay off the \$3.6 trillion debt by 2013 -- 2 years earlier than planned. The President will emphasize that this debt reduction would be accomplished by protecting Social Security funds -- and dedicating the interest savings to Social Security, allowing the Social Security solvency to be extended until at least 2050. In contrast, the Republican lockbox plans in Congress fail to extend the life of Social Security by even one day. The President also will announce that his budget will make Medicare secure through at least 2025 by devoting a substantial fraction of the surplus to Medicare solvency and debt reduction. The President's plan to pay down the debt will result in lower interest rates and stronger investment. For typical families it will mean lower mortgage payments and car payments. By strengthening the economy and eliminating the debt, the President's plan will help prepare the government -- and the Nation -- to meet the challenge of the retiring baby boomers.

Protecting and Strengthening Social Security

As he did in his 1998 and 1999 State of the Union addresses, the President

will call on Congress to enact his plan to save Social Security first) and strengthen it. For almost 65 years, Social Security has been an unshakable covenant among generations, between workers and retirees, between the disabled and the able bodied. For many Americans, Social Security, along with savings and pensions, is the foundation of retirement security. In his 1999 State of the Union Address, the President proposed a plan that would, building on our historic period of prosperity and budget surpluses, use debt reduction to extend the life of Social Security without damaging and unnecessary benefit cuts or tax increases. In the last session of Congress, the President proposed specific legislation that reserves the entire Social Security surplus for Social Security and debt reduction and, in addition, 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.

Nearing the Longest Economic Expansion in U.S. History

The President's leadership on fiscal discipline and economic strategy has helped the put the economy on track for the longest expansion in American history. The strong economy has benefited Americans in the form of more jobs, higher wages, lower inflation, greater homeownership, and an increasing sense of optimism about the future:

America is currently in the longest peacetime expansion in its history. By the end of February, the U.S. will have enjoyed 107 consecutive months of expansion -- the longest economic expansion in history.

Since President Clinton took office in 1993, the economy has created 20.4 million new jobs -- the highest number of jobs ever created under a single President. These are overwhelmingly good jobs: according to a study by the Council of Economic Advisers and the U.S. Department of Labor, 81 percent of all new jobs are located in industry/occupation categories that pay above-median wages.

The vast majority of the new jobs -- 18.8 million or 92 percent of the total -- were created by the private sector, the highest private sector share of job creation since Harry S. Truman was President.

The unemployment rate in 1999 fell to 4.2 percent -- the lowest rate in 30 years. For African Americans, the unemployment rate fell to 8.0 percent -- the lowest on record. For Hispanics, the unemployment rate fell to 6.4 percent -- the lowest on record.

The economy has expanded at 3.8 percent annually under President Clinton -- the fastest growth rate of any administration since President Johnson.

As a result of the strong economy and investments in people, 7.7 million people have been lifted out of poverty under President Clinton. The poverty has fallen to 12.7 percent -- the lowest rate since 1979. For African Americans and African American children, the poverty rate is the lowest on record. For Hispanics, the poverty rate is the lowest since 1980. For single mothers, the poverty rate has fallen to the lowest level in history.

In the third quarter of 1999, the homeownership rate rose to 67.0 percent -- the highest rate ever recorded. The homeownership rates for African Americans and Hispanics also reached record levels in 1999.

The underlying core rate of inflation was 1.9 percent in 1999) the lowest rate since 1965.

OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY IN EDUCATION

Proposing 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. Head Start prepares low-income children for a lifetime of learning and development by providing early, rigorous and comprehensive child development. Early Head Start, created by the Clinton-Gore Administration in 1994, brings these services to families with children ages zero to three and to pregnant women. The President's FY 2001 proposal would increase funding for Early Head Start by \$143 million. Since 1993, this Administration has already increased funding for Head Start by 90 percent.

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. The Early Learning Fund will provide community grants for activities that foster cognitive development, improve child care quality and promote readiness for school. Resources could be used to help child care providers get training or certification, facilitate licensing or accreditation of child care centers, and reduce child-to-staff ratios.

Fixing Failing Schools and Rewarding Success

Universal After-School for Students in the Most Need - The President and Vice President propose to invest \$1 billion in the 21st

Century Community Learning Centers program to help ensure that every child in every failing school can have a safe place to learn during the after school and summertime hours. This more than doubles the FY 2000 investment. The Administration's budget will maintain the commitment to serving all children, but will dedicate the increase to help those children most in need of academic assistance as part of a comprehensive approach to help low-achieving students meet high academic standards. The budget provides sufficient funding to make after school or summer school programs universally available to all students attending Title I school identified as low-performing, nearly tripling the number of children served by the program to 2.5 million.

Accountability Fund -- In November, the Congress appropriated \$134 million for the President's accountability fund. This year, the President will increase funding for this initiative to \$250 million to turn around failing schools. This funding is 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. The accountability initiative also includes provisions expanding public school choice for students in failing 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. States would be eligible for bonuses based on substantial overall improvements in student performance and significant narrowing of the achievement gap as indicated by performance on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

Class Size Reduction

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 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. Smaller classes allow teachers to spend more time on instruction and less time on discipline, and provide more individualized attention. Research shows that students attending small classes in the early grades make more rapid educational progress than students in larger classes. New teachers hired under this program must be qualified and know the subjects they are teaching.

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. School districts could use this money to create small schools or break up existing large schools into smaller learning communities. Districts would be expected to demonstrate increases in student achievement, graduation rates, and the number of students pursuing postsecondary options, and decreases in classroom disruptions and violence.

Teaching to High Standards

This initiative is a new \$1 billion teacher quality plan to recruit, train and reward good teachers. The Teaching to High Standards Initiative will give grants to states and districts to fund high-quality, standards-based professional development for teachers. It also includes several new proposals:

Higher Standards-Higher Pay for Teachers -- This \$50 million initiative will award grants to high-poverty school districts to help them attract and retain high-quality teachers through better pay and higher standards. Participating teachers would receive immediate pay increases and additional raises for exceptional work.

Teacher Quality Rewards -- This \$50 million program 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.

Hometown Teacher Recruitment -- This \$75 million program would empower high-poverty school districts to develop programs to recruit homegrown

teachers to address the shortage of qualified teachers. Programs supported by this grant would make students aware, as early as middle school, of the opportunities available in the teaching profession; provide mentoring and teaching experiences as they progress through school; and provide financial assistance for students who enter college and pursue academic degrees with the goal of teaching in high-need communities after graduation.

Transition to Teaching -- This \$25 million initiative will build on the success of the Department of Defense's Troops to Teachers program by recruiting and preparing talented mid-career professionals from diverse fields to become teachers in high-need subject areas and high-need schools.

School Leaders Initiative -- This \$40 million program will fund non-profit partnerships designed to recruit, prepare and provide professional development for superintendents and principals, and other school leaders.

Charter Schools

The President's budget will increase funding for charter schools by \$30 million dollars from \$145 million to \$175 million. Charter schools are public schools started by parents, teachers, or community groups that are open to all and given a great deal of flexibility in exchange for agreeing to meet defined goals for student performance. Charter schools are one way to increase competition, provide options and choices for parents, and increase accountability in public education. When the President was first elected in 1992, there was only one charter school in the country. Now, according to the Department of Education, there are approximately 1,700 and 36 states and the District of Columbia have passed laws allowing the creation of charter schools. This proposed new funding will ensure that we can meet the President's goal of creating 3,000 public charter schools.

School Construction and Modernization

At least 2,400 new public schools will be needed nationwide by 2003 to accommodate rising enrollments and to relieve overcrowding. Thousands more will be needed in following years. To address this critical need, President Clinton is renewing his commitment to his School Modernization Bond proposal. It provides \$24.8 billion in tax credit bonds over two years to modernize up to 6,000 schools. This proposal has an estimated cost of \$8 billion over ten years. Within this \$24.8 billion program, \$2.4 billion is reserved for Qualified Zone Academy Bonds. In addition, the 2001 budget includes a new \$1.3 billion school urgent/emergency renovation loan and grant proposal. This \$1.3 billion program could support nearly \$7 billion of renovation projects in high-need school districts with little or no capacity to fund urgent repairs. Both loans and grants would be made available, with the smaller grant program directed toward the neediest districts.

Preventing Youth Violence

Over the past year, the country has been traumatized by a spate of school shootings. The President has taken leadership to address the issue of preventing youth violence by establishing a National Campaign Against Youth Violence. The National Campaign is beginning a public engagement campaign on how best to prevent youth violence and is working with the

best minds in the field of youth violence to identify and replicate best practices of prevention in local communities. The President's budget includes over \$8.8 billion, \$875 million above FY 2000, for programs throughout the government that work to target youth violence and programs that support the healthy development of young people including 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 Safe Schools program joins principals, parents, police and others in the community to collaborate on comprehensive strategies to address violence problems confronting children in and out of school. The President's new budget will provide a \$100 million increase for his safe schools initiative, investing a total of nearly \$250 million in this signature program.

College Opportunity Tax Cut

Since 1993, the President has taken numerous steps to make college more affordable and accessible, including direct student loans, Pell Grant increases, as well as the Hope Scholarship and Lifetime Learning tax credits, producing the biggest expansion in college opportunity since the GI Bill. This year the President goes one step further and calls 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. The proposal would cover up to \$5,000 of educational expenses in 2001 and 2002 and rise to \$10,000 of educational expenses from 2003 forward. 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.

Nearly \$1 Billion In Increases To Pell Grants, SEOG, Work Study, And Other Programs:

Pell Grants. The Pell Grant program provides grants to economically disadvantaged young people to help pay the cost of a postsecondary education. The maximum Pell Grant in FY2000 is \$3,300. The President's FY2001 budget increases the maximum to \$3,500, more than 50 percent larger than the maximum grant in 1993, to make a college education more affordable for the nearly 4 million Pell Grant recipients. Funding for the Pell Grant program is increased by over \$716 million, bringing the total Pell Grant appropriation to \$8.356 billion.

SEOG. SEOG, the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant program, provides campus-based grant assistance to needy undergraduate students. Generally, this program supplements the aid students receive from other sources, and leverages institutional aid by at least one dollar for every three federal dollars. The FY2001 budget provides \$691 million for SEOG, a \$60 million increase, the largest increase in 10 years. An estimated 1.2 million students (over 60,000 more than in 2000) will receive awards in 2001.

Work Study. Work Study provides students the opportunity to work their way through college. The FY 2000 budget achieved the goal of giving one million students the opportunity to participate in Work Study. The FY2001 budget includes \$1.011 billion for Work Study, an increase of \$77 million to continue this commitment to serve one million students.

College Completion Challenge Grants. The FY2001 budget creates a new initiative within the TRIO program called College Completion Challenge Grants (CCCCG). Although college enrollment rates have risen, 37 percent of students that go on to post-secondary school drop out before they get a certificate or a degree. The problem is especially acute for minorities: 29 percent of African Americans and 31 percent of Hispanics drop out of college after less than one year, compared to 18 percent of whites. The CCCC program is designed to address this problem with a comprehensive approach including pre-freshman summer programs, support services and increased grant aid to students. This \$35 million initiative will improve the chances of success for nearly 18,000 students.

Dual Degree Programs for Minority-Serving Institutions. The FY 2001 budget proposes a new program to increase opportunities for students at minority-serving institutions that offer four-year degrees. Students would receive two degrees within five years: one from a minority-serving institution, and one from a partner institution in a field in which minorities are underrepresented. This new \$40 million program will serve an estimated 3,000 students.

Over \$400 Million In Increases To Keep Young People On The Track To Success:

GEAR UP. GEAR UP is a nationwide initiative to encourage more disadvantaged young people to have high expectations, stay in school, study hard, and take the right courses to go to and succeed in college. GEAR UP is funded at \$200 million in FY 2000, enough to provide services to over 750,000 students. The FY 2001 budget provides a 62.5% increase to \$325 million, enough to provide services to 1.4 million students.

TRIO. The TRIO programs seek to motivate and prepare students to go to and stay in college. The FY 2001 budget provides \$725 million for TRIO, an increase of \$80 million to help provide assistance to over 760,000 students, 37,000 more than in 2000.

Youth Opportunity Grants and Youth Training Formula Grants. Youth Opportunity Grants are an initiative to provide comprehensive employment and training assistance to all out-of-school young people in high poverty areas. The program was passed as part of the bipartisan Workforce Investment Act. Funded at \$250 million in FY 2000, this program would serve up to 50,000 of the most disadvantaged young people in central cities and rural communities across America. The President's FY2001 budget provides a 50 percent increase in funding to \$375 million, enough to serve an additional 25,000 youth in high poverty areas. In addition, the FY2001 budget provides a \$25 million increase (from \$1.001 billion to \$1.022), to the Youth Training Formula Grants, enough to provide job training and summer job opportunities to nearly 600,000 disadvantaged young people.

Youthbuild. The Youthbuild program, is targeted to 16-24 year old high school dropouts, and provides disadvantaged young adults with education and employment skills through rehabilitating and building housing for low-income and homeless people. The program also helps to expand the supply of housing in these categories. Funded at \$42.5 million, the Youthbuild programs will provides opportunities for approximately 2,000 trainees in 2000. The FY2001 increases funding by 76% to \$75 million, enough to serve approximately 3,330 trainees.

Job Corps. Job Corps is the nation's largest and most comprehensive residential education and job training program targeted at impoverished young people. The FY2001 budget increases Job Corps funding by \$33 million, bringing the total Job Corps budget to \$1.392 billion.

REWARDING WORK AND STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

Expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)

President Clinton will call on Congress to pass his \$21 billion plan to expand the Earned Income Tax Credit -- a key part of his opportunity, responsibility, and community agenda to reward work and family. According to estimates by the Department of the Treasury, the President's proposed EITC expansion would deliver tax relief for 6.8 million families, providing up to \$1,200 in additional tax relief for some of these hard-pressed, working families. The President's proposal would build on the EITC expansion that he signed into law in 1993 and which provided a tax cut for 15 million families. That expansion made the EITC even more effective at encouraging work and reducing poverty: In 1998, 4.3 million people were directly lifted out of poverty by the EITC -- more than double the number in 1993. The President's proposal would further increase the reward to work and family by: (1) increasing benefits for families with three children; (2) expanding the credit for married, two-earner couples; (3) rewarding families that are working hard to move into the middle class by lowering the phaseout rate; and (4) encouraging savings through simplification. To illustrate the effects of the President's proposed expansion: under current law, a married couple earning \$23,000 and with three kids qualify for a \$1,892 EITC; the President's proposed expansion would boost that amount to \$2,867 -- an increase of \$975.

Minimum Wage Increase

The President will call on Congress to pass a \$1 increase in the minimum wage. Despite the strongest economy in a generation, there are still millions of workers trying to raise a family and make ends meet. The President believes that parents who work hard and play by the rules should not have to raise their children in poverty. That is why, in 1993, he expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and, in 1996, fought for and won a minimum wage increase. A working parent with two children earning the minimum wage in 1993 made \$10,559 with the EITC (in 1998 inflation-adjusted dollars) -- well below the poverty line. As a result of the expanded EITC and higher minimum wage, a similarly situated family in 1998 was above the poverty line -- making \$13,268 -- a 26 percent inflation-adjusted increase in their standard of living. The President's challenge to build on the success of these policies by raising the minimum wage by \$1 would help 11.4 million Americans -- 70 percent of whom are

adults and 59 percent of whom are women. For a full-time, year-round worker at the minimum wage, the President's proposal would mean an additional \$2,000 per year, enough to buy 7 months of groceries or pay 5 months of rent.

Ensuring Equal Pay

According to the Department of Labor, the average woman who works full-time earns approximately 75 cents for each dollar that an average man earns. For women of the color, the gap is even wider. This gap is attributable, in part, to differing levels of experience, education, and skill. However, even after accounting for these factors, a significant pay gap still remains between men and women in similar jobs. The President will announce a \$27 million Equal Pay Initiative in his Fiscal Year 2001 budget, an increase of \$12 million over Fiscal Year 2000. The Initiative requests \$10 million for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) to provide training and technical assistance to about 3,000 employers on how to comply with equal pay requirements and to launch a public service announcement campaign on wage issues. The Initiative also dedicates \$10 million for the Department of Labor (DOL) to train women in nontraditional jobs, including high-tech jobs and other skill shortage occupations. Lastly, the Initiative provides \$7 million for DOL to help employers assess and improve their pay policies, support public education efforts, provide for projects in non-traditional apprenticeships, and implement industry partnerships. The President also will call on Congress again 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 on this important subject.

New Housing Vouchers for Hard-Pressed Working Families

The President's budget will include \$690 million for 120,000 new housing vouchers to help America's hard-pressed working families. These housing vouchers subsidize the rents of low-income Americans, enabling them to move closer to job opportunities -- many of which are being created far from where these families live. Of the 120,000 new housing vouchers, 32,000 will be targeted to families moving from welfare to work, 18,000 to homeless individuals and families, and 10,000 to low-income families moving to new housing constructed through the Low Income Housing Tax Credit, with the remaining 60,000 vouchers allocated to local areas to help address the large unmet need for affordable housing. These new vouchers build on the 110,000 new housing vouchers secured through the President's leadership over the past two years.

Homeless Initiative

Homeless persons do not participate fully in important health and other programs for which they are eligible. The President's budget proposes legislation for a new \$10 million initiative that would improve homeless individuals' access to mainstream programs that will help them move toward self-sufficiency. Demonstration grants would be awarded to several states to improve access to and provide coordination among mainstream programs such as Medicaid, State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Food Stamps, the Workforce Investment Act, and the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Block Grants. The budget also proposes \$1.2 billion for homeless assistance programs at

the Department of Housing and Urban Development, including \$105 million for 18,000 homeless vouchers.

Millions Move from Welfare to Work

In 1992, President Clinton promised to end welfare as we know it, and now more than three years after the enactment of the welfare reform law, we've seen revolutionary changes to promote work and responsibility: the number of Americans on welfare is at its lowest level since 1969 -- 30 years ago -- as millions of people move from welfare to work. Since January 1993, the welfare rolls have fallen by more than half, from 14.1 million to 6.9 million. More than 1.3 million welfare recipients went to work in 1998 alone. The 12,000 businesses participating in the Welfare to Work Partnership launched by the President in 1997 have hired nearly 650,000 former welfare recipients. The federal government is also doing its share: in 1997, the President asked the Vice President to lead the federal hiring initiative to hire 10,000 welfare recipients over four years. Today, we've far exceeded that goal, hiring more than 16,000 people. At a time when the federal workforce is the smallest it has been in thirty years, the Vice President has shown that you can both create a leaner government and one that leads by example.

New Initiatives to Collect More Child Support

Since the President took office, child support collections have nearly doubled. Today, parents who owe child support have their wages garnished, their bank accounts seized, and their tax refunds withheld. To build on this success, the budget contains several new initiatives to further increase child support collections and crack down on parents who owe child support. Parents who owe past-due child support will have their gambling winnings intercepted and their vehicles booted. They will have a harder time obtaining or renewing a passport, and they can be prohibited from enrolling as a Medicare provider. Finally, the budget will require that child support orders be updated more frequently and increase the amount of child support paid directly to families.

New Fathers Work/Families Win Grants

The President's budget will contain \$255 million in new competitive grants in FY 2001 to promote responsible fatherhood and support working families, critical next steps in reforming welfare and reducing child poverty. 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. As part of this effort, states will need to put in place procedures allowing them to require more parents who owe child support to pay or go to work. The President's 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. An important part of these grants will be to improve families' access to food stamps, health care, child care, and other critical support for working families. \$10 million will be set aside for Indian and Native American grantees. Fathers Work/Families Win competitive grants will be run by one-stop career centers, community groups, and faith-based organizations under contract to local and state workforce investment boards.

Helping More Long-Term Recipients Move from Welfare to Work
Because of the President's leadership, the 1997 Balanced Budget Act contained \$3 billion for Welfare-to-Work grants to help long-term welfare recipients and certain non-custodial parents go to work and support their children. To fully implement these important efforts, the President's budget allows grantees an additional two years to spend these existing funds.

Second Chance Homes

The budget includes \$25 million in new funds to support "second chance homes," adult-supervised and supportive living arrangements, for unmarried teen parents and their children who cannot live at home or with other relatives. States will be able to use these funds, as they can other Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) funds, to support services provided by faith-based and community-based organizations. (Overall, the budget increases SSBG funds by \$75 million.) This new initiative will be latest of the Administration's efforts to reduce teen pregnancy, which have resulted in the lowest teen pregnancy rates on record and an 18 percent decline in teen births from 1991 to 1998.

Helping Low-Income Families Afford Child Care

The President's budget expands the Child Care and Development Block Grant to help working families struggling to afford child care. The President's budget request will increase funding for child care subsidies by \$817 million in FY 2001, enabling the program to serve nearly 150,000 more children next year. These new funds, combined with the child care funds provided in welfare reform, will enable the program to serve over 2.2 million children in 2001, an increase of nearly one million since 1997. The block grant is part of the Child Care and Development Fund, the primary federal subsidy program that helps families pay for child care, thereby enabling low-income parents to work. Today, millions of families who are eligible for assistance with their child care costs do not receive any help; in 1999, only about 12 percent of the 15 million low-income children eligible for assistance under federal law, received subsidies.

