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revised

__Health Care__. And, finally there is the President's strident efforts advocating improved access to affordable, quality health care. Principles that guided the President in 1992 continue to be self-evident. Yes, we made some mistakes in 1993. Yes, it was probably too ambitious. But talk about laying political capital on the line. Talk about paying a political price — the President and First Lady did just that on health care. What do we find today?

The number of uninsured Americans has increased to greater than 40 million, a problem Republicans said would resolve itself without health care reform. Still 40

The President recognized the need to make Medicare more efficient and balance the budget at the same time, but he sought to achieve those goals without endangering the quality of health care to beneficiaries. The problems that do exist with Medicare, the Republicans claim was non-existent in 1993. Today Republicans claim that only radical cuts in funding and in services (and, therefore, in quality) will save Medicare from bankruptcy. We have learned that a measured approach is a better course.

Wasn't it the Republicans just over a year ago that said the Clintons were advocating socialized medicine and that average Americans would not be able to choose their own doctors? ~~Aren't they now pushing old people, poor people, all people into HMOs and managed care?~~ The Democratic party has then, and continues to be the party of consumer choice. – to making sure Medicare offers choices, not coercion -- making sure man. care plans provide information to consumers

and quality care

We've fought to make sure

cut

too strong

existent in 1993. Today

revised

Wasn't it the Republicans who felt nothing should change in our health care system while the President and First Lady were promoting prevention, quality improvement, health delivery system efficiencies, and reducing paperwork as critical components of their agenda.

The President and First Lady, both of them, deserve the credit for seeing the problem and putting it at the top of the national agenda — risking enormous political capital to try and do something about it. Something that was far fairer than what the Republicans are now proposing.

Fortunately, some of what the President put forth in 1993 is, indeed, coming to pass. The passage of recent legislation to guarantee that insurers will cover individuals who are sick or disabled and guarantee insurance to those who are changing job. The President has promoted special initiatives to protect quality in our health care system, including our nursing homes, and advocated new methods of cost efficiency, ~~leading~~ contributing to the lowest health cost inflation rate in decades.

Also of great importance are the President's initiatives in the area of prevention. Whether it is teenage smoking, childhood immunizations, or breast cancer, the President has been there protecting Americans.

And lastly, this President has drawn a line against retreat from our guarantee of health care for the most vulnerable in our society - our children, our elderly, and our disabled. Because of the President, Medicare and Medicaid exist revised

today and will continue that guarantee of health security well into the next decade.

original

this was not in the national interest, that the Europeans should carry the burden, and that Americans should not be put at risk.

Enforcing the peace agreement in this deeply and bitterly divided area carries large risks, especially in an election year. However, not to provide leadership for the peace effort also carries the great risk eventually of a wider war that will ultimately embroil American troops. Thus, although a short term political calculation focused on re-election in 1996, might well argue against assisting our NATO allies in enforcing this peace agreement, the President felt that the long term interest of the country and Europe required our strong participation in this initiative.

Again, as he has done so many times on other difficult issues, the President put the national interest above political expediency.

/ Steve Gleason

10. Health Care: Finally, there is the President's universal health care initiative. Yes, we made a lot of mistakes. Yes, it was probably too ambitious. But talk about laying political capital on the line. Talk about paying a political price - - the President and the First Lady did just that on health care. And what do we find today? The problems the President and the First Lady identified then, the Republicans now claim they discovered. Wasn't it a Republican, just over a year ago, who said there was

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no health care crises? Now they claim that they are saving the medicare system from bankruptcy and destruction.

Wasn't it the Republicans who said just over a year ago that the Clintons were advocating socialised medicine and average Americans wouldn't be able to choose their doctors? Aren't they now pushing old people, poor people, all people into HMOs and managed care?

The President and the First Lady, both of them, deserve the credit for seeing the problem, putting it at the top of the national agenda and risking enormous political capital to try and do something about it, something that was fare fairer then what the Republicans are now proposing.

And the President has now drawn a line against retreat from our guarantee of health care for the most vulnerable in our society -- our children, our elderly and our disabled.

This is my top ten list of courageous decisions. Others might substitute Northern Ireland, the middle east peace, his opposition to California's proposition 187 during 1994, the environment, national service, funding of abortion services, welfare reform, to name a few. All of which might have great political risks or may have seemed to at the time he had to take a position.

draft convention remarks

earning a paycheck.

Let me tell you a story. Ten years ago, I met a woman from Little Rock named Lillie Harden who we had helped move from welfare to work. She told me, "The best thing about being off welfare is when my boy goes to school and they ask, 'What does your Momma do for a living?' he can give an answer." Today, Lillie Harden works in a grocery store. Her [son] is a physical therapist. Her daughter is an engineering student. And the boy she spoke about -- he goes to college. That is what work can do for every American family.