Tax Relief for Over 8 Million Families with Child Care Expenses

The Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC) provides tax relief to those who, in order to work, pay for the care of a child under 13 or for a disabled dependent or spouse. The President's proposals, which cost \$30 billion over 10 years, broaden this tax relief and will help over 8 million families pay their child care expenses:

Making the Credit Refundable for Nearly Two Million Working Parents.
Under current law, a typical family of four with an income under \$25,000 is ineligible for credits for child care expenses because it has no income tax liability. Many such families earn too little to claim the credit, but too much to get the full benefit of child care subsidies. To help these families, the President proposes to make the CDCTC refundable for the first time -- so that families with no tax liability can receive up to \$2,400 to help offset the cost of child care. This proposal will assist nearly two million families.

Increasing the Child Care Tax Credit. For families earning up to \$60,000, the President proposes to increase the maximum level of the CDCTC from 30

percent to 50 percent. This will provide an average additional tax cut of \$249 for these families and eliminating tax liability for nearly all families with incomes below 200 percent of poverty that claim the maximum allowable child care expenses. Under this proposal, a family of four with an annual salary of \$35,000, and child care expenses of \$3,100, would receive a tax credit of \$1,395 -- an increase of \$775 over current law. This expansion proposal will help over four million working families pay for child care.

Providing Tax Relief to Parents Who Stay at Home. The President will also propose enabling parents who stay at home with children under age one to take advantage of the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit by claiming assumed child care expenses of \$500. This proposal will provide an average tax cut of \$154, benefiting almost two million parents.

Creating New Child Care Tax Incentives for Businesses

In his budget, President Clinton will also propose a new tax credit for businesses that provide child care services for their employees. These services could include: building or expanding child care facilities, operating existing facilities, training child care workers, or providing child care resource and referral services. The credit covers 25 percent of qualified costs (and 10 percent of resource and referral service expenses), but may not exceed \$150,000 per year per business. The President's budget includes \$539 million over five years for this tax credit.

Supporting High-Quality Early Childhood Educators

The President's budget includes \$30 million to ensure that well-trained professionals are teaching our young children. The Early Childhood Professional Development initiative will provide competitive grants to local partnerships that can pull together universities, local school districts and child care providers. The initiative would focus on equipping early childhood educators with the tools they need to help children develop vital language and literacy skills.

Encouraging the Pursuit of Higher Education by Offering College Campus Based Child Care

To encourage low-income parents to pursue higher education, the President's budget includes \$15 million -- a \$10 million increase over last year's funding level -- to provide an additional 150 college campuses with grants to support the establishment or expansion of child care services. States may also use a share of the Child Care and Development Block Grant for this purpose.

Retirement Savings Accounts To Help Families Save and Invest

The President's Retirement Savings Accounts (RSAs) proposal will give 76 million Americans the opportunity to build wealth and save for their retirement through a progressive tax cut. The President's proposal builds on the successful model of Individual Development Accounts (IDAs), extending generous matches to all low- and moderate-income families to encourage them to develop savings and assets. A person who participated for 40 years in this savings program could accumulate over \$266,000 -- enough to produce \$24,000 a year of income in retirement. This proposal

would cost \$54 billion over 10 years.

Expand Pension Coverage for Small Businesses

In an effort to encourage more small businesses to offer pensions for their employees, the President will also announce a proposal to provide a 50 percent tax credit for qualified contributions to employees' pensions. This provision would cost \$17 billion over 10 years.

Tax Relief for Working Families: Simplifying Taxes and Rewarding Marriage and Work

Today as part of his State of the Union Address, President Clinton will announce his plan to reduce the marriage penalty for married, two-earner couples by increasing the standard deduction by nearly \$2,000. The President will propose to increase the standard deduction for two-earner married couples to twice that of single filers, providing substantial tax relief for 9.1 million families. The President would provide an additional \$500 increase in the standard deduction for single-earner married couples that do not face a marriage penalty. He would also increase the standard deduction for single filers by \$250. The President's plan would cost \$45 billion over 10 years and benefit 42.1 million families.

HEALTH CARE

Patients' Bill of Rights

The President and Vice President continue to challenge the Congress to finally finish the overdue job of passing patients' rights legislation that includes critical protections such as: guaranteed access to needed health care specialists; access to emergency room services when and where the need arises; continuity of care protections so that patients will not have an abrupt transition in care if their providers are dropped; access to a fair, unbiased and timely internal and independent external appeals process to address health plan grievances; and an enforcement mechanism that ensures recourse for patients who have been harmed as a result of a health plan's actions. Last fall, over 60 Republicans joined virtually every Democrat in the House in voting for the Norwood-Dingell Patients Bill of Rights. This strong, enforceable, patient protections bill should not be watered down in a manner that makes it ineffective and unworthy of signing. It should also not include provisions that do little more than further segment healthy from unhealthy populations without significantly expanding coverage for the currently uninsured.

Health Insurance Coverage Initiative

The President and Vice President strongly believe we should expand access to affordable health care coverage to more Americans. The budget proposes a 10-year, \$110 billion initiative that would expand coverage to at least 5 million uninsured Americans and expand access to millions more. It addresses the nation's coverage challenges by building on and complementing current private and public programs. Specifically, the initiative: (1) provides a new, affordable health insurance option for families called "FamilyCare," which builds on the State Children's Health Insurance Program to provide higher Federal matching payments to parents of children eligible for or enrolled in Medicaid or S-CHIP; (2)

accelerates enrollment of uninsured children eligible for Medicaid and S-CHIP; (3) expands health insurance options for Americans facing unique barriers to coverage, including a Medicare buy-in with a new 25 percent tax credit; a new 25 percent tax credit for COBRA continuation coverage; an initiative to help small businesses afford insurance, and new Medicaid options for vulnerable groups of Americans (people ages 19 and 20; people leaving welfare for work; legal immigrants); and (4) strengthens programs that provide health care directly to the uninsured. If enacted, this would be the largest investment in coverage since Medicare was created in 1965.

Strengthening and Modernizing Medicare

The President's budget includes a comprehensive plan to reform and modernize Medicare. This plan will: (1) make the program more efficient and competitive; (2) extend the solvency of the Health Insurance (HI) trust fund to at least 2025; (3) modernize benefits including adding a long-overdue, voluntary prescription drug benefit; and (4) 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. Building on the President's successful fight against fraud and waste, the plan would dedicate over \$300 billion in savings and surplus over 10 years to the HI trust fund, helping to meet the inevitable financing and health challenges that result from the aging of the baby boom. The proposed prescription drug benefit would be voluntary, available and affordable to all beneficiaries, including low-income beneficiaries who would pay low to no costs for coverage. It would be administered by private organizations like pharmaceutical benefit managers (PBMs) and would give financial incentives to employers who currently offer retiree prescription drug benefits to maintain coverage. Finally, a reserve fund would be created for debt reduction or, if there is bipartisan consensus, to strengthen the Administration's drug benefit by adding protections against the cost of catastrophic drug expenses.

Long-Term Care Initiative

The budget proposes a 10-year, \$28 billion initiative that helps address the nation's multifaceted long-term care challenge. It includes: (1) a \$3,000 tax credit to compensate people with long-term care needs or their caregivers for the cost of care; (2) a major new investment in the Older Americans Act for information and referral as well as direct support services for family caregivers; (3) a new Medicaid option to increase income eligibility levels for home and community based services to the same levels as nursing home residents; (4) a Housing and Urban Development program to encourage assisted living facilities for low-income elderly; and (5) a new option for Federal employees to purchase quality private long-term care insurance. The FY 2001 budget also includes an additional \$16.8 million to help states strengthen nursing home enforcement tools and increase Federal oversight of nursing home quality and safety standards.

Increasing Federal Support for 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. 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.

Preventing Medical Errors and Improving Quality of Care

Late last year, 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 the over 300 health plans serving Federal employees institute patient safety initiatives as a condition of participating in the program and directed all Federal agencies to conduct a comprehensive review of the steps they could take to reduce medical errors. In the coming weeks, the President will announce further actions we should take to help eliminate all preventable errors.

Major New Investment to Combat HIV and AIDS in the United States

The President has proposed to invest an additional \$125 million in the Ryan White Program, an increase of almost 8 percent over last year's funding level, to provide primary medical care, pharmaceuticals critical to treatment, and other critical support services for people living with HIV and AIDS. The budget also includes 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.

RESPONSIBILITY AND CRIME

21st Century Policing Initiative

In order to keep crime rates down to record low levels, and officers on the beat at all time highs, the President is committed to continuing the second year of his 21st Century Policing Initiative. The 21st Policing Initiative, builds on his successful COPS program that has funded 100,000 more community police for our streets, by: (1) providing resources for communities to hire and redeploy up to 50,000 more police for our streets by FY 2005 with an effort to target new police officers to crime "hot spots"; (2) giving law enforcement access to the latest crime-fighting and crime-solving technologies, such as improved police communications, crime mapping software, laptop computers, and crime lab improvements; and (3) funding new state and local prosecutors to work with local law enforcement and the community to combat local crime problems; and (4) engaging all sectors of the community to prevent and fight crime by funding partnerships with probation parole officers, schools, and faith-based organizations.

Fighting Gun Crime with New National Gun Enforcement Initiative

Building on his successful strategy of combating gun violence that has helped lead to a 35 percent decline in gun crime, the President proposed \$280 million to fund the largest national gun enforcement initiative in history that specifically includes:

500 New ATF Agents and Inspectors - The President's initiative includes the largest increase ever in ATF agents and inspectors, with new agents to crack down on violent gun criminals and illegal gun traffickers at gun shows, gun stores and on the streets, and more firearms inspectors to target unscrupulous gun dealers who supply firearms to criminals and

juveniles.

Over 1,000 New Federal, State and Local Gun Prosecutors - The proposal will fund 1,000 new state and local prosecutors to combat gun crime and violence, 100 new federal gun prosecutors, and new gun enforcement teams to coordinate efforts with local law enforcement to remove gun criminals from our communities and put them behind bars.

Comprehensive Crime Gun Tracing - To move toward tracing every crime gun in America, 250 local law enforcement agencies will receive training and tracing equipment to facilitate comprehensive tracing, and the Administration's Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative (YCGII) will be expanded from 38 to 50 cities across the country.

New National Integrated Ballistics Information Network - The President's initiative will triple current funding for ballistics testing programs to launch the first-ever national ballistics network -- to support the deployment of 150 ballistics imaging units to law enforcement, helping to link bullets and shell casings to the criminal guns they were fired from.

Local Anti-Gun Violence Media Campaigns - To help communities send a strong message to combat gun crime and violence, the initiative funds matching grants to support local media campaigns highlighting penalties for breaking gun laws, proper storage of firearms and preventing child access.

Funding Innovative Smart Gun Technology

The accidental gun death rate for children under 15 in the U.S. is nine times higher than 25 other industrialized nations combined. To help prevent accidental gun death and injuries of children who obtain access to guns, gun theft, and other unauthorized uses, the President committed to fund the expansion, testing and replication of "smart" gun technologies. These state-of-the-art gun safety precautions can limit a gun's use to its adult owner or other authorized users.

Passing Common Sense Gun Legislation

In addition to pressing the Congress to pass his aggressive gun enforcement budget to give communities more and better tools to fight gun crime, President Clinton urged the Congress to make passage of pending common sense gun safety measures the first order of legislative business. Among the reforms he called on the Congress to enact include: 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.

OPENING NEW MARKETS

The New Markets Initiative

The United States is currently in the midst of the longest peacetime expansion in its history. The strength and duration of this expansion has helped bring economic opportunity to millions of people once cut off from the economic mainstream. But too many urban and rural areas have not

participated in this growth. These areas have tremendous potential as New Markets. The President's expanded New Markets initiative will spur \$22 billion in new capital investment in businesses in these economically distressed areas through a package of tax credits and loan guarantees. The package includes the following components:

More Than Doubling the New Markets Tax Credit -- The President proposes to more than double the New Markets tax credit to spur \$15 billion dollars in new investment in community development in economically distressed areas. An entity making new equity investments in a selected community development project would be eligible for a tax credit worth 25 percent of the cost of the investment. A variety of vehicles providing equity and credit to businesses in underserved areas would be eligible. The total cost of the tax credits amounts to about \$5 billion over 10 years.

Expanded Empowerment Zone Tax Incentives - These tax credits will extend and improve economic growth in the 31 existing urban and rural Empowerment Zones, administered by HUD and USDA, and support a third round of 10 new empowerment zones to be designated in 2001. The total cost of these proposals will be \$4.4 billion over 10 years.

America's Private Investment Companies (APICs) - Modeled after the Overseas Private Investment Corporation's (OPIC) successful investment fund program, APICs would provide guaranteed debt to private investment companies, licensed by HUD, to help leverage private equity capital and lower the cost of capital for investments in low- and moderate-income communities. For every dollar that private investors provide, the government will guarantee two dollars in debt to expand the APIC's pool of capital available for making investments and enhance the return on those investments to the private investors. APICs will make equity investments in larger businesses that are expanding or relocating in inner cities and rural areas.

New Market Venture Capital Firms (NMVCs) -- The President is asking for \$51.7 million in his 2001 budget to allow SBA to match equity investment and technical assistance funds to finance 10-20 new investment partnerships -- New Markets Venture Capital Firms -- selected to provide both long-term growth capital and expert guidance to entrepreneurs who need both in order to transform their small businesses and great ideas into thriving companies.

Other Elements of New Markets - Other elements include: increasing the funding for SBA's microenterprise lending program; creating PRIME-- a program providing technical assistance to low-income entrepreneurs; boosting CDFI funding; expanding support for BusinessLINC to encourage large businesses to work with small businesses in new markets; and establishing a New Markets University Partnerships pilot project which, under the auspices of HUD, would provide Universities with funding to develop local community partnerships, assistance to intermediaries, and technical and business development assistance to new and existing firms. In addition, to better serve Native American communities, the President will provide additional funding to expand the New Markets initiative to Indian Country.

Delta Initiative

In the Mississippi Delta, poverty remains at 175 percent of the national average. The President has proposed the creation of a new Delta Regional Authority, modeled after the successful Appalachian Regional Commission, to bring the resources of a Federal-State partnership to the fight for economic growth in the region. This partnership will help bring the infrastructure and job training needed to make the Nation's prosperity a reality in the Delta.

Native American Initiative

In order to better serve Native American communities in this millennium and to honor the federal government's trust responsibility to tribes, the President's budget includes an increase of \$1.2 billion over Fiscal Year 2000 for key new and existing programs assisting Native Americans and Indian reservations. This initiative brings together several agencies in order to address the needs of Native American communities comprehensively. Some of the highlights of this initiative include: \$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 the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and \$2.6 billion for the Indian Health Service. Other key components of the Native American initiative include: "New Markets" economic development initiatives such as funding to create Native American Small Business Development Centers at the Small Business Administration; funding to create a Native American Economic Development Access Center at HUD; addressing the "digital divide" by creating a new program, in conjunction with the tribal colleges, 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 technology, infrastructure, planning, and public works projects at the Economic Development Administration; and increased funding of \$103 million for the third year of the joint Department of Justice/Bureau of Indian Affairs Law Enforcement initiative.

Strengthening the Farm Safety Net

As the President has noted on numerous occasions since its passage, the 1996 Farm Bill fails to provide America's farmers with an adequate safety net. As prices have remained depressed for the past two years, the Federal government has provided over \$15 billion in emergency assistance. In order to provide American farmers and ranchers with the critical assistance that they need and deserve, the President's budget includes \$11 billion to strengthen the farm safety net until the next farm bill in 2002, with three key components: conservation, supplemental income assistance, and crop insurance. The budget includes for FY 2001:

- \$1.3 billion to help family farmers take steps to protect water quality and the environment and to preserve farmland, including \$600 million for a new conservation security program that will assist farmers who voluntarily adopt comprehensive plans to curb erosion and protect water supplies from pesticide and nutrient runoff.

- \$3.1 billion for a new targeted supplemental income assistance program that will provide payments to producers whose farm revenue falls more than 92 percent below its 5-year average.

ú\$640 million to subsidize the cost of crop insurance premiums, to allow farmers to purchase higher levels of coverage than are included in the basic catastrophic coverage.

From Digital Divide to Digital Opportunity

Access to computers and the Internet and the ability to use this technology effectively are becoming increasingly important for full participation in America's economic, social and political life. Unfortunately, there is strong evidence of a "digital divide" -- unequal access to technology by income, education level, race, and geography. In 1998, those with a college degree were more than eight times more likely to have a computer at home and nearly sixteen times as likely to have home Internet access as those with an elementary school education. And the gap is widening. This growing divide also cleaves our community along income, ethnic, and geographic lines, with affluent, white, and urban/suburban households enjoying better computer and Internet access than their African-American, Hispanic, less affluent and more rural counterparts. To address this troubling trend, 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 also will lead high-tech executives and others on a New Markets tour focused on closing the Digital Divide.

GLOBAL CHANGE AND AMERICAN LEADERSHIP

Benefits of Expanding International Trade

Trade has been crucial to American prosperity. Since World War II, as the U.S. has led eight separate rounds of multilateral trade negotiations and signed hundreds of trade agreements, global trade has increased 15-fold, contributing to the most rapid, sustained economic growth ever recorded. Real production in the United States is up 5-fold and real average American per capita income is up 3-fold over this period. Still, there remains much work to be done. Ninety-six percent of the world's consumers live outside the US, many in countries that are only now achieving the means to become significant purchasers of American products.

Forging a New Consensus on Trade

American leadership over the last 50 years has helped develop a world trading system in which the United States is now the world's largest exporter and importer with over \$2 trillion worth of goods and services in trade each year. Since the creation of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in 1948, Democratic and Republican Administrations, working in partnership with Congress, have concluded eight negotiating Rounds, opening markets for American goods, and helping advance basic principles of rule of law, transparency, and fair play in the world economy. Most recently, since the conclusion of the Uruguay Round in 1994, a more open world economy has helped American exports to rise by well over \$200 billion. This has contributed significantly to the rapid economic growth we have enjoyed over the past five years, and the continuation of the longest peacetime expansion in America's history. At the same time, it has helped us to gain high-skill, high-wage jobs, reverse a 20-year period of decline in wages, and in fact increase wages by 6% in real terms. Nevertheless, as President Clinton has said, we need to build a new consensus on trade by putting a human face on the global economy. The

five years since the WTO was founded as the successor to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) have revealed areas where the institution can be further strengthened in this regard -- including greater transparency, a greater role in addressing workers' concerns about globalization through the establishment of a Working Group on Trade and Labor, and a commitment to sustainable development, including protection of the environment, as enshrined in the WTO's Preamble.

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.

Child Labor

In his 1999 State of the Union address, President Clinton pledged: "[W]e will lead the international community to conclude a treaty to ban abusive child labor everywhere in the world." In June, he spoke to the ILO before it adopted the new convention and in December, with Senate advice and consent, he signed the convention on behalf of the United States. Now we must do more to help countries around the world make the convention's aspirations a reality, bringing education -- not hard labor -- to millions of children and preventing the loss of future generations of youth to abusive work. In the last two budgets, the United States became the world's largest contributor to the ILO's International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labor (IPEC). This year, the President proposes to expand support for international efforts to eliminate child labor.

African Growth and Opportunity Act

In the State of the Union, President Clinton called upon Congress to pass the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), an important and groundbreaking piece of legislation, which recognizes African countries' efforts to institute sound economic policies and reform. The House and Senate passed different versions of the legislation last year. 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. American businesses, farmers, and workers all stand to benefit from expanding our trade with one of the largest underdeveloped markets in the world.

Caribbean Basin Trade Initiative

The President will work with Congress toward swift passage of legislation expanding our Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) trading relationship with Caribbean and Central American countries. As part of a package including the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act, the Senate passed legislation last fall similar to that which the Administration has proposed. 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. The Administration is strongly committed to conclude, by 2005, negotiations for a Free Trade Area of the Americas, which will expand U.S. export opportunities

throughout Latin America, and views CBI enhancement as a useful bridge to this initiative.

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, one that he will again stress in his State of the Union address. Over the past seven years, the Clinton Administration has succeeded in ending bloodshed and reducing tensions in the Middle East, Northern Ireland, East Timor, Bosnia, Kosovo, Haiti, Sierra Leone and elsewhere has offered new hope for peace, democracy and prosperity. 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.

Leading the Global Campaign Against AIDS and Other Deadly Diseases

Although much progress has been made in the fight against AIDS and other deadly diseases, much more still needs to be done. To that end, President Clinton and Vice President Gore have stepped up the international battle to prevent, treat, and search for a cure for AIDS, which has disproportionately afflicted our poorest nations. The FY2001 budget that the President will send to Congress next month calls for an additional \$100 million investment in AIDS prevention, care, public health infrastructure, and education in the African and Asian countries that have been hit the hardest by the disease. Vice President Gore announced this additional funding during an address to the UN Security Council in early January. The President has also called for a new tax credit for sales of vaccines for malaria, tuberculosis, and AIDS to accelerate the development of these vaccines, creating an incentive for the pharmaceutical industry to invest in the development of vaccines for poor countries, which often cannot afford to buy the vaccines they need. This would build upon a proposed \$50 million investment in the vaccine purchase fund of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization. Finally, the President will call upon the World Bank and other multilateral development banks to dedicate an additional \$400 million to \$900 million annually of their low-interest-rate loans to expand immunization, prevent and treat common diseases, and build sound delivery systems for other basic health services.

U.S.-China Trade Agreement

Under the terms of the agreement, China has agreed to grant the United States 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 (NTR). The agreement slashes Chinese tariffs on our goods, opens China's markets to our services, and contains safeguards against unfair trading practices. The agreement also advances critical national security goals. WTO membership will spur China's economy, adding impetus to reforms there; introduce China to global economic competition and accelerate a process that is removing the government from vast areas of the country's economic life; open China's telecommunications market, including to Internet and satellite services, and thus expose China to information, ideas and debate from around the world; and oblige the government to publish laws and regulations and subject pertinent decisions

to review of an international body, all of which will strengthen the rule of law in China and increase the likelihood that it will play by global rules as well. While WTO membership will not by itself or overnight transform China's human rights record, it will move the country in the right direction. The United States must grant China permanent NTR or risk ceding the full benefits of the agreement we negotiated to our Asian and European competitors. For all these reasons, the President will make passage of this historic legislation a high priority in the coming year.

Building Peace in the Middle East

After days of intense negotiations at Wye Plantation in November 1998, President Clinton brokered an historic agreement between Israelis and Palestinians that strengthens Israel's security, expands the area of Palestinian control in the West Bank, and enhances economic opportunities for the Israeli and Palestinian people. And in December of last year, President Clinton ended years of stalemate between Syria and Israel by achieving a resumption of Israeli-Syrian peace talks and hosting the highest level meeting ever between Israel and Syria after months of behind-the-scenes diplomacy. The United States has helped broker agreements between Israel and the Palestinians and between Israel and Jordan, and led the efforts toward a resumption of the Israeli-Syrian talks. The United States has stood firmly by those who have taken risks for peace, providing them with strong political, economic and material support; and demonstrated to the enemies of peace that violence and terror will not succeed in disrupting the peace process. At the same time, the United States has maintained its long-standing commitment to the security of Israel, strengthened its ties with Egypt and Jordan, and built a new relationship with the Palestinian Authority and the Palestinian people.

Bringing Peace to Northern Ireland

President Clinton's intensive diplomatic efforts helped achieve the landmark Good Friday Accord in April 1998, bringing new governing structures and a new era of cooperation to Northern Ireland. And in December of last year, both sides made historic progress towards implementation of the Accord, forming of an inclusive government in Northern Ireland, accepting the principle of consent with respect to any change in the territorial status of Northern Ireland, launching new institutions for North/South cooperation on the island, and taking the first steps to address the decommissioning of paramilitary weapons. In his State of the Union address, President Clinton reaffirmed his support for full implementation of the agreement, so Northern Ireland can pursue a prosperous, democratic course, free of violence and terror. The United States will also continue to support the International Fund for Ireland, which promotes reconciliation through economic regeneration projects targeting disadvantaged Irish border counties and Northern Ireland.

Reversing Ethnic Cleansing in Kosovo

This past year, President Clinton led the NATO Alliance in a 79-day air war that expelled Serb forces from Kosovo and restored self-government to the province, ending a decade of repression and reversing Slobodan Milosovic's brutal campaign of ethnic cleansing. In the face of Allied unity, American military superiority, and strong Presidential leadership, the Serb dictator capitulated, withdrawing his troops and permitting international peacekeepers to secure the peace for returning refugees.

The President is now committed to winning the peace, joining European leaders in strengthening democracy and civil society in Kosovo, enhancing economic development and regional integration through the Stability Pact, and supporting opposition within Serbia to complete the democratization of the Balkans.

Protecting Our Computer Networks from Cyber Attack

In his State of the Union address, President Clinton reaffirmed his commitment to strengthen America's defense against the emerging threats cyber terrorists pose to our critical infrastructure, computer systems, and networks. 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. President Clinton has increased funding on critical infrastructure substantially over the past three years, including a 16% increase in the FY2001 budget proposal to \$2.03 billion. He has also developed and funded new initiatives to defend the nation's computer systems from cyber attack. To jumpstart the FY01 program initiatives, the President will also propose a \$9 million supplemental this spring.

Combating International Crime

In his State of the Union address, President Clinton highlighted new measures to combat international money laundering, which facilitates illegal money flows, fosters corruption, and undermines democracy. Combating international money laundering has become an increasingly important issue for the United States. The last decade has seen an explosive proliferation of offshore banking centers that facilitate international criminal money flows. This proliferation also works against U.S. developmental goals by allowing easy placement of funds obtained from official corruption. There is also a growing concern that these offshore centers can contribute to significant financial destabilization, by providing new avenues for unregulated capital flight and new opportunities for financial management entities incorporated in these jurisdictions to take advantage of the absence of supervisory authorities to engage in activities that would be prohibited in the United States.

Aiding Colombia to Fight Drugs and Strengthen Democracy

Eighty percent of the cocaine entering the U.S. is either processed, transported, or grown in Colombia. For the first time in years, a new administration, led by President Andres Pastrana, is taking the tough steps necessary to crack down both on narcotics traffickers and human rights violators. The President recently announced his support for a bold new plan developed by President Pastrana to both stem the tide of drugs entering the United States and to strengthen the Colombian economy and democracy. To assist the Colombians in this effort, the President has proposed a total of \$1.6 billion in funding over two years to help fight narcotics trafficking, provide economic alternatives for Colombian farmers who now grow coca and poppy plants, improve the judicial system, increase the protection of human rights, and crack down on money laundering. A

portion of the investment will go to help train and equip special counter-narcotics battalions and to improve the Colombian capability to interdict traffickers by improving radar, aircraft, airfields, and intelligence-gathering equipment. The 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. The aid from the United States is expected to be supplemented by multilateral agencies and our allies.

International Debt Relief

At their Summit last June, G-7 leaders endorsed a new initiative spearheaded by the President to enable Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC's) to receive deeper, broader and faster debt relief. Under the so-called Cologne Initiative, international financial institutions are developing a new framework for linking debt relief with poverty reduction. The goal is to boost resources for priority social expenditures, including health, child survival, AIDS prevention and education, as well as improve transparency in government budgeting and consultation with civil society in the development and implementation of economic programs. Together with earlier debt relief commitments, the Cologne Initiative provides for reduction of up to 70 percent of the total debts for these countries, decreasing the stock of debt from about \$127 billion today to as low as \$37 billion with the cancellation of official development assistance (ODA) debt by G-7 and other bilateral creditors. As part of the initiative, the President announced in September that the U.S. would seek to write off all of the \$5.7 billion it is owed by as many as 36 heavily indebted poor countries. 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.

Leading the Way in Global Non-Proliferation

The Clinton-Gore Administration has led the effort to reduce the international threat of weapons of mass destruction. Over the past six years, the Administration has made unprecedented progress in curbing the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and the missiles that deliver them, in reducing the dangerous legacy of Cold War weapons' stockpiles and in promoting responsible conventional arms transfer policies. President Clinton was the first world leader to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and has proposed a bipartisan dialogue this year to build a consensus that will lead to its eventual ratification. The United States has also ratified the Chemical Weapons Convention and is working to strengthen the 1972 treaty outlawing biological weapons and to achieve a positive Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference.

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. He has matched new commitments with new resources,

requesting and receiving from Congress billions in additional defense spending in 1999, reversing declines that began a decade ago. The FY2000 budget proposed a six-year increase of \$112B for military readiness and modernization through a combination of new spending and budgetary savings, assuring the first sustained real (after inflation) increase for defense spending in over a decade. This plan increased military pay by the largest percentage since the early 1980s, and increased the 20-year retirement benefit from 40% to 50% of average base pay over the last three years of service. The President's 2001 Defense budget builds on this plan, ensuring military readiness remains first-rate for years to come. Moreover, significant increases are proposed for weapons modernization to guarantee the continued technological superiority of U.S. forces.

RESPONSIBILITY, OPPORTUNITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Lands Legacy

To meet the conservation challenges of a new century, President Clinton is proposing a new category of dedicated, discretionary funding to protect America's land, coastal and wildlife resources. In FY 2000, the President secured \$652 million for Lands Legacy, a 42 percent increase. For FY 2001, the President is proposing another substantial increase and creation of a new budget category to preserve this higher level of funding in future years. The proposed FY 2001 funding would dramatically increase support for state, local and tribal efforts to protect farmland, forests, urban parks and other local green spaces. It also would provide significant increases for federal, state, local and tribal efforts to protect ocean and coastal resources. In addition, Lands Legacy would support federal protection of natural and historic lands across the country, with priorities including Civil War battlefields, the Florida Everglades, the Mojave Desert, and New England forests and wildlife refuges.

Climate Change

Against a backdrop of growing scientific consensus that the Earth is warming -- and that human activity is at least partly to blame -- the President is proposing a series of new initiatives to address global climate change. The President's FY 2001 budget will propose a new effort to accelerate the development and deployment of clean energy technologies in developing countries; increased funding for the research and development of bio-based technologies that use crops, trees and agricultural waste to make fuels and products; and start-up funding for a Clean Air Partnership Fund to support state and local efforts that achieve early reductions in both greenhouse gas emissions and ground-level air pollutants. Other elements of the Administration's climate change strategy include continued increases in both investments and tax incentives to spur the development and deployment of clean energy technologies and energy-efficient cars, homes, and appliances; cutting energy use by the Federal government; working with Congress to reward companies taking early, voluntary action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; restructuring the electricity industry; and continued diplomatic efforts to fill in key details of the Kyoto Protocol and secure more meaningful participation by key developing countries in the fight against global warming.

Tax credits for energy-efficient cars, homes and appliances

Cars and light trucks (including minivans, sport utilities, and pickups) currently account for 20 percent of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. The President's FY 2001 budget will propose tax incentives to help curb these emissions by moving advanced technologies for electric, fuel cell, and hybrid vehicles from the laboratory to the highway. Tax credits would be offered for the purchase of qualifying hybrid vehicles from 2003 through 2006; and the current tax credit for electric vehicles and fuel cell vehicles would be extended through 2006. The President also is proposing a tax credits for the purchase of energy-efficient homes; for solar energy systems; for the purchase of energy-efficient heating and cooling equipment; and for wind and biomass power.

Clean Energy for the 21st Century

Energy technology markets in developing countries are projected to total \$4 trillion to \$5 trillion over the next 20 years. To accelerate the development and deployment of clean energy technologies around the world, President Clinton is proposing the Clean Energy for the 21st Century: International Initiative -- a multi-agency effort to encourage remove market barriers to clean energy technologies in developing and transition countries and to provide new incentives for clean energy technology innovation and export. This initiative, which builds on a set of recommendations by the President's Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST), will create as much as \$5 billion in new export revenues for U.S. companies and up to 100,000 new U.S. jobs, and will assist developing countries in powering their economic development while fighting air pollution and climate change.

Livable Communities

President Clinton and Vice President Gore are proposing to strengthen the Livable Communities initiative, which expands the choices available to communities to help them grow in ways that ensure a high quality of life and strong, sustainable economic growth. The 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 neighboring communities develop collaborative "smart growth" strategies; and funding to provide communities with new information tools, and improve public safety by sharing crime data. The Administration also will propose 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, create or restore urban parks, protect water quality, and clean up brownfields (abandoned industrial sites). By delivering tools and resources to the local level, where issues of growth management are most appropriately addressed, this initiative helps empower citizens to build more "livable communities" for the 21st century.

THE OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Major New Investments in Science and Technology Research

President Clinton has announced that he will include a nearly \$3 billion increase in the "Twenty-First Century Research Fund" in his FY2001 budget, including a \$1 billion increase in biomedical research at the National

Institutes of Health and double the largest dollar increase for the National Science Foundation in its 50 year history. These investments will ensure that science and technology will continue to fuel economic growth and allow Americans to lead longer, healthier lives. The funding includes increased support in all scientific and engineering disciplines, including biomedical research, nanotechnology, information technology, clean energy, and university-based research. The President's budget includes:

\$1 billion increase in biomedical research at the National Institutes of Health. 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. This increase will support research in areas such as diabetes, brain disorders, cancer, genetic medicine, disease prevention strategies, and development of an AIDS vaccine. It will also help researchers complete in the near future a first draft of the entire human genome -- the very blueprint of life. This and other wise investments in science are leading to a revolution in our ability to detect, treat, and prevent disease. 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 came into office.

A new \$495 million National Nanotechnology Initiative. Nanotechnology -- the ability to manipulate individual atoms and molecules -- could revolutionize the 21st century in the same way that the transistor did the 20th. Increased investments in nanotechnology could lead to breakthroughs such as molecular computers that can store the contents of the Library of Congress in a device the size of a sugar cube, and new materials ten times stronger than steel and a fraction of the weight.

A \$675 million increase in the National Science Foundation -- double the largest dollar increase in NSF's history. This increase will boost university-based research and ensure balanced support for all science and engineering disciplines. NSF accounts for half of all non-health, university-based research.

An almost \$600 million increase in information technology research. This increase in information technology research could lead to advances such as high-speed wireless networks that can bring distance learning and telemedicine to isolated rural areas; and supercomputers that can more accurately predict tornadoes and hurricanes and more rapidly develop life-saving drugs.

Protecting Americans' Personal Privacy

As information technology transforms our government and our economy, a growing challenge is how to gain the benefits from the new technology while preserving one of our oldest values "privacy" in a variety of different settings:

Medical Records: This year the Clinton-Gore Administration will issue historic, final rules that will legally guarantee the 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

Financial Information: Financial modernization legislation signed by President Clinton last year included important privacy protections, but more needs to be done. This year, the President will seek further protections, including consumer choice before financial firms can share their information within a corporate family.

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 that it will be used not to promote health in a protected manner, but will be used as a basis for discrimination. There are already examples of employers using this type of information as a basis not to hire or promote individuals and studies are showing that Americans fear that this information will be misused. The President will stress the need for strong action on this issue.

On-line: In the on-line world, the Clinton-Gore Administration has encouraged self-regulatory efforts by industry to address privacy issues posed by emerging technologies and will work with consumers, industry, and interested public officials to explore how best to address the growing practice of building detailed profiles of every action consumers take online.

COMMUNITY

Service And Philanthropy

AmeriCorps and Encouraging Community Service

Since the start of his Administration, the President has encouraged and facilitated community service. Over 150,000 young people have participated in AmeriCorps -- they have helped to immunize more than a million people; taught, tutored or mentored 4.4 million children; helped build some 11,000 homes; and truly sparked a new spirit of public engagement across the land. The President's budget includes over \$850 million for the Corporation for National Service. This increase of nearly \$120 million keeps AmeriCorps on track for the President's goal of 100,000 members each year by the year 2004. The budget will also include a new "AmeriCorps Reserves" program, modeled after the military reserves, and designed to engage former Corps members in times of need. The budget also includes \$15.5 million in new initiatives that reward innovations in youth service, as well as additional resources to encourage service by senior citizens, and to engage students in service through a new "Community Coaches" program.

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, and 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.

Increasing Charitable Giving

In his State of the Union address and his new budget, President Clinton today will unveil a package of new tax proposals to encourage philanthropy. First, he will propose allowing nonitemizers to take a tax deduction for charitable giving. Second, he will propose new rules to make it easier for charitable foundations to make gifts in times of need. And third, he will propose making it easier for individuals to donate appreciated assets like securities and real property. Last October, the President and First Lady convened the first-ever White House Conference on Philanthropy. The conference highlighted the unique American tradition of charitable giving, and emphasized that at a moment of great prosperity, we must preserve and expand this tradition. These proposals will help do just that

One America

Civil Rights Enforcement

President Clinton's FY 2001 budget proposes a significant increase for civil rights enforcement to help ensure equal opportunity for all Americans. These funds will help to ensure that no American is discriminated against at work, at home, or in school. The President's budget request of \$698 million for civil rights enforcement agencies represents a \$81 million, or 13 percent increase, over last year's funding levels of \$617 million. Highlights of the President's package include: (1) \$98 million Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice -- a 20 percent increase over the 2000 enacted level -- to expand investigations and prosecutions of criminal civil rights cases (including hate crimes and police misconduct), promote compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and review redistricting plans; (2) \$322 million for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) -- an increase of 15 percent over the 2000 enacted level -- to support the agency's effort to reduce the backlog of private sector cases to 28,000 by the end of 2001; (3) \$76 million for Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) -- an increase of 4 percent over the 2000 enacted level -- to expand the compliance assistance strategy to encourage Federal contractor compliance through increased outreach, education, and technical assistance, including providing contractors with the necessary tools to evaluate their equal employment practices; (4) \$50 million for Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) fair housing efforts -- an increase of 14 percent over the 2000 enacted level -- to reduce housing discrimination, including funding for the final year of a three-year audit-based enforcement initiative and training for housing providers to ensure that individuals with disabilities have access to housing.

The Employment Non-Discrimination Act ("ENDA")

This bill would outlaw discrimination in hiring, firing, and promotions based on sexual orientation. It is designed to protect the rights of all Americans to participate in the job market without fear of unfair discrimination. The Act provides an exemption for small businesses, the Armed Forces, and religious organizations, including schools and other educational institutions that are substantially controlled or supported by religious organizations. The bill specifically prohibits preferential treatment on the basis of sexual orientation, including quotas. President Clinton and Vice President Gore are the first President and Vice President ever to back civil rights legislation for gays and lesbians. President Clinton originally announced his support for the legislation in October 1995.

The Hate Crimes Prevention Act

The President has 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.

English Literacy/Civics Initiative

Like generations of immigrants past, today's immigrants are driven by a dream -- and to achieve that dream, they seek to learn the ways of this land and become full participants in American society. To this end, President Clinton is proposing an increase for the English Language/Civics Initiative an innovative program to help states and communities provide limited English proficient (LEP) 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. For FY 2001, the Administration's budget request \$75 million for this initiative, a nearly \$50 million increase from FY 2000 enacted level.

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 Administration's FY 2001 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. Furthermore, 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.

GOVERNMENTAL AND POLITICAL REFORM

Enact Bipartisan Campaign Finance Reform

The President and the Vice President remain committed to the enactment of bipartisan campaign finance reform. Last year, the House of Representatives passed bipartisan reform. Tonight the President is challenging the Senate to follow suit and enact real reform early this year. Acceptable campaign finance reform legislation must meet five criteria: 1) it must be bipartisan; 2) it must be comprehensive; 3) it must reduce the amount of money that is raised and spent on federal elections; 4) it must help level the playing field between challengers and incumbents; and 5) it cannot favor one party over the other.

Reinventing Government

Three months into our Administration, the Vice President took charge of our reinventing government initiative. Seven years later, the government is the smallest it's been in nearly 40 years -- over 350,000 fewer employees. And it's focused on giving Americans customer service equal to the best in business by getting results they care about. We're tossing aside outdated bureaucratic binders and red tape that too often kept us from making a real difference in people's lives. But this is not just another exercise in "good government" -- our goal is nothing short of restoring the American people's trust in their government. When we started, only 21% of the American people trusted government to do the right thing all or most of the time -- down from 76% under President Kennedy. Today, that figure is back up to 40% -- a dramatic turnaround. But it's not nearly good enough. And we won't rest until "change" and "customer service" become a permanent part of the landscape and a majority of Americans trust their government again.

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THE CLINTON-GORE ECONOMIC RECORD: STRONG AND SUSTAINED ECONOMIC GROWTH January 27, 2000

Today's Economic Data Shows That the Economy Grew 4.2 Percent in 1999 -- the Fourth Consecutive Year of 4+ Percent Growth. Today, the Commerce Department announced that its advanced estimate of GDP growth in the fourth quarter was 5.8 percent. This brings growth in 1999 to 4.2 percent -- the fourth consecutive year of 4+ percent growth. This is the longest period of 4+ percent growth since the early 1960s. At the same time, America has created more than 20 million new jobs since President Clinton came into office, enjoys the lowest unemployment rate in 30 years, and the lowest underlying core rate of inflation in over 35 years.

STRONG GROWTH WITH VIRTUALLY NONEXISTENT INFLATION

ú 4.2 Percent GDP Growth In 1999. GDP growth in the fourth quarter was 5.8 percent. This brings the growth rate for the four quarters of 1999 to 4.2 percent -- the fourth year in a row of 4+ percent growth for the first time since the early 1960s. Since the beginning of the Clinton Administration, the economy has grown at a 3.9 percent annual rate -- compared to 1.7 percent under President Bush and 2.8 percent during the Reagan-Bush years.

ú 5.3 Percent Private-Sector Growth In the Fourth Quarter. In the fourth quarter, private-sector GDP growth was up 5.3 percent. Since the beginning of the Clinton Administration, the private-sector of the economy has grown at a 4.4 percent annual rate -- compared to 2.9 percent during the Reagan-Bush years.

ú Longest and Strongest Investment On Record. For 1999, equipment and software investment grew 11.0 percent -- the seventh consecutive year of double digit growth on record. Since President Clinton has taken office, equipment and software investment has been faster -- 12.1 percent per year -- than any President on record (comparable investment data is available from 1959).

ú Inflation Is the Lowest It Has Been in 37 Years. In the fourth quarter, the GDP price index rose 2.0 percent at an annual rate. For 1999, the GDP price index grew only 1.4 percent. In the last two years, GDP inflation was lower than at any time since 1963.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S ECONOMIC GROWTH STRATEGY IS WORKING

1. Maintaining Fiscal Discipline. In 1992, the budget deficit was \$290 billion -- the largest dollar deficit on record. In 1999, the budget surplus was \$124 billion -- the largest dollar surplus ever.