All of this progress will only come if we continue with our strategy for a growing economy. So our third goal for the Year 2000 is to make America a land where anybody who works hard can get ahead.

We have an economic growth strategy. It starts by strengthening the foundations of the free enterprise system. We have an economic and moral imperative to balance the budget, to not carry our debts over into the next century, to lift the burden of debt from our children. Balancing the budget would permanently lower interest rates, liberate capital, and open doors of opportunity to millions of Americans.

In the last four years, we have cut the deficit by more than half. Today, the government is its smallest size since 1965. Now we must finish the job. My balanced budget plan honors our values. It strengthens the education of our children. It protects the earth that God gave us. And it upholds America's guarantee of quality health care for poor children, people with disabilities, people with AIDS, and elderly Americans.

And let me make one more thing clear: I have not before, nor will I ever, allow Congress to use the threat of government shutdown to blackmail the American people into accepting devastating cuts in Medicare . . . or Medicaid . . . or education . . . or the environment.

It is my duty as President to protects the values and interests of the American people. So if they send their plan to me again, I will veto it again, and again, and again.

And we must give every American the ability to reap the rewards of our resurgent economy.

We should press on with our mission of giving Americans access to affordable, quality health care. Tonight I propose the next steps.

First, we should extend up to 6 months of health insurance to all those who are temporarily unemployed. If you lose your job, an illness at the wrong time should not wipe out your life's savings.

Second, we must make sure that the rapid spread of HMOs does not squeeze the quality of health care for millions of Americans. Today, too many HMOs gag their doctors from even telling patients their real options. Patients have a right to know they are getting the right treatment, not just the cheapest.

Women + children 48 [illegible] hour
514

Third, I want to let you in on a little secret in Washington. Presidents, Members of Congress, public servants all get to buy into the same quality and inexpensive health insurance plan. Yet too often the taxpayers who pay our way can't get the same deal. We should open up the doors to small business. We should pass a law that says to the insurance companies: if you want to sell health insurance to the federal government, you have to give a break to the American people as well.

And we should make sure that working families not only have health care but retirement security as well. Some in Congress want to make it easier for big corporations to raid the pensions of their employees -- just like the 1980s. I stopped them cold. To our parents who have worked hard for a lifetime, we say, rest easy: It's your money; you've earned it; we will protect it.

But the core of my plan for economic growth can be summed up in one word: education.

We must give our children the best public education on earth. We shouldn't abandon the public school system -- we should save it

By the Year 2000, every student should have to pass a rigorous test for a promotion or graduation, and tonight I propose that federal aid be cut off to schools that refuse to do it.

We should reward teachers when they do a good job, and remove those who don't. The process should be fair But all Americans agree -- teachers who don't measure up don't belong in the classroom.

Parents should be given the right to choose which public school their children will attend. And together with teachers, they should be able to form new charter schools that will stay open only if they do a good job.

And we cannot ask our children to learn in a landscape of peeling paint and broken glass. Before this century is out, we should increase school construction by at least 25%. Our teachers should not be asked to build strong lives on crumbling foundations.

And we know that the world of computers is transforming the way we learn. When this convention gathered four years ago, there was no such thing as a "web page" on the internet. Today, even my cat has one!

Let's put the future at our children's fingertips by connecting every classroom and library in America to the information superhighway by the Year 2000.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Jen,
i will get the source
for the 25 million helped
by K/K on Monday.

-sandy

Temporarily Unemployed Program

Distribution of Participants and Costs: By Income Quintile, 1997

(Participants in millions, dollars in billions)

estimated that 3 million people would benefit from WTI.

	Quintile 1	Quintile 2	Quintile 3	Quintile 4	Quintile 5	TOTAL
Participants	0.2	0.7	1.1	0.7	0.3	**3.0**
Percent of Participants	5.5%	23.4%	36.7%	23.7%	10.6%	**100%**
Costs	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.1	**1.8**
Percent of Costs	11.1%	36.4%	34.1%	13.7%	4.7%	**100%**

Participants and costs are for a full, calandar year 1997.

Quintiles based on monthly cash income.

Annualized quintiles (1996$):

1st quintile: $0-$8224

2nd quintile: $8250-$17374

3rd quintile: $17375-$30541

4th quintile: $30542-$49956

5th quintile: $49957 +

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Washington, D.C. 20212

medical care inflation was lower in 1995 (3.9%) than any other year since 1972 (3.3%) (over 2 decades)

Consumer Price Index

All Urban Consumers - (CPI-U)