2. Investing in the American People. For seven years, the President has worked to make critical investments in our people that are vital to a strong economy.

3. Opening Markets Abroad and Leading The Global Economy. The President remains committed to expanding foreign markets for American goods and services and enforcing trade laws to ensure that all countries play by the rules.

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ARMS Email System
RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Stephen N. Boyd (CN=Stephen N. Boyd/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 17:13:23.00

SUBJECT: digital divide stories

TO: KathyMcK98@aol.com (KathyMcK98@aol.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Great working with you! See ya soon.

Clinton Seeks \$2 Billion for Net

Access

Bay Area moves ahead with plan to
bridge 'digital divide'

David Lazarus, Chronicle Staff Writer

Thursday,

February 3, 2000

After touring a Washington school's computer lab with the head of America Online, President Clinton proposed yesterday spending more than \$2 billion to bridge the "digital divide."

In San Francisco, meanwhile, a group of Silicon Valley business leaders formally unveiled the "ClickStart" program, intended ultimately to provide Internet access to 9 million low-income households.

Although ClickStart is currently a local private-sector initiative, a nationwide version of the program would be paid for in part by federal funds.

As reported earlier by The Chronicle, ClickStart is envisioned as a digital version of the 1935 Rural Electrification Administration, which sought to provide power and telephone service to communities across the country.

"Our big goal should be to make connection to the Internet as common as connection to telephones is today," Clinton told a gathering of students, teachers and high-tech executives at Ballou High School in Washington, D.C.

While nearly all U.S. homes now have telephones,

only about 3 percent of low-income households have Internet access, according to government statistics.

Steve Case, the chief executive of AOL, warned that "too many people are being left behind" as information technology changes society.

"The real question that we face today is whether the Internet is going to widen that gap or close it," he said.

Clearly, the Clinton administration has decided that the Net should be at the forefront of efforts to narrow the divide.

Yesterday, the president proposed offering companies \$2 billion in tax breaks over 10 years as an incentive to donate computer gear and sponsor "community technology centers."

He also called for \$150 million in federal funds to train teachers in use of the latest technology, and \$100 million to bring computers to low-income and rural communities.

Clinton also is pushing for \$50 million to fund a partnership with the private sector to provide Net access to low-income families. This funding, if approved, most likely would be applied to a nationwide version of ClickStart.

As it stands, ClickStart is purely a Bay Area effort, with an Oakland nonprofit group, the Marcus A. Foster Educational Institute, serving as the conduit for wiring low-income families.

Julie Henderson, executive director of the institute, said the first 25 households in the program received computers January 26 and that the next 25 will be selected by March 4.

"They were like kids in a candy store," she said of the families that already have received equipment. They qualified for ClickStart by having an annual income of less than \$25,000.

FAMILIES PAY \$5 A MONTH

Each participating household pays \$5 a month for top-of-the-line hardware and unlimited Net access, which have been donated by PeoplePC, a San Francisco provider of low-cost computer systems.

In an expanded, federally subsidized version of the

program, participants would continue to pay \$5 in monthly fees while the government would provide approximately \$10 per family to Internet service providers. Additional revenue would be generated by selling online ads.

"The idea here is to make this as administratively light and as technologically flexible as possible," said Garrett Gruener, a venture capitalist at San Francisco's Alta Partners and founder of the Ask Jeeves Internet search service.

Gruener is also one of the chief proponents of ClickStart, which grew out of a conversation between Clinton and Silicon Valley bigwigs at a fund-raising dinner last October.

Impressed by the executives' thoughts on universal Net access, Clinton asked them to draw up a plan, which Gruener and others presented to White House Chief of Staff John Podesta in December.

OAKLAND PROGRAM A TRIAL RUN

The Oakland program is viewed as a trial run for a national version of ClickStart -- named after the HeadStart program for disadvantaged children.

"The trends are moving in our favor," Gruener said. "Internet access is becoming cheaper. The cost of hardware is becoming cheaper. The time is right."

Wade Randlett, vice president of Red Gorilla, a San Francisco Internet startup, and a longtime technology adviser to Vice President Al Gore, said additional tech companies will be contacted about joining in a nationwide ClickStart initiative.

He also said Republican Party leaders in Congress would be contacted soon to cultivate broader support for the plan.

"We certainly expect this to be a bipartisan effort," Randlett said.

HIGH-TECH HELP

President Clinton's plan to bridge the "digital divide" calls for:

-- \$2 billion in 10-year tax incentives to encourage private-sector donations of computer gear.

-- \$150 million for training new teachers on how to use new technologies.

-- \$100 million to create 1,000 Community Technology Centers in low-income urban and rural neighborhoods.

-- \$50 million for a pilot program to expand home access to computers and the Internet for low-income families.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

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,2000 San Francisco Chronicle Page A1

^BC-clinton-internet-update2

Clinton Proposes \$2.4 Bln Program for Internet Access (Update2) ^By Jonathan Cox

^c.2000 Bloomberg News

(Adds company comment in third and sixth-ninth paragraphs.)

Washington, Feb. 2 (Bloomberg) -- President Bill Clinton

proposed a \$2.4 billion program of tax incentives for companies and new or expanded U.S. spending aimed at increasing America's access to computers, the Internet and technology training.

Clinton will ask Congress next week for \$2 billion in tax incentives over 10 years to encourage companies, such as Dell Computer Corp., to provide computers to underprivileged areas and sponsor community computer centers. He will seek \$380 million for new or existing programs, doubling money for training new teachers to use technology and tripling

funds to build computing centers.

Additionally, he will seek \$25 million to speed deployment of high-speed Internet services to rural and poor urban communities and \$10 million to prepare American Indians for information technology jobs. Companies welcomed the proposals as a first step and House Republicans vowed a careful review in the Budget Committee.

"It would be a terrible irony of our time if these tools that are breaking down barriers all over the world ... build up new barriers simply because people don't have access," Clinton told students at Ballou High School in Washington.

The budget proposal supports Clinton administration efforts to close a gap between those with access to computers and the Internet, and those unable to buy a computer or pay for Internet access. Clinton has said that effort will be a primary focus during his last year as president.

Industry leaders said other government actions or larger incentives are needed to spur investment. Republicans in the Congress will scrutinize the plan to avoid overspending the budget surplus, said a spokesman for House Speaker Dennis Hastert.

Industry Response

Gateway Inc., the No. 2 direct seller of personal computers that's working with America Online Inc. and other companies to set up local computer centers, welcomed the incentives. "Having said that, there are even more powerful forces that could be brought to close this divide," said Brad Shaw, a spokesman. Congress is considering legislation that would provide larger tax credits for companies making Internet-related investments.

Covad Communications Group Inc., which provides high-speed Internet service over copper telephone lines, is ready to invest when other market conditions change. Chief Executive Robert Knowling said the Clinton initiative could help some communities, though large regional phone companies such as Bell Atlantic Corp. and BellSouth Corp. must provide equal access to their lines before he could invest in such areas.

U.S. Federal Communications Commission Chairman William Kennard must "force telephone companies to treat their competitors fairly," Knowling said. Until that happens rapid broadband deployment will be hindered, he said.

Tax Credits

As part of the \$2 billion tax incentives, Clinton plans to extend until June 30, 2004, deductions that companies can claim when they donate computers to schools, libraries and community computing centers. The program, set to expire this year, allows companies to deduct more than the cost of their donations.

The proposal would allocate credits for \$16 million in corporate sponsorship in each of 31 regions known as empowerment zones, and provide \$4 million in corporate sponsorships for each of the 80 enterprise communities nationwide.

To promote basic computer skills among the nation's workforce, companies would be allowed to take a 20 percent tax credit for up to \$5,250 in annual expenses for each worker who gets computer training.

Clinton said many companies aren't investing in communities that lack high-speed Internet services. Technology such as digital subscriber lines, or DSL, provided by companies including Covad allow for always-on connections and provide faster download speeds and new services.

To address that corporate concern, Clinton proposed a new \$25 million program in the Commerce and Agriculture departments, which will use grants and loan guarantees to speed deployment of high-speed connections known as broadband to rural and low-income urban communities.

A new \$50 million Commerce Department grant program will help public-private partnerships that provide computers and Internet access to low-income families, Clinton said.

--Jonathan Cox in Washington (202) 624-1961 /sg -0- (BN) Feb/02/2000
16:28

DJ Clinton Proposes Steps To Close Digital Divide

WASHINGTON (Dow Jones)--U.S. President Bill Clinton on Wednesday proposed several steps that he said will help close the digital divide in the U.S. between people who have access to the Internet and those who do not.

Speaking at Ballou High School in Washington D.C., Clinton said he would include the proposals in his fiscal year 2001 budget that will be unveiled on Monday.

"Everybody ought to have access to a computer. Everybody ought to have access to the Internet. Everybody ought to know how to use it," Clinton said.

"Imagine what it'll be like when every single child in this country can just stretch a hand across a keyboard and pull up every book ever written, every painting ever created, every symphony or jazz piece ever composed," Clinton said.

White House Spokesman Joe Lockhart said the president's proposals wouldn't simply tackle the issue of providing more access to computers for the disadvantaged but also would provide training and improve connections to the Internet itself.

The president's proposals include \$2 billion in tax breaks for companies that donate computers to schools that don't have them, \$150 million to help train new teachers on how to use the Internet, and \$25 million to help the private sector expand high speed Internet access to poor regions of the country.

The president also wants to use \$100 million to create Community Technology Centers in low income neighborhoods. The technology centers provide computer access to families that don't have computers and the proposal represents a tripling of the fiscal year 2000 funding.

Clinton will also ask for \$45 million to promote Internet applications that are aimed at poor communities and \$50 million to help provide computers to low income families. Finally, the president will ask for \$10 million to help train Native Americans for information technology careers.

(END) Dow Jones Newswires 02-02-00
1306ES

+--G/EXE--N/CMR N/DJWI N/NET-M/NND-P/DIT P/DWV-R/US R/NME---+

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: BRSiegel@kennedy-center.org (BRSiegel@kennedy-center.org [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 11:27:58.00

SUBJECT: digital divide

TO: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

A couple of groups working to reduce the digital divide or using technology to involve people with disabilities:

The Waterways Project:

Making public the poems and stories of diverse populations through publication and performance, the Waterways Project of Ten Penny Players works with the disabled and institutionalized as well as those whose lives have been marginalized by income, ethnicity, age or sexual orientation. Since 1979 we have published more than 5000 children and young adults in collections of expressive writing. Working with poets, visual artists and performers, the Waterways Project produces arts events in parks, schools, nursing homes, hospitals, libraries, statewide conferences, museums, colleges, on radio stations and over the Internet.

Our URL is <http://www.tenpennyplayers.org>

Richard Spiegel

Ten Penny Players [Ten_Penny_Players@compuserve.com]

Access to Software for All People

- > Founded in 1994 by a successful computer software entrepreneur,
- > Access to Software for All People (ASAP) makes the economic
- > advantages of technology available to all by operating business
- > ventures and computer access projects that both serve and employ
- > people who are underrepresented in the technology industry. In
- > particular, we serve low-income people, people of color and
- > women & girls.

>

- > ASAP is located at 2070 Allston Way Suite 2, Berkeley, CA
- > 94704

- > phone 510.540.7457 fax 510.540.6168

- > email ASAP@ASAPonline.org

>

>

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Elizabeth R. Newman (CN=Elizabeth R. Newman/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 13:46:44.00

SUBJECT: Re: Merc Digital Divide story

TO: Jim Puzzanghera <jpuzzanghera@krwashington.com> (Jim Puzzanghera <jpuzzanghera@krwashington.com> [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

thanks -

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: BRSiegel@kennedy-center.org (BRSiegel@kennedy-center.org [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 14:32:17.00

SUBJECT: Digital Divide

TO: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Ashfaq Ishaq [SMTP:ishaq@icaf.org]

> Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2000 2:06 PM

> To: BRSiegel@kennedy-center.org

> Subject: www.icafe.org

>

> The International Child Art Foundation (ICAF) is recognized
> internationally as a leader in the advancement of children's art,
> creativity and visual learning.

>

> The ICAF Millennium Program, launched in 1997, was a historic
> international endeavor that inspired the children to celebrate the new
> millennium by creating paintings and drawings on ICAF's theme: "My World
> in the Year 2000." Starting in classrooms across the United States, the
> program spread to schools around the world, eventually involving over one
> million children in 86 countries. The 86 national finalists' artworks
can

> be viewed on ICAF's website www.icafe.org <<http://www.icafe.org>>. These
> visions of the future include some "futurist" artworks.

>

> Please visit our website and let me know of your interest for weblink.

>

> Sincerely,

> Ashfaq Ishaq PhD Executive Director ICAF (202) 530 1000

ARMS Email System
RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: "Gomperts, John" <jgomperts@cns.gov> ("Gomperts, John" <jgomperts@cns.gov> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 09:53:52.00

SUBJECT: RE: remarks of the President on the digital divide -- from Ballou High School

TO: Anne W. Bovaird (CN=Anne W. Bovaird/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:
Thanks. JG

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Anne_W._Bovaird@who.eop.gov

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> Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2000 9:40 AM

> To: jgomperts@cns.gov

> Subject: remarks of the President on the digital divide -- from

> Ballou High School

>

>

> ----- Forwarded by Anne W. Bovaird/WHO/EOP on 02/03/2000

> 09:40 AM -----

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> Margaret M. Suntum

> 02/02/2000 12:25:01 PM

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> To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

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> cc:

> Subject: remarks of the President on the digital divide -- from Ballou

> High School

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> THE WHITE HOUSE

>

> Office of the Press Secretary

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> For Immediate Release

February 2, 2000

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>
> REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
> ABOUT THE DIGITAL DIVIDE
>

> Ballou Senior High School
> Washington, D.C.
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> 11:35 A.M. EST
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>

> THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Now, all of you sitting out here in
> this audience, you know, some of us speak in public for a living; others
> don't. I thought Darnell was terrific. Didn't you think he did a good
> job? (Applause.)
>

> I am so glad to be here today with all of you at Ballou Senior
> High School. I thank the band for playing for us earlier today -- I
> thought you all did a great job. (Applause.) And I thank Dr. Durham and
> Dr. Bridges for welcoming me here and for giving me a track and field
> jacket, which I will wear happily. (Applause.) I thank the students who
> met me.
>

> I want to say a special word of thanks to the Chairman and CEO
> of
> America On-Line, Steve Case; and for Epic Learning's President, David
> Sterling. I thank them for what they said here today and for the
> commitment they have to giving you and young people like you all over
> this
> country a chance to live your dreams by making sure you have access to
> the
> technological future that ought to be within reach of every American.
> They
> don't have to do this; they're doing this because they know it is the
> right
> thing to do. And I thank them for being here. (Applause.)
>

> I want to talk a little today about what our job is in the
> government, what my job as President is, what Washington's job should be,
> to make sure that we can have more stories like the ones I saw from the
> students today that Darnell introduced me to. And I want to thank all
> the
> students that showed me what they were doing to either repair or to work
> with computers. But nothing that the President proposes that costs any
> money can be done unless the Congress goes along. And there is an
> enormous
> amount of interest in the United States Congress today in both parties,
> in

> both the Senate and the House, to do something about this.

>

> And there is a big delegation from Congress here, so I want to
> introduce them. I'd like to ask them to stand, and I hope you will
> express

> your appreciation to them. First of all, Senator Bob Bennett, from Utah,
> who headed our Y2K efforts in the Congress. Thank you, sir. (Applause.)
> Congresswoman Maxine Waters from California. (Applause.) Congresswoman
> Sheila Jackson Lee from Texas. (Applause.) Congressman Bill Jefferson
> from Louisiana. (Applause.) Congressman Adam Smith from Washington.
> (Applause.) Congresswoman Ellen Tauscher from California. (Applause.)
> Congressman David Wu from Oregon. (Applause.) And your representative
in
> Congress, Eleanor Holmes Norton. Thank you. (Applause.)

>

> Did I miss anybody? And I want to thank your wonderful Mayor,
> who was once a member of our administration, Mayor Anthony Williams.
> Stand
> up, there. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

>

> I want to just mention a couple of other people. First of all,
> thank you, Superintendent Ackerman, for welcoming me. I want to thank
> Harris Wofford, who is the head of the AmeriCorps program, and Vista.
The
> AmeriCorps-Vista volunteers are working to help solve this problem of the
> digital divide all over America. They're young people who are going back
> into our schools, going back into our community, helping people who
> otherwise wouldn't have a chance, and earning some money themselves for
> college. Some of you might want to consider joining AmeriCorps when you
> get out of high school.

>

> Stand up, Senator Wofford. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

>

> I want to thank Angela Lee from AT&T and Julie Evans from
NetDay
> for the work they have done to help connect all of our schools to the
> Internet. I want to thank three people in our administration -- Gene
> Sperling, my National Economic Advisor, who has worked so hard on this;
> Secretary Daley, who is speaking in Harlem on this issue today; and I
want
> to thank Vice President Gore for reasons I'll say in a moment, but he had
> a
> great deal to do with what we have been able to accomplish over the last
> six years.

>

> I just got a wonderful tour from Darnell, and a chance to learn
> how technology is enhancing your educational mission. And as Steve Case
> said, it will only increase when you become one of these power-up sites.

> I

> learned every freshman is taking a computer literacy class. I learned
> students are going on-line to get help with their homework and learn what
> they need to do to prepare for college. I learned that you can chat in
> foreign languages with people around the world and work on projects with
> scientists from our Naval Research Lab.

>
> I was particularly pleased to learn about Epic Learning's
> long-term commitment to help students toward certificates in high-tech
> careers, and about the way companies like 3M, AT&T and Cisco, along with
> the AFL-CIO, are working to give you additional hardware, software, and
> teacher training.

>
> One thing that I think may be a down side from the students'
> point of view -- it occurred to me when I was driving through the snow
> today -- is that once we get everybody wired, you'll still have to go to
> school even when you can't get here, because you can just go on the
> Internet. (Laughter.) But I think it's worth the sacrifice to give you
> a
> better future

>
> I wanted to say to you -- to give you some examples. When we
> talk about bridging the digital divide, what do we mean? We mean that
> everybody ought to have access to a computer; everybody ought to have
> access to the Internet; everybody ought to know how to use it and then we
> ought to make it possible for people to make the maximum use of it. I
> want
> to just give you some examples of what this incredibly profound change in
> our society has wrought in individual lives.

>
> Victor Shen is a high school junior in Whittier, Alaska. He
> dreams of becoming a professional mathematician, but he lives in a small
> school in our largest but most rural state. So his school doesn't offer
> college-level calculus. His town is so remote that he's cut off from the
> whole rest of the world for several months every winter. But he will
> soon
> have the chance to take the classes he needs to pursue his dream of
> becoming a mathematician by getting on-line. It wouldn't be there.

>
> It ought to be there for every person like him, in every rural
> area and every inner-city neighborhood in the entire United States of
> America. There are lots of Victor Shens out there. There are people in
> this high school who could become professional mathematicians,
> professional
> scientists. There are people like you in every community in this country
> -- no one should be shut out of this. (Applause.)

>
> Listen to this. Two years ago, a man named Clinton Johnson
> lost
> his little bakery on 125th street in Harlem in New York City. He had no
> savings to support his wife and two children. But he found a community
> technology center near his home, learned HTML code and got himself a good
> job as a web developer.

>
> Dale O'Reilley, a grandmother of two from Medford, New Jersey,
> was diagnosed nine years ago with Lou Gehrig's Disease. Now, even though
> she can no longer move or speak, a special laptop computer allows her to
> give voice to her thoughts, and she continues to write newspaper articles
> for the Philadelphia Inquirer. (Applause.)

> The areas in America with the highest unemployment are our
> Native
> American reservations. I visited last year the Pine Ridge Indian
> Reservation in South Dakota, the home of the Oglala Sioux. The
> unemployment rate there is over 70 percent.

> We're all looking for new ways for them to find things to do.
> They have very gifted artists and crafts and making Native American
> products. This year, I ordered Christmas gifts from the Pine Ridge
> reservation over the Internet. They would never be able to market their
> products across this nation -- never, ever. They wouldn't have the money
> to do it. But because they have a web page, people like us can find them
> and help them to build their dreams. (Applause.)

> And before we came out here, I was talking to Steve about -- I
> spent some time a few months ago with the executive of E-Bay out in
> Northern California. Some of you may have found
> E-Bay on the Net. It's a trading site. And the company's gone like
> crazy,
> because people love to buy and sell things. It's like an old-fashioned
> community like the farmers' market used to be in my hometown on Saturday
> morning. And people buy and sell all kinds of things on E-Bay. There
> are
> now over 20,000 Americans making a living, not working for E-Bay, but
> buying and selling on the site, and many of them used to be on welfare.
> They found a way through the Net to empower themselves through their
> minds
> to have a different future.

> Now, this is just the beginning. We have only scratched the
> surface. Imagine what it will be like when every single child in this
> country can just stretch a hand across a keyboard and pull up every book
> ever written, every painting ever created, every symphony or jazz piece
> ever composed. When high-speed wireless networks bring distant learning
> and telemedicine to every rural area in this country. When even the
> smallest business can compete worldwide just because they have access to
> people across the world through the Net.

> This is the future we are trying to build. In 1994, when Vice
> President Gore and I sponsored the first NetDay to begin to hook all of
> our
> schools and all of our classrooms up to the Internet, only 3 percent of
> the
> classrooms in America were wired. Since then, the public and the private
> sectors, through generous grants, through NetDays, volunteer work, and
> through the steep discounts that schools can get in access charges,
> thanks
> to the so-called e-rate, which the Vice President pioneered -- since
> then,
> we've gone from 3 percent of our classrooms connected to over half of our
> classrooms connected. And 90 percent of the schools in the United States
> today have at least one connection to the Internet. That's a big step
> forward, and I'm proud of that. (Applause.)

> But as you have already heard, there is still a big digital
> divide in this country. And it runs through income first -- low-income
> families are far less likely to have access to the Internet and
> computers.

> There is also, for reasons we don't entirely understand, there is a
> separate racial and ethnic component to it. Among low-income families,
> African American and Hispanic families are less likely than other
> low-income families to have computers and to be hooked up to the
> Internet.

>
> We also know that people who live in rural areas, regardless of
> their race, are far, far less likely to own computers, and to be wired to
> the Net -- even though they, in some ways, need it more than anybody else
> because of their physical isolation. And that this is most pronounced in
> Indian country in the United States.

>
> Eventually this digital divide will deprive businesses of the
> workers they need. That's why I was so glad to see people training here,
> to learn how to use and to repair computers. It could also widen
> inequality in our society between people, based on who's connected and
> who's not.

>
> Now, at a time when our country has the longest economic
> expansion in history and the lowest unemployment rate in 30 years, and
> the
> lowest minority unemployment rates ever recorded, we must close the
> digital
> divide. We have worked too hard to turn this country around and to get
> it
> going in the right direction, to let all this generation of young people
> wind up with greater inequality, when we have a chance to have greater
> equality of opportunity in America than ever in our history. (Applause.)

>
> Some of you may know that I have been going around America
> holding what I call New Markets tours, to make the argument that with all
> the prosperity of the country, now is the time to recognize and be honest
> about the fact that not every community has felt the economic prosperity
> of
> the last few years, and that is our obligation, to bring economic
> opportunity to all the neighborhoods, and all the rural areas, and all
> the
> Indian reservations, where they don't know there has been a recovery
> because it hasn't changed their lives. If we don't do it now, we will
> never get around to doing this. Now is the time to do it.

>
> In April, I am going to lead one of these New Markets tours,
> focused only on this issue -- closing the digital divide. What can we do
> to have the kind of stories I saw in your classroom today and every
> classroom and every neighborhood, among every group in every community in
> the United States? And I've asked Congress to help me. And I want to
> talk
> a little bit about what I think our job is.

>
> First of all, we ought to have a goal -- I believe in having

big

> goals. If you have big goals and you work towards them, even if you don't

> quite get there, you look around and you find you've come a long way. If

> you don't have big goals, you don't get much done. What should our big

> goal be? Our big goal should be to make connection to the Internet as

> common as connection to telephones is today. That's what our big goal

> ought to be. (Applause.)

>

> And I think we should start by making sure that every community

> has a technology center that serves not just young people, but adults as

> well. (Applause.) Yes, you can clap for that -- that's all right.> (Applause.) I don't want to take credit for this. We started doing this

> two years ago because Congresswoman Maxine Waters from California, who is

> here today, who was then chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus,

> brought this idea to our attention. She said, you ought to have

community

> technology centers everywhere for the adults, for the people who aren't in

> the schools. They need access to this, too.

> These centers were working so well that we tripled our

> investment

> in them last year. And I have given Congress a budget that will triple

> our

> investment in them again so we can have 1,000 community centers with

> computers serving the adults of America who otherwise would not have

> access

> to them. Thank you very much, Congresswoman Waters, and I hope we can

> pass

> it. (Applause.)

>

> Second, we want to join with the private sector to bring more

> computers and Internet access into the homes of low-income people.

> Public-spirited members of the high-tech community have already helped us

> -- pledged to help us on this. I know of at least two places in America

> where there is a serious program, thanks to the private sector, not only

> to

> hook up all the classrooms, but to give more low-income students' parents

> computers in their homes and make sure they know how to e-mail the

school,

> and keep working back and forth on the homework, on the progress of life

> in

> school. (Applause.)

>

> In one of these districts in particular, in New Jersey, where a

> lot of the students are first-generation immigrants whose parents' main

> language is not English, there has been an explosion in student

> performance, in part because the Net has enabled the parents who are

> working all day, who are busy, who hardly have enough money to support

> their children, but because they're connected, they can be directly

> involved through e-mail in their children's education. It made a big

> difference. And we need to recognize that as much as we can do with the

> community centers, which we ought to do now, eventually we're going to

> have

> to give home access to low-income people just like the rest of us have,
> and
> I think we should be working on it. (Applause.)

>
> Third thing I want to do is to ask Congress to give private
> companies a couple of billion dollars -- that's a lot of money -- in tax
> incentives to get them to build and support these community technology
> centers, donate quality computers and provide computer training.

>
> Fourth, I want to do more to give -- this is a big issue -- I
> bet
> you notice this here; I bet some teachers know this -- we must do more to
> give quality technology training to all of our new teachers in America,
> to
> make sure they're as good with computers as they are with textbooks. You
> can have all the computers in the world, and if the kids know more about
> it
> than the teachers -- which is often the case, at least, if they're as
> technologically challenged as I have been in my life -- we'll be behind.

>
> Why should we expect teachers, who did not grow up in the
> computer age, to just know everything they should know to teach the kids
> everything they can teach to maximize this? We should do more. We owe
> it
> to the teachers of this country to give them all the training they need
> to
> maximize all this hardware and software that we're doing our best to put
> at
> their fingertips, and at the use of their students. (Applause.)

>
> Next thing we need to do is bring high-speed networks to
> underserved communities. Businesses are looking for high-speed Internet
> access when they consider new sites. One of the problems I've got in
> trying to convince people that, even with tax incentives, they ought to
> go
> to isolated areas is, they don't have high-speed Internet access, and
> time
> is money. So it's very important to do that.

>
> And finally, we want to triple our investment in our Commerce
> Department's Technology Opportunity Program, to create innovative
> applications of technology for all low-income communities. For example,
> we
> want to have health information systems that raise childhood immunization
> rates in inner cities. We want to have mentoring for at-risk youth that
> can be done via the Internet. We believe there are a lot of things that
> can be done to lift the lives of low-income people, and to bring benefits
> to them that normally aren't there, if we just think about it and we give
> people the tools who live in these communities to think about it and find
> ways to maximize their future.

>
> It would be a terrible irony of our time if these tools, these
> information revolutionary tools that are breaking down barriers all over
> the world -- and I'll just give you one more fact -- when I became

> President -- now, to the kids, this seems like a long time ago, but for
> the
> adults, it won't be -- when I became President seven years and two weeks
> ago, there were 50 -- 50 sites on the Worldwide Web -- 50. Today, there
> are over 50 million. And it's the fastest-growing means of communication
> in history by far. Nothing even comes close.

>
> And as a result, I told somebody the other day -- you know, I
> come from a small town in rural Arkansas, and I've got a cousin that
plays
> chess once or twice a week with a guy in Australia. I mean, it's
> unbelievable. This is the kind of things that's going on. This tool is
> breaking down barriers between nations and cultures, and enabling us to
> come together, and it's opening up all these wonderful opportunities. It
> would be a tragedy if we allowed this instrument that is also breaking
> down
> barriers to build up new barriers to people living their dreams simply
> because they didn't have access to it. That's what this whole thing is
> about.

>
> There are kids in this gym today who, in a former time, might
> never have been able to even think about getting an education in some
sort
> of esoteric technology or scientific subject that will see something on
> the
> web that will spark your interest, and that you will then be able to
> pursue, could change your whole life. It would be wrong for you not to
> have that opportunity.

>
> There are people here today who will understand that they can
> use
> this tool to make a living and to create economic opportunity in this
part
> of Washington, D.C. that's never been there. It would be wrong for you
> not
> to have that opportunity. There are people here today who can find out
> information about things that already exist.

>
> I saw -- one young woman was looking at the questions she
should
> ask in going to college. Every one of you should know that already on
the
> books, we have passed tax credits, scholarships and loans so that at
least
> two years of college is affordable to everybody in America now. I don't
> care how poor you are. And if the Congress passes the legislation before
> them now, four years of college will be affordable to everybody in
> America,
> I don't care what your income is. You need to know that. (Applause.)

>
> And it will be tragic if this instrument, that has done more to
> break down barriers between people than anything in all of human history,
> built a new wall because not everybody had access to it. That's what
this

> whole deal's about.

>

> Steve Case and I were talking when Darnell was up here talking,

> and he said, you know, I'm not little anymore, and he did that sort of,

> oh,

> shucks, routine, you know? (Laughter.) I told Steve Case, I said, boy,

> he

> is really good. (Laughter.) And Steve said, yes, I'm glad I don't have

> to

> follow him. (Laughter.) I want every American to have a story like

> Darnell's. And this tool means that we don't have to give up on anybody.

> We don't have to leave anybody behind. We can all go forward together in

> the most exciting age this country has ever known. And we're here to
tell

> you we will do our best to make sure you go.

>

> And I want to close, as Mr. Case did, by saying, it doesn't

> matter what technology you put before you -- to the students -- if you

> don't do your part. You've still got to be able to read. You've still

> got

> to be curious enough to want to learn. You've still got to be
disciplined

> enough to be willing to work. But if you get your heart and your mind

> engaged, there should be no barrier to letting you live your dreams

> tomorrow. And we're going to do our best to take the barriers down.

>

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

>

> END 12:01 P.M. EST

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> Message Sent

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ARMS Email System
RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: James C Bonds <JBonds2@compuserve.com> (James C Bonds <JBonds2@compuserve.com> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 10:24:56.00

SUBJECT: President's Digital Divide Comments Yesterday 2.2.00

TO: Bob J. Nash (CN=Bob J. Nash/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: "JamesBonds@execusurf.com" <JamesBonds@execusurf.com> ("JamesBonds@execusurf.com" <JamesBonds@execusurf.com> [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: "Dr. William DeLauder" <delauder@dsc.edu> ("Dr. William DeLauder" <delauder@dsc.edu> [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: "INTERNET:joshua.w.martin.iii@bellatlantic.com" <joshua.w.martin.iii@bellatlantic.com> ("INTERNET:joshua.w.martin.iii@bellatlantic.com" <joshua.w.martin.iii@bellatlantic.com> [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Joan Castle <jcastle@ci.wilmington.de.us> (Joan Castle <jcastle@ci.wilmington.de.us> [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:
Our conference is the right thing at the right time!!

His words exactly.
jb
Co-Chair BBC...ODD www.bridgingthedivide.org
Feb.17-18
-----Forwarded Message-----

Other photo is Greg Rohde DOC.
jb

Date: 2/2/100 12:36 PM

RE: Pres. remarks at digital divide event

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

February 2, 2000

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
ABOUT THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

Ballou Senior High School
Washington, D.C.

11:35 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Now, all of you sitting out here in this audience, you know, some of us speak in public for a living; others don't. I thought Darnell was terrific. Didn't you think he did a good job? (Applause.)

I am so glad to be here today with all of you at Ballou Senior High School. I thank the band for playing for us earlier today -- I thought you all did a great job. (Applause.) And I thank Dr. Durham and Dr. Bridges for welcoming me here and for giving me a track and field jacket, which I will wear happily. (Applause.) I thank the students who met me.

I want to say a special word of thanks to the Chairman and CEO of America On-Line, Steve Case; and for Epic Learning's President, David Sterling. I thank them for what they said here today and for the commitment they have to giving you and young people like you all over this country a chance to live your dreams by making sure you have access to the technological future that ought to be within reach of every American. They don't have to do this; they're doing this because they know it is the right thing to do. And I thank them for being here. (Applause.)

I want to talk a little today about what our job is in the government, what my job as President is, what Washington's job should be, to make sure that we can have more stories like the ones I saw from the students today that Darnell introduced me to. And I want to thank all the students that showed me what they were doing to either repair or to work with computers. But nothing that the President proposes that costs any money can be done unless the Congress goes along. And there is an enormous amount of interest in the United States Congress today in both parties, in both the Senate and the House, to do something about this.

And there is a big delegation from Congress here, so I want to introduce them. I'd like to ask them to stand, and I hope you will express your appreciation to them. First of all, Senator Bob Bennett, from Utah, who headed our Y2K efforts in the Congress. Thank you, sir. (Applause.) Congresswoman Maxine Waters from California. (Applause.) Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee from Texas. (Applause.) Congressman Bill Jefferson from Louisiana. (Applause.) Congressman Adam Smith from Washington. (Applause.) Congresswoman Ellen Tauscher from California. (Applause.)

Congressman David Wu from Oregon. (Applause.) And your representative in Congress, Eleanor Holmes Norton. Thank you. (Applause.)

Did I miss anybody? And I want to thank your wonderful Mayor, who was once a member of our administration, Mayor Anthony Williams. Stand up, there. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

I want to just mention a couple of other people. First of all, thank you, Superintendent Ackerman, for welcoming me. I want to thank Harris Wofford, who is the head of the AmeriCorps program, and Vista. The AmeriCorps-Vista volunteers are working to help solve this problem of the digital divide all over America. They're young people who are going back into our schools, going back into our community, helping people who otherwise wouldn't have a chance, and earning some money themselves for college. Some of you might want to consider joining AmeriCorps when you get out of high school.

Stand up, Senator Wofford. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

I want to thank Angela Lee from AT&T and Julie Evans from NetDay for the work they have done to help connect all of our schools to the Internet. I want to thank three people in our administration -- Gene Sperling, my National Economic Advisor, who has worked so hard on this; Secretary Daley, who is speaking in Harlem on this issue today; and I want to thank Vice President Gore for reasons I'll say in a moment, but he had a great deal to do with what we have been able to accomplish over the last six years.

I just got a wonderful tour from Darnell, and a chance to learn how technology is enhancing your educational mission. And as Steve Case said, it will only increase when you become one of these power-up sites. I learned every freshman is taking a computer literacy class. I learned students are going on-line to get help with their homework and learn what they need to do to prepare for college. I learned that you can chat in foreign languages with people around the world and work on projects with scientists from our Naval Research Lab.

I was particularly pleased to learn about Epic Learning's long-term commitment to help students toward certificates in high-tech careers, and about the way companies like 3M, AT&T and Cisco, along with the AFL-CIO, are working to give you additional hardware, software, and teacher training.

One thing that I think may be a down side from the students' point of view -- it occurred to me when I was driving through the snow today -- is that once we get everybody wired, you'll still have to go to school even when you can't get here, because you can just go on the Internet. (Laughter.) But I think it's worth the sacrifice to give you a better future.

I wanted to say to you -- to give you some examples. When we talk about bridging the digital divide, what do we mean? We mean that everybody ought to have access to a computer; everybody ought to have access to the Internet; everybody ought to know how to use it and then we

ought to make it possible for people to make the maximum use of it. I want to just give you some examples of what this incredibly profound change in our society has wrought in individual lives.

Victor Shen is a high school junior in Whittier, Alaska. He dreams of becoming a professional mathematician, but he lives in a small school in our largest but most rural state. So his school doesn't offer college-level calculus. His town is so remote that he's cut off from the whole rest of the world for several months every winter. But he will soon have the chance to take the classes he needs to pursue his dream of becoming a mathematician by getting on-line. It wouldn't be there.

It ought to be there for every person like him, in every rural area and every inner-city neighborhood in the entire United States of America. There are lots of Victor Shens out there. There are people in this high school who could become professional mathematicians, professional scientists. There are people like you in every community in this country -- no one should be shut out of this. (Applause.)

Listen to this. Two years ago, a man named Clinton Johnson lost his little bakery on 125th street in Harlem in New York City. He had no savings to support his wife and two children. But he found a community technology center near his home, learned HTML code and got himself a good job as a web developer.

Dale O'Reilley, a grandmother of two from Medford, New Jersey, was diagnosed nine years ago with Lou Gehrig's Disease. Now, even though she can no longer move or speak, a special laptop computer allows her to give voice to her thoughts, and she continues to write newspaper articles for the Philadelphia Inquirer. (Applause.)

The areas in America with the highest unemployment are our Native American reservations. I visited last year the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota, the home of the Oglala Sioux. The unemployment rate there is over 70 percent.

We're all looking for new ways for them to find things to do. They have very gifted artists and crafts and making Native American products. This year, I ordered Christmas gifts from the Pine Ridge reservation over the Internet. They would never be able to market their products across this nation -- never, ever. They wouldn't have the money to do it. But because they have a web page, people like us can find them and help them to build their dreams. (Applause.)

And before we came out here, I was talking to Steve about -- I spent some time a few months ago with the executive of E-Bay out in Northern California. Some of you may have found E-Bay on the Net. It's a trading site. And the company's gone like crazy, because people love to buy and sell things. It's like an old-fashioned community like the farmers' market used to be in my hometown on Saturday morning. And people buy and sell all kinds of things on E-Bay. There are now over 20,000 Americans making a living, not working for E-Bay, but buying and selling on the site, and many of them used to be on welfare. They found a way through the Net to empower themselves through their minds

to have a different future.

Now, this is just the beginning. We have only scratched the surface. Imagine what it will be like when every single child in this country can just stretch a hand across a keyboard and pull up every book ever written, every painting ever created, every symphony or jazz piece ever composed. When high-speed wireless networks bring distant learning and telemedicine to every rural area in this country. When even the smallest business can compete worldwide just because they have access to people across the world through the Net.

This is the future we are trying to build. In 1994, when Vice President Gore and I sponsored the first NetDay to begin to hook all of our schools and all of our classrooms up to the Internet, only 3 percent of the classrooms in America were wired. Since then, the public and the private sectors, through generous grants, through NetDays, volunteer work, and through the steep discounts that schools can get in access charges, thanks to the so-called e-rate, which the Vice President pioneered -- since then, we've gone from 3 percent of our classrooms connected to over half of our classrooms connected. And 90 percent of the schools in the United States today have at least one connection to the Internet. That's a big step forward, and I'm proud of that. (Applause.)

But as you have already heard, there is still a big digital divide in this country. And it runs through income first -- low-income families are far less likely to have access to the Internet and computers. There is also, for reasons we don't entirely understand, there is a separate racial and ethnic component to it. Among low-income families, African American and Hispanic families are less likely than other low-income families to have computers and to be hooked up to the Internet.

We also know that people who live in rural areas, regardless of their race, are far, far less likely to own computers, and to be wired to the Net -- even though they, in some ways, need it more than anybody else because of their physical isolation. And that this is most pronounced in Indian country in the United States.

Eventually this digital divide will deprive businesses of the workers they need. That's why I was so glad to see people training here, to learn how to use and to repair computers. It could also widen inequality in our society between people, based on who's connected and who's not.

Now, at a time when our country has the longest economic expansion in history and the lowest unemployment rate in 30 years, and the lowest minority unemployment rates ever recorded, we must close the digital divide. We have worked too hard to turn this country around and to get it going in the right direction, to let all this generation of young people wind up with greater inequality, when we have a chance to have greater equality of opportunity in America than ever in our history. (Applause.)

Some of you may know that I have been going around America holding what I call New Markets tours, to make the argument that with all the prosperity of the country, now is the time to recognize and be honest

about the fact that not every community has felt the economic prosperity of the last few years, and that is our obligation, to bring economic opportunity to all the neighborhoods, and all the rural areas, and all the Indian reservations, where they don't know there has been a recovery because it hasn't changed their lives. If we don't do it now, we will never get around to doing this. Now is the time to do it.

In April, I am going to lead one of these New Markets tours, focused only on this issue -- closing the digital divide. What can we do to have the kind of stories I saw in your classroom today and every classroom and every neighborhood, among every group in every community in the United States? And I've asked Congress to help me. And I want to talk a little bit about what I think our job is.

First of all, we ought to have a goal -- I believe in having big goals. If you have big goals and you work towards them, even if you don't quite get there, you look around and you find you've come a long way. If you don't have big goals, you don't get much done. What should our big goal be? Our big goal should be to make connection to the Internet as common as connection to telephones is today. That's what our big goal ought to be. (Applause.)

And I think we should start by making sure that every community has a technology center that serves not just young people, but adults as well. (Applause.) Yes, you can clap for that -- that's all right. (Applause.) I don't want to take credit for this. We started doing this two years ago because Congresswoman Maxine Waters from California, who is here today, who was then chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, brought this idea to our attention. She said, you ought to have community technology centers everywhere for the adults, for the people who aren't in the schools. They need access to this, too.

These centers were working so well that we tripled our investment in them last year. And I have given Congress a budget that will triple our investment in them again so we can have 1,000 community centers with computers serving the adults of America who otherwise would not have access to them. Thank you very much, Congresswoman Waters, and I hope we can pass it. (Applause.)

Second, we want to join with the private sector to bring more computers and Internet access into the homes of low-income people. Public-spirited members of the high-tech community have already helped us -- pledged to help us on this. I know of at least two places in America where there is a serious program, thanks to the private sector, not only to hook up all the classrooms, but to give more low-income students' parents computers in their homes and make sure they know how to e-mail the school, and keep working back and forth on the homework, on the progress of life in school. (Applause.)