U.S. city average

Medical care

1982-84=100

YEAR	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEP.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	SEMIANNUAL 1ST HALF	SEMIANNUAL 2ND HALF	AVG.	PERCENT CHANGE DEC-DEC	PERCENT CHANGE AVG-AVG
1970	32.7	33.0	33.3	33.5	33.7	33.9	34.2	34.3	34.5	34.6	34.7	35.0			34.0	7.4	6.6
1971	35.2	35.4	35.7	35.9	36.1	36.2	36.4	36.6	36.7	36.5	36.5	36.6			36.1	4.6	6.2
1972	36.7	36.9	37.0	37.1	37.2	37.3	37.4	37.4	37.5	37.7	37.8	37.8			37.3	3.3	3.3
1973	38.0	38.1	38.2	38.3	38.5	38.6	38.7	38.7	38.9	39.6	39.7	39.8			38.8	5.3	4.0
1974	40.0	40.4	40.8	41.0	41.4	42.1	42.6	43.3	43.7	44.0	44.3	44.8			42.4	12.6	9.3
1975	45.3	45.9	46.3	46.7	47.0	47.3	47.8	48.1	48.5	48.8	48.8	49.2			47.5	9.8	12.0
1976	49.7	50.3	50.8	51.1	51.4	51.7	52.2	52.6	52.9	53.2	53.9	54.1			52.0	10.0	9.5
1977	54.6	55.1	55.6	56.1	56.4	56.8	57.3	57.7	58.1	58.3	58.6	58.9			57.0	8.9	9.6
1978	59.5	60.1	60.4	60.7	61.1	61.3	61.8	62.3	62.7	63.3	63.9	64.1			61.8	8.3	8.4
1979	65.0	65.5	65.9	66.2	66.5	66.9	67.5	68.1	68.6	69.2	69.8	70.6			67.5	10.1	9.2
1980	71.5	72.6	73.3	73.8	74.2	74.5	75.1	75.6	76.2	76.8	77.3	77.6			74.9	9.9	11.0
1981	78.7	79.6	80.2	80.8	81.4	82.1	83.2	84.3	84.9	85.8	86.8	87.3			82.9	12.5	10.7
1982	88.2	89.0	89.8	90.6	91.2	91.9	92.9	93.8	94.6	95.4	96.3	96.9			92.5	11.0	11.6
1983	97.9	98.9	99.2	99.5	99.7	100.1	100.7	101.4	101.7	102.2	102.7	103.1			100.6	6.4	8.8
1984	104.0	105.1	105.4	105.8	106.1	106.4	107.1	107.5	107.9	108.5	109.1	109.4	105.5	108.3	106.8	6.1	6.2
1985	110.1	110.9	111.6	112.1	112.5	113.1	113.7	114.5	115.0	115.6	116.3	116.8	111.7	115.3	113.5	6.8	6.3
1986	117.7	118.9	119.9	120.5	121.0	121.6	122.4	123.2	123.8	124.5	125.2	125.8	119.9	124.2	122.0	7.7	7.5
1987	126.6	127.4	128.1	128.7	129.2	129.9	130.7	131.2	131.7	132.3	132.8	133.1	128.3	132.0	130.1	5.8	6.6
1988	134.4	135.5	136.3	136.9	137.5	138.2	139.3	139.9	140.4	141.2	141.8	142.3	136.5	140.8	138.6	6.9	6.5
1989	143.8	145.2	146.1	146.8	147.5	148.5	149.7	150.7	151.7	152.7	153.9	154.4	146.3	152.2	149.3	8.5	7.7
1990	155.9	157.5	158.7	159.8	160.8	161.9	163.5	165.0	165.8	167.1	168.4	169.2	159.1	166.5	162.8	9.6	9.0
1991	171.0	172.5	173.7	174.4	175.2	176.2	177.5	178.9	179.7	180.7	181.8	182.6	173.8	180.2	177.0	7.9	8.7
1992	184.3	186.2	187.3	188.1	188.7	189.4	190.7	191.5	192.3	193.3	194.3	194.7	187.3	192.8	190.1	6.6	7.4
1993	196.4	198.0	198.6	199.4	200.5	201.1	202.2	202.9	203.3	204.4	204.9	205.2	199.0	203.8	201.4	5.4	5.9
1994	206.4	207.7	208.3	209.2	209.7	210.4	211.5	212.2	212.8	214.0	214.7	215.3	208.6	213.4	211.0	4.9	4.8
1995	216.6	217.9	218.4	218.9	219.3	219.8	220.8	221.6	222.1	222.9	223.5	223.8	218.5	222.5	220.5	3.9	4.5

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Consumer Price Index

All Urban Consumers - (CPI-U)

U.S. city average

Medical care

1982-84=100

													SEMIANNUAL			PERCENT CHANGE	
YEAR	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEP.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	1ST HALF	2ND HALF	AVG.	DEC-DEC	AVG-AVG
1996	225.2	226.2	226.6	227.0	227.4	227.8											

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Consumer Price Index

All Urban Consumers - (CPI-U)