In one of these districts in particular, in New Jersey, where a lot of the students are first-generation immigrants whose parents' main language is not English, there has been an explosion in student performance, in part because the Net has enabled the parents who are working all day, who are busy, who hardly have enough money to support their children, but because they're connected, they can be directly

involved through e-mail in their children's education. It made a big difference. And we need to recognize that as much as we can do with the community centers, which we ought to do now, eventually we're going to have to give home access to low-income people just like the rest of us have, and I think we should be working on it. (Applause.)

Third thing I want to do is to ask Congress to give private companies a couple of billion dollars -- that's a lot of money -- in tax incentives to get them to build and support these community technology centers, donate quality computers and provide computer training.

Fourth, I want to do more to give -- this is a big issue -- I bet you notice this here; I bet some teachers know this -- we must do more to give quality technology training to all of our new teachers in America, to make sure they're as good with computers as they are with textbooks. You can have all the computers in the world, and if the kids know more about it than the teachers -- which is often the case, at least, if they're as technologically challenged as I have been in my life -- we'll be behind.

Why should we expect teachers, who did not grow up in the computer age, to just know everything they should know to teach the kids everything they can teach to maximize this? We should do more. We owe it to the teachers of this country to give them all the training they need to maximize all this hardware and software that we're doing our best to put at their fingertips, and at the use of their students. (Applause.)

Next thing we need to do is bring high-speed networks to underserved communities. Businesses are looking for high-speed Internet access when they consider new sites. One of the problems I've got in trying to convince people that, even with tax incentives, they ought to go to isolated areas is, they don't have high-speed Internet access, and time is money. So it's very important to do that.

And finally, we want to triple our investment in our Commerce Department's Technology Opportunity Program, to create innovative applications of technology for all low-income communities. For example, we want to have health information systems that raise childhood immunization rates in inner cities. We want to have mentoring for at-risk youth that can be done via the Internet. We believe there are a lot of things that can be done to lift the lives of low-income people, and to bring benefits to them that normally aren't there, if we just think about it and we give people the tools who live in these communities to think about it and find ways to maximize their future.

It would be a terrible irony of our time if these tools, these information revolutionary tools that are breaking down barriers all over the world -- and I'll just give you one more fact -- when I became President -- now, to the kids, this seems like a long time ago, but for the adults, it won't be -- when I became President seven years and two weeks ago, there were 50 -- 50 sites on the Worldwide Web -- 50. Today, there are over 50 million. And it's the fastest-growing means of communication in history by far. Nothing even comes close.

And as a result, I told somebody the other day -- you know, I

come from a small town in rural Arkansas, and I've got a cousin that plays chess once or twice a week with a guy in Australia. I mean, it's unbelievable. This is the kind of things that's going on. This tool is breaking down barriers between nations and cultures, and enabling us to come together, and it's opening up all these wonderful opportunities. It would be a tragedy if we allowed this instrument that is also breaking down barriers to build up new barriers to people living their dreams simply because they didn't have access to it. That's what this whole thing is about.

There are kids in this gym today who, in a former time, might never have been able to even think about getting an education in some sort of esoteric technology or scientific subject that will see something on the web that will spark your interest, and that you will then be able to pursue, could change your whole life. It would be wrong for you not to have that opportunity.

There are people here today who will understand that they can use this tool to make a living and to create economic opportunity in this part of Washington, D.C. that's never been there. It would be wrong for you not to have that opportunity. There are people here today who can find out information about things that already exist.

I saw -- one young woman was looking at the questions she should ask in going to college. Every one of you should know that already on the books, we have passed tax credits, scholarships and loans so that at least two years of college is affordable to everybody in America now. I don't care how poor you are. And if the Congress passes the legislation before them now, four years of college will be affordable to everybody in America, I don't care what your income is. You need to know that. (Applause.)

And it will be tragic if this instrument, that has done more to break down barriers between people than anything in all of human history, built a new wall because not everybody had access to it. That's what this whole deal's about.

Steve Case and I were talking when Darnell was up here talking, and he said, you know, I'm not little anymore, and he did that sort of, oh, shucks, routine, you know? (Laughter.) I told Steve Case, I said, boy, he is really good. (Laughter.) And Steve said, yes, I'm glad I don't have to follow him. (Laughter.) I want every American to have a story like Darnell's. And this tool means that we don't have to give up on anybody. We don't have to leave anybody behind. We can all go forward together in the most exciting age this country has ever known. And we're here to tell you we will do our best to make sure you go.

And I want to close, as Mr. Case did, by saying, it doesn't matter what technology you put before you -- to the students -- if you don't do your part. You've still got to be able to read. You've still got to be curious enough to want to learn. You've still got to be disciplined enough to be willing to work. But if you get your heart and your mind engaged, there should be no barrier to letting you live your dreams tomorrow. And we're going to do our best to take the barriers down.

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

END

12:01 P.M. EST

----- Internet Header -----

Sender: Victoria_L_Valentine@who.eop.gov
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by spdmgaab.compuserve.com (8.9.3/8.9.3/SUN-1.7) with ESMTP id
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Subject: Pres. remarks at digital divide event
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omalomo@wharton.upenn.edu, eviltz@eicorp.net, nabrams@howard.edu,
stephenj@hypeitup.com, eric@infobro.com, iccs@pacbell.net,
Bruce@ilt.columbia.edu, geary@insync.net,
rpinkett@mbs-enterprises.com,

Lhibbert@mbs-enterprises.com, Robinson@mbs-enterprises.com,
whj@melanet.com, kmoyo@mobe.com, ymoyo@mobe.com,
realq3@hotmail.com,
lcorneli@mpaa.org, Hshelton@naacp.org, btjealous@aol.com,
bkfulton@aol.com, ltony@netabacus.com, asten@netnoir.com,
HLF@novanetwork.net, ofield@erols.com, myrap@omniversedigital.com,
cdellison@politicallyblack.com, rconrad@politicallyblack.com,
kirby@prwt.com, Leebailey@leebailey.com, Info@rabercom.com,
Lascansmith@mail.maricopa.gov, felicia@sohh.com,
icibporter@aol.com,
jgrigsby@ucla.edu, dbrown@inetnow.net, Stacys5663@aol.com,
Westchesterbay@hotmail.com

Message-id: <85256879.0060368C.00@lmgate3.cop.gov>

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

X-Lotus-FromDomain: EOP

----- Internet Header -----

Sender: Beth_Brinly@ed.gov

Received: from wdcrobims02.ed.gov (wdcrobims02.ed.gov [165.224.216.148])

by spdmgaab.compuserve.com (8.9.3/8.9.3/SUN-1.7) with ESMTP id

TAA25341

for <JBonds2@compuserve.com>; Wed, 2 Feb 2000 19:20:19 -0500 (EST)

Received: by wdcrobims02.ed.gov with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2650.21)

id <CVSZF947>; Wed, 2 Feb 2000 19:19:34 -0500

Message-ID: <A14F5CA469FED211BF2900062B000C16039B4679@wdcfb6exc03.ed.gov>

From: "Brinly, Beth" <Beth_Brinly@ed.gov>

To: "James C Bonds" <JBonds2@compuserve.com>

Subject: RE: Pres. remarks at digital divide event

Date: Wed, 2 Feb 2000 19:22:24 -0500

MIME-Version: 1.0

X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2650.21)

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"

- composite.jpg - Mvc-002x.jpg - Mvc-001x.jpg - Mvc-003x.jpg===== ATTACHMENT 1

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

Unable to convert ARMS_EXT:[ATTACH.D59]ARMS27130014N.046 to ASCII,
The following is a HEX DUMP:

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

===== ATTACHMENT 2 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

Unable to convert ARMS_EXT:[ATTACH.D59]ARMS23430014O.046 to ASCII,

The following is a HEX DUMP:

===== END ATTACHMENT 2 =====

===== ATTACHMENT 3 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

Unable to convert ARMS_EXT:[ATTACH.D59]ARMS23730014P.046 to ASCII,

The following is a HEX DUMP:

===== END ATTACHMENT 3 =====

===== ATTACHMENT 4 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

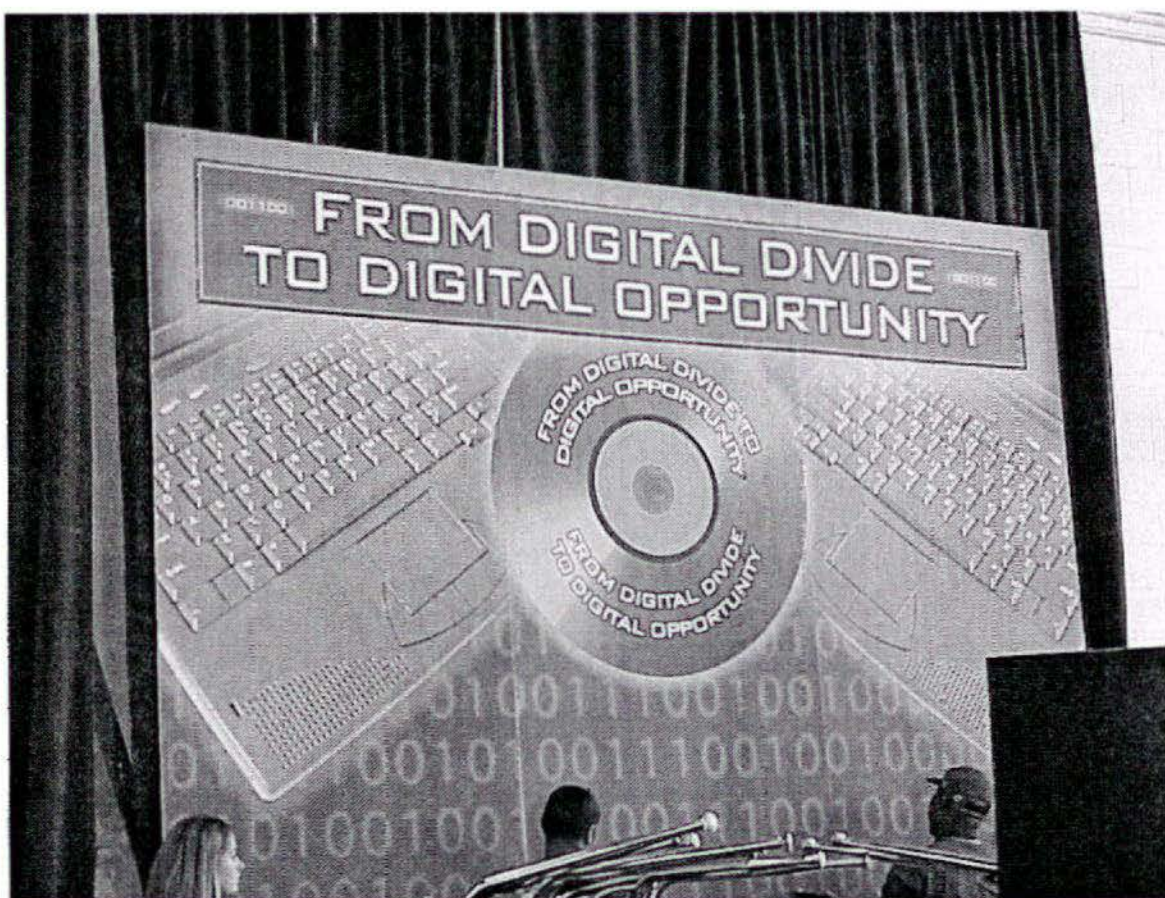
Unable to convert ARMS_EXT:[ATTACH.D59]ARMS24040014Q.046 to ASCII,

The following is a HEX DUMP:

===== END ATTACHMENT 4 =====



Automated Records Management System
Hex-Dump Conversion



Automated Records Management System
Hex-Dump Conversion



Automated Records Management System
Hex-Dump Conversion



Automated Records Management System
Hex-Dump Conversion

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Donna Sorkin <dsorkin@agbell.org> (Donna Sorkin <dsorkin@agbell.org> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 13:04:10.00

SUBJECT: Re: Digital Divide

TO: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Rebecca Parlakian <agbrebecca@aol.com> (Rebecca Parlakian <agbrebecca@aol.com> [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Jonathan,

We are interested in participating. Please contact me or our membership services director (Rebecca Parklakian).

Donna Sorkin

Executive Director

Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

202/337-5220

Jonathan_M_Young@who.eop.gov wrote:

> As the President mentioned in his State of the Union Address, one of the
> year's major priorities for the Clinton-Gore Administration concerns
access

> to our breathtaking technological advances. Computers and the internet
are

> transforming our society, but not everyone is sharing equally in the

> opportunities they promise. "We must close the digital divide between

> those who've got the tools and those who don't," the President said. I'm

> writing to identify people interested in working more closely on this

> issue, and helping me to understand how we can most effectively ensure
that

> people with disabilities have equal access to digital technology.

>

> If you are interested in joining in this endeavor, please reply to this

> email with your name, organizational affiliation (if you don't have one,

> that's fine too), home town, and a phone number where I can reach you.

If

> you'd like, I invite you to write a brief description of who you are and

> your interests in technology. Thanks.

begin:vcard

n:Sorkin;Donna

tel;fax:202 337-3814

tel;work:202 337-5220

x-mozilla-html:FALSE

adr:,,,,,,;

version:2.1

email;internet:dsorkin@agbell.org

note:test

fn:Donna Sorkin

end:vcard

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Carolyn Perez <SRRCBPO.CSJ@wpo.state.ks.us> (Carolyn Perez <SRRCBPO.CSJ@wpo.state.ks.us> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 10:56:21.00

SUBJECT: Digital Divide

TO: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Carolyn Perez <SRRCBPO.CSJ@wpo.state.ks.us> (Carolyn Perez <SRRCBPO.CSJ@wpo.state.ks.us> [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Mr. Young,

I received your message regarding closing the digital divide. I am interested in learning more about what you are doing.

I am Carolyn Perez, a Rehabilitation Specialist with the State of Kansas. I make recommendations on adaptive devices and software for individuals who are blind and visually impaired. Please add my name to your list of interested persons. Thank you.

Carolyn Perez, Rehabilitation Specialist
Division of Services for the Blind
2516 SW Sixth Street
Topeka, KS 66606

Carolyn Perez
Services for the Blind
785-296-3311

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. email	From: external email address To: Jonathan Young Re: Digital Divide [Personal Information] [partial] (1 page)	02/03/2000	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Automated Records Management System [Email]
WHO ([Digital Divide...])
OA/Box Number: 500000

FOLDER TITLE:

[02/02/2000 - 02/04/2000]

2019-0203-F
jn708

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]

CREATOR: [REDACTED] (b)(6) [UNKNOWN]

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 17:21:18.00

SUBJECT: Re: Digital Divide

TO: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Hello, I'm very much Interested in joining in this endeavor to help get the people with disabilities have equal access to digital technology...

My name is [REDACTED] (b)(6), and I'm a C-6 Quadriplegic, and I've been paralyzed, and in a wheelchair for 18 years, I'm one of the Trainers, and Buddies in a group called Virtual Buddies here in North Carolina..The organization takes donated computers, and donated Internet accounts, and places them in the homes of low income people with different disabilities. The Virtual Buddies program gives those of us who are socially isolated most of the time at our homes, a way to communicate with others, and better educate ourselves..

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

Note; We are just finishing a manual that will make It easier for Disabled people to take College Courses via their computer at home, so we can continue our education, and get jobs too...

----- Original Message -----

From: <Jonathan_M_Young@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2000 9:44 PM
Subject: Digital Divide

- > As the President mentioned in his State of the Union Address, one of the
- > year's major priorities for the Clinton-Gore Administration concerns
- > access
- > to our breathtaking technological advances. Computers and the internet
- > are
- > transforming our society, but not everyone is sharing equally in the
- > opportunities they promise. "We must close the digital divide between
- > those who've got the tools and those who don't," the President said. I'm
- > writing to identify people interested in working more closely on this
- > issue, and helping me to understand how we can most effectively ensure
- > that
- > people with disabilities have equal access to digital technology.
- >
- > If you are interested in joining in this endeavor, please reply to this
- > email with your name, organizational affiliation (if you don't have one,

> that's fine too), home town, and a phone number where I can reach you.

If

> you'd like, I invite you to write a brief description of who you are and

> your interests in technology. Thanks.

>

>

>

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
003, email	From: external email address To: Jonathan Young Re: Digital Divide [Personal Information] [partial] (1 page)	02/03/2000	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Automated Records Management System [Email]
WHO ([Digital Divide...])
OA/Box Number: 500000

FOLDER TITLE:

[02/02/2000 - 02/04/2000]

2019-0203-F
jn708

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]

ARMS Email System
RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

[003]

CREATOR: [REDACTED] (b)(6) [UNKNOWN]

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 15:38:45.00

SUBJECT: Re: Digital Divide

TO: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

[REDACTED]
(b)(6)

I am 42 and mobility impaired from a spinal injury in 1987. When I obtained internet access last summer, I realized a whole new world had opened to me, both in terms of the resources available on the world-wide web and in terms of the capability to instantly communicate information. Being essentially homebound, I primarily see computer technology as having the potential to allow persons with disabilities to work from home, and I would enjoy the opportunity to help all persons with disabilities take advantage of the various possibilities computer technology can offer.

On Mon, 31 Jan 2000 21:45:46 Jonathan_M_Young wrote:

>As the President mentioned in his State of the Union Address, one of the
>year's major priorities for the Clinton-Gore Administration concerns
access
>to our breathtaking technological advances. Computers and the internet
are
>transforming our society, but not everyone is sharing equally in the
>opportunities they promise. "We must close the digital divide between
>those who've got the tools and those who don't," the President said. I'm
>writing to identify people interested in working more closely on this
>issue, and helping me to understand how we can most effectively ensure
that
>people with disabilities have equal access to digital technology.
>
>If you are interested in joining in this endeavor, please reply to this
>email with your name, organizational affiliation (if you don't have one,
>that's fine too), home town, and a phone number where I can reach you. If
>you'd like, I invite you to write a brief description of who you are and
>your interests in technology. Thanks.
>
>
>

MailCity. Secure Email Anywhere, Anytime!
<http://www.mailcity.com>

ARMS Email System
RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: "Eberly, Susan" <susan-eberly@uiowa.edu> ("Eberly, Susan" <susan-eberly@uiowa.edu> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 08:29:04.00

SUBJECT: Digital Divide

TO: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Dear Mr. Young,

I am very much interested in participating in your endeavor -- universal access is an important principle (and one that is perhaps even more endangered with the merger of AOL and Time-Warner).

As to name, affiliation, etc.:

Susan Eberly, Supervisor, Information Resource Services
University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics
University Hospital School - S263 HS
100 Hawkins Drive
Iowa City, IA 52242-1011
319-356-1338 (weekdays)
susan-eberly@uiowa.edu

University Hospital School provides health care and other services for people with disabilities and their families (to learn more about what we do,

please visit our web site at <http://www.medicine.uiowa.edu/uhs>). At UHS, I supervise communication services that include our Web page, Publications, Graphics, and our Disability Resource Library. I am also Information Dissemination Coordinator (say that 10 times fast!) for our activities as Iowa's University Affiliated Program. I am a true believer when it comes to the potential of the internet, and I want people with disabilities to have equal access to this great resource.

Susan

-----Original Message-----

From: Jonathan_M_Young@who.eop.gov
[SMTP:Jonathan_M_Young@who.eop.gov]
<mailto:[SMTP:Jonathan_M_Young@who.eop.gov]>
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2000 8:46 PM
Subject: Digital Divide

As the President mentioned in his State of the Union Address, one of the year's major priorities for the Clinton-Gore Administration concerns access to our breathtaking technological advances. Computers and the internet are transforming our society, but not everyone is sharing equally in the opportunities they promise. "We must close the digital divide between those who've got the tools and those who don't," the

President said. I'm writing to identify people interested in working more closely on this issue, and helping me to understand how we can most effectively ensure that people with disabilities have equal access to digital technology.

If you are interested in joining in this endeavor, please reply to this email with your name, organizational affiliation (if you don't have one, that's fine too), home town, and a phone number where I can reach you. If you'd like, I invite you to write a brief description of who you are and your interests in technology. Thanks.

Susan Eberly
Information Resource Services - S263 HS
University Hospital School
University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics
100 Hawkins Drive
Iowa City, IA 52242-1011
319-356-1338
susan-eberly@uiowa.edu

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: "Roberts, Linda" <Linda_Roberts@ed.gov> ("Roberts, Linda" <Linda_Roberts@ed.gov> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 10:08:18.00

SUBJECT: RE: PARTICIPANTS: Digital Divide conference call

TO: Victoria L. Valentine (CN=Victoria L. Valentine/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Victoria: thanks for your great work on this...sorry the connection was such a problem. Lesson learned...next time we schedule for when I am where I can have a secure and private phone...unfortunately I thought I was going to be back in my office by 3:30, but the Web Based Education Commission Hearing (Secretary Riley testified) went longer than planned, and because Riley had to leave, I had to fill-in during the Q's and A's...which didn't end until 3:25...that's why I was so frazzled. Hope it went OK. If there are further calls today...route them to Erica. (Assume you know that Riley is doing interview this afternoon and I will be with him.)

Linda

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Victoria_L_Valentine@who.eop.gov

> [SMTP:Victoria_L_Valentine@who.eop.gov]

> Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2000 3:25 PM

> To: linda_roberts@ed.gov

> Cc: Dag_Vega@who.eop.gov

> Subject: PARTICIPANTS: Digital Divide conference call

>

>

> DIGITAL DIVIDE FY 2001 BUDGET ANNOUNCEMENT

>

> LINDA ROBERTS, US Department of Education, Director of the Office of
> Education Technology

> Date: Today, Wednesday, February 2, 2000

> Time: 3:30 pm EST

>

> The following have confirmed participation in the conference call:

>

> Education Week

> Andrew Trotter

>

> Education Daily

> Michael Cardman

>

- > Educational Standards
- > Linda Renaldin
- >
- > Maggie Reardon
- > Information Week
- >
- > Bara Vaida
- > Tech Daily
- >
- > Declan McCullah
- > Wired News
- >
- > Ben Hammer
- > Industry Standard
- >
- > Doug Brown
- > Inter@ctive Week
- >
- > Dia Smith
- > politicallyblack.com
- >
- > Silvia Morena
- > The Washington Post
- >

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: TDIEXDir@aol.com (TDIEXDir@aol.com [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 09:07:47.00

SUBJECT: Re: Digital Divide

TO: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Hi Jonathan,

President Clinton gave an excellent State of the Union speech. I was pleased to see him refer to our needs in technology and telecommunications, etc. Pls do continue to pass on info. or make direct contact with me when it comes to areas of telecommunications and technology.

Claude Stout
Executive Director
Telecommunications for the Deaf, Inc.
email: tdiexdir@aol.com
TTY phone at work: 301- 589-3006

Many thanks, Claude Stout

In a message dated 1/31/00 9:47:16 PM Eastern Standard Time, Jonathan_M._Young@who.eop.gov writes:

<< Subj: Digital Divide
Date: 1/31/00 9:47:16 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: Jonathan_M._Young@who.eop.gov

As the President mentioned in his State of the Union Address, one of the year's major priorities for the Clinton-Gore Administration concerns access to our breathtaking technological advances. Computers and the internet are transforming our society, but not everyone is sharing equally in the opportunities they promise. "We must close the digital divide between those who've got the tools and those who don't," the President said. I'm writing to identify people interested in working more closely on this issue, and helping me to understand how we can most effectively ensure that people with disabilities have equal access to digital technology.

If you are interested in joining in this endeavor, please reply to this email with your name, organizational affiliation (if you don't have one,

that's fine too), home town, and a phone number where I can reach you. If you'd like, I invite you to write a brief description of who you are and your interests in technology. Thanks. >>

**Clinton Presidential Records
Automated Records Management System
[EMAIL] and Tape Restoration Project [Email]**

This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies a responsive email, already made available within another collection.

Collection: 2007-0143-F

Bucket: WHO

Creation Date: 2000-02-03

Subject: joining the digital divide

Creator: JEWest@aol.com JEWest@aol.com [UNKNOWN]

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: darien@digitalmafia.com (darien@digitalmafia.com [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 10:56:36.00

SUBJECT: FW: Clinton Today/ Digital Divide/ AOL

TO: Jena V. Roscoe (CN=Jena V. Roscoe/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Actually leaving the office I will be on cell...

917 701-4332

-----Original Message-----

From: Nicole Slavitt [mailto:nicole@digitalmafia.com]

Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2000 10:20 AM

To: Darien Dash

Cc: Jared

Subject: Clinton Today/ Digital Divide/ AOL

Importance: High

Clinton Launches Effort to Close 'Digital Divide'

Wednesday, February 02, 2000

&

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - President Clinton on Wednesday unveiled a multibillion-dollar plan to help poor Americans and minorities get access to the Internet and make it as universal as the telephone.

Clinton's fiscal year 2001 budget proposal to Congress will include \$2 billion in tax incentives over 10 years to encourage private sector activities such as computer donations.

It will also propose some \$380 million in grants to train new teachers on the use of technology, expand home access to computers for low-income families, and create technology centers in underserved communities.

"Our big goal should be to make connection to the Internet as common as connection to the telephone today," Clinton said.

He made the announcement aimed at bridging the "digital divide" in the United States at Ballou High School after touring the computer facilities and watching students demonstrate how to fix computers and go online in the computer lab.

"There is still a big digital divide in this country, and it runs through income first -- low income families are far less likely to have access to

the Internet and computers. Also, for reasons we don't entirely understand, there is a separate racial and ethnic component to it," Clinton said.

"When we talk about bridging the digital divide we mean that ... everybody ought to have access to a computer, everybody ought to have access to the Internet and everybody ought to know how to use it," Clinton said, recounting stories of how people have prospered once they were given access to computers.

Clinton listed closing the so-called "digital divide" as one of his top priorities for his final year in office when he gave the State of the Union address to the nation last week.

In December 1999 Clinton signed an executive memorandum to ensure closing the digital divide will be a vital goal of the federal government and he is due to tour depressed areas left out of the explosion of Internet access this spring.

A Commerce Department study released in July 1999 showed a growing divide between the percentage of white and minorities, urban and rural dwellers and rich and poor who are connected to the Internet.

LIMITED INTERNET ACCESS

The study found 60 percent of households earning \$75,000 or more had Internet access, compared with less than 10 percent of households earning less than \$20,000. Whites were more likely to have Internet access than blacks and Hispanics across all income levels.

The president's 2001 budget proposal called for \$2 billion in tax incentives over the next decade to encourage private corporations to donate computers, sponsor community technology centers and pay for technology training for workers.

It would also earmark \$150 million -- twice the current amount -- in Department of Education grants to help train all new teachers entering the work force to use technology effectively, plus \$100 million to create 1,000 technology centers in low-income urban and rural neighborhoods.

The initiative would also set aside \$50 million for a pilot program to help more poor families buy computers for home use, and \$45 million to promote innovative technological projects in poor and minority communities.

The president will also ask Congress to approve using \$25 million to accelerate private sector development of broad band networks in underserved and rural communities, and \$10 million to train Native Americans for careers in information technology (IT) and other technical fields.

While the Republican-controlled Congress is likely to be wary of any proposals to boost government spending, Clinton's initiative is hinged heavily on leveraging private sector investments through the use of tax credits and grants.

Clinton appeared at the high school with America Online Inc. chief executive

Steve Case, who also spoke of the importance of helping make sure computers and Internet access were accessible to all sectors of society.

Case said after the speech the AOL Foundation had given away some 50,000 Internet accounts to help reach that goal. "We need to continue to build all aspects of the medium," he said.

Clinton also noted that if children did not have access to computers in school, it could hurt more in the future.

"Eventually this digital divide will deprive businesses of the workers they need," he said. "It could also widen inequality in our society between people based on who's connected and who's not."

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Victoria L. Valentine (CN=Victoria L. Valentine/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 10:14:32.00

SUBJECT: RE: PARTICIPANTS: Digital Divide conference call

TO: "Roberts, Linda" <Linda_Roberts@ed.gov> ("Roberts, Linda" <Linda_Roberts@ed.gov> [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Thank YOU. It went well once we were underway.

I look forward to working with you again in the future.

-- Victoria

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: darien@digitalmafia.com (darien@digitalmafia.com [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 10:43:43.00

SUBJECT: FW: Clinton Today/ Digital Divide/ AOL

TO: Jena V. Roscoe (CN=Jena V. Roscoe/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Let's talk need to get in here.

I signed my deal yesterday!

Darien.

-----Original Message-----

From: Nicole Slavitt [mailto:nicole@digitalmafia.com]

Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2000 10:20 AM

To: Darien Dash

Cc: Jared

Subject: Clinton Today/ Digital Divide/ AOL

Importance: High

Clinton Launches Effort to Close 'Digital Divide'

Wednesday, February 02, 2000

&

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - President Clinton on Wednesday unveiled a multibillion-dollar plan to help poor Americans and minorities get access to

the Internet and make it as universal as the telephone.

Clinton's fiscal year 2001 budget proposal to Congress will include \$2 billion in tax incentives over 10 years to encourage private sector activities such as computer donations.

It will also propose some \$380 million in grants to train new teachers on the use of technology, expand home access to computers for low-income families, and create technology centers in underserved communities.

"Our big goal should be to make connection to the Internet as common as connection to the telephone today," Clinton said.

He made the announcement aimed at bridging the "digital divide" in the United States at Ballou High School after touring the computer facilities and watching students demonstrate how to fix computers and go online in the computer lab.

"There is still a big digital divide in this country, and it runs through income first -- low income families are far less likely to have access to the Internet and computers. Also, for reasons we don't entirely understand, there is a separate racial and ethnic component to it," Clinton said.

"When we talk about bridging the digital divide we mean that ... everybody ought to have access to a computer, everybody ought to have access to the Internet and everybody ought to know how to use it," Clinton said, recounting stories of how people have prospered once they were given access to computers.

Clinton listed closing the so-called "digital divide" as one of his top priorities for his final year in office when he gave the State of the Union address to the nation last week.

In December 1999 Clinton signed an executive memorandum to ensure closing the digital divide will be a vital goal of the federal government and he is due to tour depressed areas left out of the explosion of Internet access this spring.

A Commerce Department study released in July 1999 showed a growing divide between the percentage of white and minorities, urban and rural dwellers and rich and poor who are connected to the Internet.

LIMITED INTERNET ACCESS

The study found 60 percent of households earning \$75,000 or more had Internet access, compared with less than 10 percent of households earning less than \$20,000. Whites were more likely to have Internet access than blacks and Hispanics across all income levels.

The president's 2001 budget proposal called for \$2 billion in tax incentives over the next decade to encourage private corporations to donate computers, sponsor community technology centers and pay for technology training for workers.

It would also earmark \$150 million -- twice the current amount -- in Department of Education grants to help train all new teachers entering the work force to use technology effectively, plus \$100 million to create 1,000 technology centers in low-income urban and rural neighborhoods.

The initiative would also set aside \$50 million for a pilot program to help more poor families buy computers for home use, and \$45 million to promote innovative technological projects in poor and minority communities.

The president will also ask Congress to approve using \$25 million to accelerate private sector development of broad band networks in underserved and rural communities, and \$10 million to train Native Americans for careers in information technology (IT) and other technical fields.

While the Republican-controlled Congress is likely to be wary of any proposals to boost government spending, Clinton's initiative is hinged

heavily on leveraging private sector investments through the use of tax credits and grants.

Clinton appeared at the high school with America Online Inc. chief executive

Steve Case, who also spoke of the importance of helping make sure computers and Internet access were accessible to all sectors of society.

Case said after the speech the AOL Foundation had given away some 50,000 Internet accounts to help reach that goal. "We need to continue to build all aspects of the medium," he said.

Clinton also noted that if children did not have access to computers in school, it could hurt more in the future.

"Eventually this digital divide will deprive businesses of the workers they need," he said. "It could also widen inequality in our society between people based on who's connected and who's not."

ARMS Email System
RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: "Wendell J. Carter" <wjcarter@nexphase.com> ("Wendell J. Carter" <wjcarter@nexphase.com> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-FEB-2000 07:46:49.00

SUBJECT: Re: President Clinton's Digital Divide Event -- Invitation for Wednesday, February 2, 2000

TO: Jena V. Roscoe (CN=Jena V. Roscoe/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Hi Jena,

I just returned to town today and have just review your mail. Sorry, I did not read the notice in time to attend the event. Thank you such much for thinking of me. I hope you will keep me on your list for future consideration.

All the best,

Wendell J. Carter

----- Original Message -----

From: <Jena_V._Roscoe@who.eop.gov>

To: <Wjcarter@nexphase.com>

Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2000 4:11 PM

Subject: President Clinton's Digital Divide Event -- Invitation for Wednesday, February 2, 2000

> THE WHITE HOUSE
> WASHINGTON
>
> INVITATION/RSVP FORM
>
>
> DATE/TIME: Wednesday, February 2, 2000, 10:30am
>
> LOCATION: Ballou Senior High School
> 3401 4th Street, SE
> Washington, DC
>
> PRINCIPAL BRIEFERS: The President
>
> OBJECTIVE: The President will announce his intent to request
> funding in the federal budget to address the digital
> divide.
> ARRIVAL &
> CLEARANCE
> INFORMATION: For entrance, your name must be on the White House
RSVP
> list and you must provide photo identification such

as
> a valid driver's license that displays your date of
> birth.
>
>

> -
>
> Please RSVP by email or telephone
> no later than Tuesday, February 1, 2000 at 7:00pm
> to: Jena Roscoe
> Associate Director
> Office of Public Liaison
> Jena_Roscoe@oa.eop.gov
> Phone: 202-456-6657
>

> _____ Yes, I will be attending the announcement on Wednesday,
> February
> 2, 2000.
>

> _____ No, I will not be able to attend, but would like for my Senior
> Level Representative to attend on my behalf on Wednesday, February 2,
> 2000.
>

> Full Name: _____ Title:
> _____
>

> Corporation/Organization:
>

>
> Corporation/Organization Address:
> _____
>

> Office Number: _____ Fax: _____ Email:
> _____
>

> _____ No, I will not be able to attend. Please keep me informed.
>
>

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: "Brian W. Dale" <Brian_W._Dale@HUD.GOV> ("Brian W. Dale" <Brian_W._Dale@HUD.GOV> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 4-FEB-2000 18:54:40.00

SUBJECT: Re: Digital Divide

TO: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: "Catherine N. Herrick" <Catherine_N._Herrick@HUD.GOV> ("Catherine N. Herrick" <Catherine_N._Herrick@HUD.GOV> [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: "Julie B. Fagan" <Julie_B._Fagan@HUD.GOV> ("Julie B. Fagan" <Julie_B._Fagan@HUD.GOV> [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Jonathan, remember that HUD has the Neighborhood Networks initiative which has been working for several years to help communities and individuals bridge the digital divide. You can contact the Washington D.C. area HUD office that supports Neighborhood Networks at:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
9300 Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22031-1207

phone: 1(888)312-2743

e-mail: www.hud.gov/nnw/nnw.index.html or
www.neighborhoodnetworks.org

I hope this information has been helpful. If you need more information about Neighborhood Networks, please e-mail or call me at (801)524-6073. Thanks - Brian.

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: "Paul W. Schroeder" <pws@afb.net> ("Paul W. Schroeder" <pws@afb.net> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 4-FEB-2000 11:14:39.00

SUBJECT: Re: Clinton-Gore: From Digital Divide to Digital Opportunity

TO: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

OK, You're right about other identity groups, but, as you know, there's two problems in the divide for those of us with disabilities:

1. affordability, same for other low-income and marginalized groups.
2. Tech design, not same for other groups (at least not as intensely), technology that excludes by design is a different issue than technology that is excluded from people because of income or location.

And, of course, the "Falling" report does not include the picture of disability access. So, the focus on the divide tends, naturally, to follow the statistics, and our issues are not addressed there.

I in no way wish to minimize the very real problems faced by minorities, especially low-income, single-headed, urban and rural households in accessing and using computers and the Internet. Quite the contrary. I am a member of the Alliance for Public Technology that long has championed "Connecting Each to All," a vision of high-capacity interactive transmission for all Americans.

Thanks for your continued work on this and for keeping us connected.

Paul

At 10:39 AM 2/4/00 -0500, you wrote:

>I hear what you're saying. At the same time, did you pay attention to
>mention of other identity groups? There's virtually none there too. We
>need to be able to read disability into references to "all" children,
>communities, etc.
>

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Victoria L. Valentine (CN=Victoria L. Valentine/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 4-FEB-2000 15:55:09.00

SUBJECT: digital divide photo

TO: Dag Vega (CN=Dag Vega/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

PRESIDENT CLINTON ANNOUNCES NEW PROPOSAL TO CLOSE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE AND
INCREASE DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY

Ballou High School, Washington, DC

Wednesday, February 2, 2000

From left to right:

Steve Case, CEO, America Online

Darnell Curley, Computer Coordinator, Ballou High School

President Clinton

Photo credit: David Scull, The White House

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

Unable to convert ARMS_EXT:[ATTACH.D17]ARMS217503340.046 to ASCII,

The following is a HEX DUMP:

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====



Automated Records Management System
Hex-Dump Conversion

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Marc Pearl <mpearl@itaa.org> (Marc Pearl <mpearl@itaa.org> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 4-FEB-2000 00:10:25.00

SUBJECT: FW: Digital Divide/Opportunity -- from today's SF Chronicle

TO: Lisa M. Kountoupes (CN=Lisa M. Kountoupes/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Marjorie Bynum <mbynum@itaa.org> (Marjorie Bynum <mbynum@itaa.org> [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Lisa:

In line with a little bit of what we discussed. Marjorie Bynum, our Education and Workforce person, is anxious to work with you in helping to make the President's Spring road trip a rousing success. Marc

> Positive Attitude Creates Workforce Hero Bay Area CEO helping lead
> minorities into tech revolution Benny Evangelista, Chronicle Staff
> Writer <mailto:benny@sfgate.com> Thursday, February 3,

200

>

>

> Growing up the seventh of 13 children in a poor African American family
in

> the Midwest, Bob Knowling Jr. said he was surrounded by people telling
him

> he would never amount to much. Except for one -- his mother, Geneva.
She

> made him stay in school and keep his mind focused beyond several painful

> incidents that could have embittered anybody else for life. "My mom

> always told me, 'Channel your aggression, channel your frustration into

> positives,'" Knowling said. "She always had a positive outlook."

> Today, Knowling is not only the successful chief executive of a rising

> Silicon Valley technology company, Covad Communications Group Inc., but
he

> won praise from President Clinton last week as an "American hero" for

> leading an effort to bring more minorities into the technology workforce.

> Knowling is heading a task force that is developing a nationwide

> internship program, to start this summer, designed to steer more African

> American, Hispanic and Native American students into careers in

> information technology. "What we've got to do is level the playing
field

> around the country so that all kids are getting access to the great, wide

> wonderful technological revolution," Knowling said. "It has nothing to

> do with gray matter. How do you determine if people are going to make it

> or not, is it genetics or environment? It's all environment. I'm living

> proof of that." Knowling, 44, stepped into the national spotlight when

- > he was one of 10 Americans invited to sit in the House of Representative's
- > gallery next to Hillary Clinton to watch the president' State of the Union
- > address. In 1998, Knowling became CEO of Covad, the Santa Clara company
- > that is one of the top providers of high-speed DSL Internet service in the
- > country. Covad posted a net loss of \$195.4 million on revenues of \$66.5
- > million in 1999, but analysts believe the company is well positioned to
- > take advantage of a projected explosive growth of high- speed DSL, or
- > digital subscriber lines. Under Knowling's leadership, the firm, which
- > went public a year ago, has almost tripled in value to \$7.54 billion.
- > Last year, Knowling became chair of the Digital Opportunity Initiative,
- > sponsored by the trade group Information Technology Association of
- > America. That group is launching the internship program this summer;
- > details are still being firmed up. The ITAA and the White House asked
- > Knowling to spearhead the initiative to help bridge a Digital Divide in
- > the U.S. technology workforce. According to an ITAA task force report,
- > African Americans account for about 10 percent of the overall U.S.
- > workforce, but only 5 percent of all computer programmers. Hispanics
- > account for about 9 percent of the general workforce, but only 4 percent
- > of computer programmers. Native Americans account for less than 1 percent
- > in both the general and programmer workforces. Knowling is against
- > forcing affirmative action quotas. But, he said, the Digital Opportunity
- > Initiative's goal is to encourage more minorities to strive for technology
- > jobs. That starts with getting the top executives in technology to replace
- > talk with action to diversify their workforces. "It's not like there's
- > some great plan out there to keep folks out of the profession," said
- > Knowling, who was an executive at US West and Ameritech before joining
- > Covad in 1998. "It's an issue of emphasis, focus and commitment, and it
- > comes at all different levels." Knowling's committee has at least 10
- > companies committed to create paid internships -- both summer and yearlong
- > -- for minority college students, said ITAA President Harris Miller. The
- > program would start small, but even if it initially adds just 50 to 100
- > minority workers to the ranks, that would encourage more students and more
- > companies to join, and eventually snowball into tens of thousands of
- > internships, Miller said. And Knowling wants more than just an "amateur
- > hour" internship that teaches basic mail room skills, but a "robust"
- > program with hands- on experience in all aspects of the business --
- > technical, financial, sales, marketing. Knowling believes a positive
- > internship gives a company a competitive recruiting advantage. "The
- > (big) high-tech firms are getting the cream-of-the-crop kids," he said.
- > "If I give you three wonderful experiences with me, three summers in a
- > row, and you've contributed to the bottom line, I've got a real good
- > chance of winning you." It's the kind of advantage Knowling himself
- > wasn't afforded as a member of a poor family in Kokomo, Ind. When he was
- > in first grade, he went with his mother to the local welfare office to
- > pick up food. He saw the hurt in her face when she was denied more peanut
- > butter by an office worker who remarked, "You should have thought about
- > that when you were having 13 kids." "She said that day we were going

to

> get out of social assistance, and my mom went to work two jobs,"

Knowling

> said. "A life imprint was planted on me that day." In the sixth grade,
> while living on his grandparents' farm in Missouri, he brought a fishing
> lure his mother had given him as a Christmas gift to school for
> show-and-tell. When the lure accidentally stuck on a white classmate's
> sweater, his teacher dragged Knowling out of his seat by his ear and
> started beating him severely with a paddle. The teacher said, "That's
> why we don't like you black kids in this school, you're always doing
stuff

> that doesn't make any sense," Knowling said. "He beat me for probably
20

> minutes. When I sat down, I couldn't feel anything and my butt was just
> numb." Knowling, who managed to keep a smile on his face as he related
> the painful experience, said the optimistic attitude his mother instilled
> in him helped him turn the incident into "a positive catalyst" to
> disprove all the people who said "you can't do it." The articulate
> Knowling, who bears a resemblance to San Francisco Giants Manager Dusty
> Baker, eventually earned a degree in theology from Indiana's Wabash
> College, where he was a four-sport athlete. From there, he went to work
> for Indiana Bell, which later became Ameritech, and eventually became
vice

> president of network operations for both Ameritech and US West, which he
> joined in 1997. Civil rights activist the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who is
also

> pushing for more diversity in Silicon Valley, said Knowling possesses "a
> powerful presence and a selfless spirit." "If he had stayed in Kokomo,
> he never would have had the opportunity to be head of a major business,"
> said Jackson. "This again shows how much productivity we lose when we
> waste talent." Knowling said he was honored to be acknowledged by
> Clinton, but "didn't think it was such a big deal." He also says no

one

> has anointed him to change all of Silicon Valley. "If my legacy in life
> is I only get one kid to take the right road instead of the wrong road,
> then it was worth it. Along the way, if we establish ourselves as a
> benchmark for a best practice company that is doing things to bridge the
> Digital Divide, so be it."