U.S. city average

All items

1982-84=100

YEAR	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEP.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	SEMIANNUAL 1ST HALF	SEMIANNUAL 2ND HALF	AVG.	PERCENT CHANGE DEC-DEC	PERCENT CHANGE AVG-AVG
1970	37.8	38.0	38.2	38.5	38.6	38.8	39.0	39.0	39.2	39.4	39.6	39.8			38.8	5.6	5.7
1971	39.8	39.9	40.0	40.1	40.3	40.6	40.7	40.8	40.8	40.9	40.9	41.1			40.5	3.3	4.4
1972	41.1	41.3	41.4	41.5	41.6	41.7	41.9	42.0	42.1	42.3	42.4	42.5			41.8	3.4	3.2
1973	42.6	42.9	43.3	43.6	43.9	44.2	44.3	45.1	45.2	45.6	45.9	46.2			44.4	8.7	6.2
1974	46.6	47.2	47.8	48.0	48.6	49.0	49.4	50.0	50.6	51.1	51.5	51.9			49.3	12.3	11.0
1975	52.1	52.5	52.7	52.9	53.2	53.6	54.2	54.3	54.6	54.9	55.3	55.5			53.8	6.9	9.1
1976	55.6	55.8	55.9	56.1	56.5	56.8	57.1	57.4	57.6	57.9	58.0	58.2			56.9	4.9	5.8
1977	58.5	59.1	59.5	60.0	60.3	60.7	61.0	61.2	61.4	61.6	61.9	62.1			60.6	6.7	6.5
1978	62.5	62.9	63.4	63.9	64.5	65.2	65.7	66.0	66.5	67.1	67.4	67.7			65.2	9.0	7.6
1979	68.3	69.1	69.8	70.6	71.5	72.3	73.1	73.8	74.6	75.2	75.9	76.7			72.6	13.3	11.3
1980	77.8	78.9	80.1	81.0	81.8	82.7	82.7	83.3	84.0	84.8	85.5	86.3			82.4	12.5	13.5
1981	87.0	87.9	88.5	89.1	89.8	90.6	91.6	92.3	93.2	93.4	93.7	94.0			90.9	8.9	10.3
1982	94.3	94.6	94.5	94.9	95.8	97.0	97.5	97.7	97.9	98.2	98.0	97.6			96.5	3.8	6.2
1983	97.8	97.9	97.9	98.6	99.2	99.5	99.9	100.2	100.7	101.0	101.2	101.3			99.6	3.8	3.2
1984	101.9	102.4	102.6	103.1	103.4	103.7	104.1	104.5	105.0	105.3	105.3	105.3	102.9	104.9	103.9	3.9	4.3
1985	105.5	106.0	106.4	106.9	107.3	107.6	107.8	108.0	108.3	108.7	109.0	109.3	106.6	108.5	107.6	3.8	3.6
1986	109.6	109.3	108.8	108.6	108.9	109.5	109.5	109.7	110.2	110.3	110.4	110.5	109.1	110.1	109.6	1.1	1.9
1987	111.2	111.6	112.1	112.7	113.1	113.5	113.8	114.4	115.0	115.3	115.4	115.4	112.4	114.9	113.6	4.4	3.6
1988	115.7	116.0	116.5	117.1	117.5	118.0	118.5	119.0	119.8	120.2	120.3	120.5	116.8	119.7	118.3	4.4	4.1
1989	121.1	121.6	122.3	123.1	123.8	124.1	124.4	124.6	125.0	125.6	125.9	126.1	122.7	125.3	124.0	4.6	4.8
1990	127.4	128.0	128.7	128.9	129.2	129.9	130.4	131.6	132.7	133.5	133.8	133.8	128.7	132.6	130.7	6.1	5.4
1991	134.6	134.8	135.0	135.2	135.6	136.0	136.2	136.6	137.2	137.4	137.8	137.9	135.2	137.2	136.2	3.1	4.2
1992	138.1	138.6	139.3	139.5	139.7	140.2	140.5	140.9	141.3	141.8	142.0	141.9	139.2	141.4	140.3	2.9	3.0
1993	142.6	143.1	143.6	144.0	144.2	144.4	144.4	144.8	145.1	145.7	145.8	145.8	143.7	145.3	144.5	2.7	3.0
1994	146.2	146.7	147.2	147.4	147.5	148.0	148.4	149.0	149.4	149.5	149.7	149.7	147.2	149.3	148.2	2.7	2.6
1995	150.3	150.9	151.4	151.9	152.2	152.5	152.5	152.9	153.2	153.7	153.6	153.5	151.5	153.2	152.4	2.5	2.8

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Consumer Price Index

All Urban Consumers - (CPI-U)

U.S. city average

All items

1982-84=100

													SEMIANNUAL			PERCENT CHANGE	
YEAR	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEP.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	1ST HALF	2ND HALF	AVG.	DEC-DEC	AVG-AVG
1996	154.4	154.9	155.7	156.3	156.6	156.7											