>

Marjorie Bynum

Vice President, Workforce Development

Information Technology Association of America (ITAA)

1616 N. Fort Myer Drive, Suite 1300

Arlington, VA 22209

(703)284-5318-phone

(703) 525-2279-fax

mbynum@itaa.org

Web Site: www.itaa.org

www.itaa.org/workforce

* Register now for ITAA's National IT Workforce Convocation, April 10-11,
2000 in Chicago--Solutions for the New Millennium.

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Melissa J. Prober (CN=Melissa J. Prober/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 4-FEB-2000 09:46:52.00

SUBJECT: Jon Orszag / Sec. Daley Digital Divide Event

TO: cmills@oxygen.com (cmills@oxygen.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

CC: jorszag@doc.gov (jorszag@doc.gov @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

I saw Jon Orszag last night and he would like to talk to you regarding the Comdex computer expo in Chicago on April 18th. Sec. Daley is the first government official to ever speak there. One of the topics he would like to address is the digital divide and they are hoping to get Oprah participate. Jon is going to contact you directly with more details.

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Joel K. Wiginton (CN=Joel K. Wiginton/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 4-FEB-2000 16:52:07.00

SUBJECT: Re: Digital divide

TO: Thomas A. Kalil (CN=Thomas A. Kalil/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [OPD])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

It was actually Mikulski's office that asked for the meeting (fyi - the president mentioned working on the digital divide with her at today's unity event with the senate dems). Can you do Tuesday morning at 11:00? I'll make them come here. Thanks.

Is there anyone else that should be invited?

Thomas A. Kalil

02/03/2000 03:09:19 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Joel K. Wiginton/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Digital divide

Final paper - yes happy to meet with Biden's folks
although we really need support on

Approps - Labor, HHS and CJS
Senate Finance (for the tax piece)

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:
Unable to convert ARMS_EXT:[ATTACH.D25]ARMS22502434H.046 to ASCII,
The following is a HEX DUMP:

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

**THE CLINTON-GORE ADMINISTRATION:
FROM DIGITAL DIVIDE TO DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY
February 2, 2000**

Today, President Clinton will unveil a comprehensive proposal to help bridge the Digital Divide and to help create digital opportunity for all Americans. This issue has also been a top priority for Vice President Gore, who has worked to bridge the Digital Divide by ensuring that all of our children have access to educational technology. Access to computers and the Internet and the ability to effectively use this technology are becoming increasingly important for full participation in America's economic, political and social life. Unfortunately, unequal access to technology and high-tech skills by income, educational level, race, and geography could deepen and reinforce the divisions that exist within American society. President Clinton believes that we must make access to computers and the Internet as universal as the telephone is today -- in our schools, libraries, communities, and homes.

To make the most of these new opportunities, the President believes we must:

- Broaden **access** to technologies such as computers, the Internet, and high-speed networks;
- Provide people the **skilled teachers** and the **training** they need to master the information economy;
- Promote **online content** and **applications** that will help empower all Americans to use new technologies to their fullest potential.

President Clinton will announce specific proposals in his FY2001 budget to help accomplish these goals and help create digital opportunity for more Americans -- including \$2 billion in tax incentives to encourage private sector activities such as computer donations, and \$380 million in new and expanded initiatives to serve as a catalyst for public-private partnerships.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S 2001 BUDGET INITIATIVES

1. \$2 billion over 10 years in tax incentives to encourage private sector donation of computers, sponsorship of community technology centers, and technology training for workers.
2. \$150 million to help train all new teachers entering the workforce to use technology effectively.
3. \$100 million to create 1,000 Community Technology Centers in low-income urban and rural neighborhoods.
4. \$50 million for a public/private partnership to expand home access to computers and the Internet for low-income families.
5. \$45 million to promote innovative applications of information and communications technology for under-served communities.
6. \$25 million to accelerate private sector deployment of broadband networks in under-served urban and rural communities.
7. \$10 million to prepare Native Americans for careers in Information Technology and other technical fields.

To Help Mobilize Public/Private Partnerships To Close the Digital Divide, President Clinton Will Lead A New Markets Trip This April: Closing the Digital Divide requires creative partnerships between industry, non-profit organizations and government. That's why President Clinton will lead a New Markets trip this April designed to mobilize a significant private and public effort to close the digital divide. This trip, which will include leading high-tech CEOs, will highlight communities that are using information technology to enhance our children's education, expand access to life-long learning, and create economic growth and high-tech, high-wage jobs.

THE CLINTON-GORE AGENDA FOR CREATING DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY

Private sector competition and rapid technological progress are powerful forces for bridging the digital divide and for making Information Age tools available for more and more Americans. The information technology industry is able to double the amount of computing power available at a given price every 12-18 months, and is now selling low-cost computers and "information appliances" – such as specialized Internet access devices. Some companies are even offering free, advertiser-supported Internet access. By working with the private sector and community-based organizations, the Administration can accelerate the trend of expanded access.

But access to technology is only the first step. We also need to give more people the skills they need to use technology, promote content and applications of technology that will help empower under-served communities, and ensure that our teachers can use technology effectively in the classroom. Below is a brief description of the initiatives that President Clinton and Vice President Gore are proposing to help accomplish these goals:

1. **\$2 billion over 10 years in tax incentives to encourage private sector donation of computers, sponsorship of community technology centers, and technology training for workers:** President Clinton's budget includes \$2 billion in tax incentives to encourage companies to donate computers to schools, libraries and community technology centers, to sponsor schools, libraries, and community technology centers in designated Empowerment Zones, and to provide basic computer training, workplace literacy, or other basic education for their employees.
 - **Encouraging companies to donate computers.** The President proposes to extend and expand an enhanced tax deduction to provide companies with an incentive to donate computers to schools, libraries and computer technology centers. This enhanced deduction allows companies to deduct more than the cost of their donation. Under current law, this enhanced deduction applies to donations of computers to schools only and expires after the year 2000. The President's proposal would extend this provision through June 30, 2004 and would expand it to donations to public libraries or community technology centers in Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, and high-poverty areas.
 - **Promoting corporate sponsorship of schools, libraries and community technology centers.** The President proposes tax relief to encourage companies to sponsor schools and community technology centers in Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities and targeted low-income areas. The President's proposal would allocate credits for \$16 million in corporate sponsorship to each of the 31 existing Empowerment Zones and 10 proposed new Empowerment Zones and \$4 million in corporate sponsorship for each of the more than 80 Enterprise Communities. In total, the President's proposal would help support up to nearly \$1 billion in annual sponsorships to help improve schools and community technology centers.
 - **Supporting technology training for workers.** The President's proposal would provide targeted tax relief to encourage companies to provide basic computer training, workplace literacy, or other basic education for employees that lack the basic skills to succeed in the modern workplace. Companies would be allowed to take a 20 percent tax credit for up to \$5,250 in annual expenses per employee. Eligible employees generally would not have received a high school degree or its equivalent.
2. **\$150 million to help train all new teachers entering the workforce use technology effectively in the classroom:** Under the leadership of President Clinton and Vice President Gore, the United States has made enormous progress in connecting schools to the Internet, and increasing the number of modern computers in the classroom. However, access to computers and the Internet will not help students achieve high academic standards unless teachers are as comfortable with a computer as they are with a chalkboard. President Clinton's budget calls for \$150 million in Department of Education grants -- double the last year's investment of \$75 million -- to ensure that all new teachers entering the workforce are technologically literate and can integrate technology into the curriculum. The need for this investment is clear. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, only 20 percent of teachers report that they are "very well prepared" to integrate technology into classroom. And over the next 10 years, K-12 schools will need to hire 2 million new teachers to fill the vacancies left by retiring teachers and to accommodate increasing student populations.

Automated Records Management System
Hex-Dump Conversion

3. **\$100 million to create up to 1,000 Community Technology Centers in low-income urban and rural communities:** The President's budget more than triples the Department of Education's support for Community Technology Centers - from \$32.5 million in FY2000 to \$100 million in FY2001. This initiative, championed by Congresswoman Maxine Waters was initially funded at \$10 million in fiscal year 1999. The goal of the initiative is to help close the "digital divide" by providing computers and Information Age tools to children and adults that are not able to afford them at home. These community technology centers will help empower hundreds of thousands of low-income children and adults in a variety of ways. Children will be able to improve their performance in school by having access to high-quality educational software after school and prepare for the high-tech workplace of the 21st century by getting certified with an information technology skill. Adults will be able to use computers and the Internet to take a self-paced adult literacy course; get access to America's Job Bank to see what jobs are available; learn to type up a resume and cover letter using word processing software; learn to start up their own "micro-enterprise" or Web-based business, or acquire new training. A study sponsored by the National Science Foundation confirms that Community Technology Centers are helping to bridge the digital divide. Of the users surveyed: 62 percent had incomes of less than \$15,000; 65 percent took computer classes to improve their job skills; and 41 percent got homework help or tutoring at the center.
4. **\$50 million for a public/private partnership to expand home access to computers and the Internet for low-income families:** The President's budget includes a new \$50 million Department of Commerce pilot program to expand access to computers and the Internet for low-income families, and to give these families the skills they need to use these new Information Age tools effectively. This new program will provide competitive grants to public-private partnerships at the local level. Potential partners might include: local school districts seeking to expand parental involvement in education; high-tech companies willing to provide discounts on computers and access; libraries offering training on "information literacy"; employers seeking to upgrade the skills of their workforce using distance learning, and government agencies at all levels seeking to save taxpayer dollars through the electronic delivery of government services. The Administration will continue to work with the private sector and non-profit organizations on the most effective way to design this program.
5. **\$45 million to promote innovative applications of information technology for under-served communities:** President Clinton's budget will increase the investment in the Department of Commerce's highly-successful Technology Opportunities Program (TOP) to \$45 million -- triple the current level of \$15 million. This program encourages innovative applications of information technology that help empower low-income communities -- public health information systems that raise childhood immunization rates in inner-cities, tele-mentoring for at-risk youth, and electronic networks that strengthen local communities by fostering communication and collaboration.
6. **\$25 million to accelerate private sector deployment of high-speed networks in under-served urban and rural communities:** High-speed Internet access is becoming as important to the economic vitality of a community as roads and bridges are today. The President will propose a new \$25 million program at the Department of Commerce and the Department of Agriculture to accelerate private sector deployment of broadband networks in under-served urban and rural communities -- using grants and loan guarantees. The potential payoff from these kinds of investments is enormous. One company, for example, has helped people move from "welfare-to-work" by connecting their community with the high-speed networks needed to support telecommuting. This solves some of the biggest barriers associated with welfare-to-work -- lack of childcare and transportation.
7. **\$10 million to prepare Native Americans for careers in information technology and other technical fields:** The National Science Foundation will support efforts by tribal colleges to increase the number of Native Americans who are prepared to pursue careers in information technology and other technical fields. The ability to use technology is becoming increasingly important in the workplace, and jobs in the rapidly growing information technology sector pay almost 80 percent more than the average private sector wage.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

Access to computers and the Internet and the ability to effectively use this technology are becoming increasingly important for full participation in America's economic, political and social life. People are using the Internet to find lower prices for goods and services, work from home or start their own business, acquire new skills using distance learning, and make better informed decisions about their healthcare needs. The ability to use technology is becoming increasingly important in the workplace, and jobs in the rapidly growing information technology sector pay almost 80 percent more than the average private sector wage.

Technology, used creatively, can also make a big difference in the way teachers teach and students learn. In some classrooms, teachers are using the Internet to keep up with the latest developments in their field, exchange lesson plans with their colleagues, and communicate more frequently with parents. Students are able to log on to the Library of Congress to download primary documents for a history paper, explore the universe with an Internet-connected telescope used by professional astronomers, and engage in more active "learning by doing." Students are also creating powerful Internet-based learning resources that can be used by other students – such as award-winning Web sites on endangered species, the biology of sleep, human perception of sound, and an exploration of the American judicial system.

Access to computers and the Internet has exploded during the Clinton-Gore Administration. Unfortunately, there is strong evidence of a "digital divide" – a gap between those individuals and communities that have access to these Information Age tools and those who don't. In some instances, this divide is actually widening. A July 1999 report from the Department of Commerce, based on December 1998 Census Department data, revealed that:

- **Better educated Americans more likely to be connected.** Between 1997 and 1998, the technology divide between those at the highest and lowest education levels increased 25%. In 1998, those with a college degree are more than *eight times* likely to have a computer at home and nearly *sixteen times* as likely to have home Internet access as those with an elementary school education.
- **The gap between high- and low-income Americans is increasing.** In the last year, the divide between those at the highest and lowest income levels grew 29%. Households with incomes of \$75,000 or higher are more than *twenty times* more likely to have access to the Internet than those at the lowest income levels, and more than *nine times* as likely to have a computer at home.
- **Whites more likely to be connected than African-Americans or Hispanics.** The digital divide is also persistent and growing along racial and ethnic lines. Whites are more likely to have access to the Internet from home than African-Americans or Hispanics have from *any* location. African-American and Hispanic households are roughly *two-fifths* as likely to have home Internet access as white households. The gaps between white and Hispanic households, and between white and African-American households, are now more than six percentage points larger than they were in 1994. However, for incomes of \$75,000 and higher, the divide between whites and African-Americans has narrowed considerably in the last year.
- **Rural areas less likely to be connected than urban users.** Regardless of income level, those living in rural areas are lagging behind in computer ownership and Internet access. At some income levels, those in urban areas are 50% more likely to have Internet access than those earning the same income in rural areas. Low income households in rural areas are the least connected, with connectivity rates in the singles digits for both computers and Internet access.

In addition, data from the National Center for Education Statistics reveals a "digital divide" in our nation's schools. As of the fall of 1998, 39 percent of classrooms of poor schools were connected to the Internet, as compared to 62 percent for wealthier schools.

A STRONG RECORD OF WORKING TO CLOSE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

President Clinton and Vice President Gore have worked hard to close the digital divide, and to help create opportunity for more Americans in the Information Age.

- President Clinton and Vice President Gore have set a national goal of **ensuring that every child is technologically literate**. In addition to preparing children for the high-tech workplace of the 21st century, technology can help change the way teachers teach and students learn. Teachers can communicate more frequently with parents, keep up with the latest developments in their field, and exchange lesson plans with their colleagues. Students can conduct research using primary source material, learn the principles of genetics by breeding virtual fruit flies, and learn astronomy by using a professional telescope located 3,000 miles from their classroom.
- **As a result of the Clinton-Gore educational technology initiative:**
 - The number of **classrooms** connected to the Internet has increased from 3% in 1994 to 51% in 1998.
 - The number of schools connected to the Internet has increased from 35% in 1994 to 89% in 1998.
 - The "e-rate", part of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, is providing \$2.25 billion in 20% - 90% discounts to connect schools and libraries to the Internet, with the deepest discounts going to the poorest schools that need it most. The e-rate alone has provided Internet access for children in more than 1 million classrooms.
 - Our total investment in educational technology at the federal level (including the e-rate) has increased from \$23 million in 1993 to over \$3 billion today.
 - Grants supported by the Department of Education are training 400,000 new teachers to use technology effectively in the classroom.

In addition, President Clinton and Vice-President Gore have worked to:

- **Expand access to technology for people with disabilities:** President Clinton and Vice President Gore have been strong supporters of efforts to make technology more accessible for people with disabilities. Recent actions by the Federal Communications Commission will help ensure that telecommunications equipment, such as cellular phones, is designed to be accessible for people with disabilities.
- **Expand access to technology in under-served communities:** In addition to the Community Technology Center program, HUD Sec. Andrew Cuomo has created approximately 500 Neighborhood Network learning centers that bring state of the art technology to publicly-assisted housing across America. HUD's Neighborhood Networks are innovative private/public partnerships that establish computer-based multi-service centers to help people in publicly-assisted housing learn critical computer skills and prepare for 21st century jobs.
- **Ensure that the Administration makes closing the Digital Divide a top priority.** In December, 1999, President Clinton directed members of the Cabinet to take specific actions to address the digital divide: President Clinton is directing members of his Cabinet (Secretaries of Commerce, Education, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, and Labor) to take specific steps to close the Digital Divide, including:
 - Continuing to measure the nature and extent of the digital divide by examining the importance of income, education, race, gender, geography and age to Americans' access to Information Age tools;
 - Expanding the network of Community Technology Centers to provide access to technology for those American who can't afford it;
 - Promoting applications of the Internet that will empower low-income families, such as the ability to start their own business; and
 - Upgrading the IT skills of workers in low-income communities.

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Richard L. Siewert (CN=Richard L. Siewert/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 4-FEB-2000 18:50:51.00

SUBJECT: digital divide

TO: robert.czwiklik@wsj.com (robert.czwiklik@wsj.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

check out the following url's

<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/ntiahome/digitaldivide/>

<http://www.digitaldivide.gov/>

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 4-FEB-2000 13:57:50.00

SUBJECT: Digital Divide Remarks

TO: Christine L. Anderson (CN=Christine L. Anderson/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jason H. Schechter (CN=Jason H. Schechter/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Are the President's Wednesday remarks available? I'd very much like to send them out, but couldn't find them on the website.

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Susan Goodman <sgoodman@ucpa.org> (Susan Goodman <sgoodman@ucpa.org> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 4-FEB-2000 10:50:53.00

SUBJECT: Digital Divide

TO: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Jonathan,

Thank you for the invitation to Digital Divide event in Anacostia. It was terrific! UCP is extremely pleased about the Administration's commitment to such a profoundly critical issue. If the opportunity presents itself, we would like to provide additional assistance.

Michelle Cook and I were discussing the President's New Markets Digital Divide Tour that he will take in April. If there is an opportunity for UCP to either become a site or providing a list of participants, we would gladly assist.

The Family Center on Technology and Disability, UCP's Contract with the Office of Special Education Programs, U.S. Department of Education, has chosen six exemplary programs that are highly effective in (1) assisting families with their technology needs, (2) reflect innovation in the uses of technology, (3) excel in their responsiveness to individuals and their families, and (4) practice a commitment to collaboration.

The program sites that were chosen as exemplary programs include:
The Assistive Technology Library of Alaska (ATLA) in Anchorage, AK;
United Cerebral Palsy of Kansas (UCP-K)Purchase of Assistive Technology Project in Wichita, KS; Parents Helping Parents iTECH Center in Santa Clara, CA;
United Cerebral Palsy Associations of New Jersey (UCPA-NJ) in Trenton, NJ;
Assistive Technology Resource Center of Hawaii (ATRC) in Honolulu, HI; and
United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Suffolk Mobility Opportunities Via Education (MOVE) in Hapauge, NY.

If these sites do not match the scheduled stops, there are also several UCP Affiliates throughout the country that provide exemplary technology services.

UCP has always been dedicated to this critical issue and we are so pleased with the President's interest. Thanks for thinking of us.

Sincerely,

Susan Goodman

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Todd A. Bledsoe (CN=Todd A. Bledsoe/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 4-FEB-2000 17:17:50.00

SUBJECT: Digital divide

TO: jjones@state.de.us (jjones@state.de.us @ inet [OA])

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: mfeichter@state.de.us (mfeichter@state.de.us @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

The WH Press office has not released anything saying we're going to DE for a digital divide conference or anything else. At this point, the only digital divide travel we have planned will be sometime in April during another New markets tour, locations TBD.

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 4-FEB-2000 10:40:08.00

SUBJECT: Re: Clinton-Gore: From Digital Divide to Digital Opportunity

TO: "Paul W. Schroeder" <pws@afb.net> ("Paul W. Schroeder" <pws@afb.net> [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

I hear what you're saying. At the same time, did you pay attention to mention of other identity groups? There's virtually none there too. We need to be able to read disability into references to "all" children, communities, etc.

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 4-FEB-2000 10:42:53.00

SUBJECT: Re: Clinton-Gore: From Digital Divide to Digital Opportunity

TO: "Paul W. Schroeder" <pws@afb.net> ("Paul W. Schroeder" <pws@afb.net> [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

I've also forwarded your email to our policy person handling this initiative.

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jonathan M. Young (CN=Jonathan M. Young/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 4-FEB-2000 13:51:41.00

SUBJECT: RE: Clinton-Gore: From Digital Divide to Digital Opportunity

TO: mlaverdure@resna.org (mlaverdure@resna.org [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

i'll try to find the remarks.