

10/12/00 11:42

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ASMB BUDGET OFC.

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language

Appropriations Bill Language

To be added to the Child Care and Development Block Grant appropriations section:

Child Care and Development Block Grant

2000
1999
Provided further, in addition to the amounts already appropriated for fiscal year ~~1999~~, \$180,000,000 is available consistent with the purpose of 658G to improve the quality of child care.

Appropriations Report Language

2000
1999
The managers have provided an additional \$180,000,000 in FY~~1999~~ for activities that will improve the quality of child care. It is recommended that States use the additional funds to enhance State programs of standards enforcement to help improve child care licensing systems, to enforce State child care health and safety standards, to promote better licensing and accreditation and to ensure the health and safety of all children in child care. It is further recommended that States use these additional funds to raise the quality of child care personnel through State child care scholarship funds as well as fund research demonstration and evaluation projects that seek to determine methods of raising the quality of child care for low-income families. The Secretary shall report back to the Congress no later than 18 months from the enactment of this provision on State experience with improving the quality of child care programs. These funds are to be in addition to funds States are required to reserve under 658G of the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1981 (The Child Care Development Block Grant of 1990).



DATE: _____

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
200 INDEPENDENCE AVE., SW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

PHONE: (202) 690-6311

FAX: (202) 690-

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEGISLATION
HUMAN SERVICES LEGISLATION
ROOM 413 H HUMPHREY BUILDING

FROM:

TO:	:	<u>Nicole</u>	[] MARY BOURDETTE
OFFICE	:	_____	[] BARBARA CLARK
ROOM NO	:	_____	[] GREG JONES
PHONE NO	:	_____	[] PATRICIA BRAVO
FAX NO	:	<u>456-2878</u>	[] LAUREN HIGGINS
			[] SARA COSTIN
			[] CHRISTY QUIGLEY
			[] LULA BARNES

TOTAL PAGES
INCLUDING COVER: 2

REMARKS

Ken's my retype with
correcting last
sentence.

Please listen to my last
voice mail for
Judy

Appropriations Bill language

To be added to the Child Care and Development Block Grant appropriations section:

Child Care and Development Block Grant

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Report Language:

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10/13/98

FAX COVER



Income Maintenance Branch

Office of Management and Budget
Executive Office of the President
Washington, D.C. 20503



To:

Ten Klein / Nicole Rubin

Organization:

Fax Number:

6-255-7417

From:

Date/Time:

Number of Pages:

Cover + 1

Notes:

*Barbara got the letter and is
is renewing. Without record keeping,
it's not clear to me what the
\$180 would be for.*

Income Maintenance Fax Number: (202) 395-0851

Voice Confirmation: (202) 395-4686

Child Care Development Block Grant

To: Kieffer
Dennis
Chow
Gore?

Administration's proposed language:

Provided, further in addition to the amounts already appropriated for fiscal year 2000, \$180,000,000 is available consistent with the purpose of 658G to improve the quality of child care.

Suggested Compromise:

Provided, further in addition to the amounts already appropriated for fiscal year 2000, \$180,000,000 is available consistent with the purpose of the Child Care Development Block Grant.

and

DRAFT MANAGERS LANGUAGE

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 9, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR JACK LEW

FROM: MELANNE VERVEER

SUBJECT: Child Care and Appropriations Negotiations

This memo is to follow up on our conversation of yesterday. As appropriations negotiations proceed, I want to thank you again for your attention to child care and to convey our position on child care funding priorities. The DPC and NEC agree with the following assessment.

First and foremost, we should fight to get the full amount (\$182 million) or, preferably, more of our discretionary child care request. It is important that this money be appropriated without unreasonable strings of later authorization. While we are pleased with the positive prospects for the class size reduction initiative, we should be mindful that, in our budget request, child care and class size were paid for from the same pot, tobacco revenue, and were proposed with similar funding levels. Therefore, we should be sensitive to the perception that the Administration is pushing harder for education than for child care.

Second, once the funding level is secure, our priority list for how it should be spent is as follows:

- (1) To support the three discretionary programs of our budget proposal -- scholarships, standards enforcement, and research.
- (2) Targeted in the CCDBG to quality improvements in one of two ways: (a) by adding it to the Harkin infant-toddler fund created in the FY 1998 budget; or (b) by adding it to the overall quality set-aside (*i.e.* to the 4 percent floor, with protections against supplantation).
- (3) Added to the CCDBG for subsidies.

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WASHINGTON

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- (3) Added to the CCDBG for subsidies.

The \$180 million: Quality versus Subsidies

October 9, 1998

✓

DPC, OFL, NEC and HHS agree that our priorities regarding the \$180 million should be as follows:

1. Our three programs
 2. Directing the \$180 million to quality in one of two ways: a) adding it to the Harkin infant-toddler money using the FY 1998 report language (preferred suboption); or b) adding it to the overall quality set-aside (i.e., to the 4 percent floor, with protections against supplantation).
 3. Subsidies
- Adding the \$180 million to the quality set-aside would more than double the level of spending on quality (from about \$120 million to \$300 million) whereas \$180 million represents only about a 6 percent increase in funding for subsidies.
 - The argument has been made that if the dollars go for subsidies, we at least know what we're buying. **This implicitly assumes that all child care purchased with subsidy money is of at least mediocre quality.** Unfortunately, this is not the case.

Three multi-site studies conducted between 1988 and 1994, including the highly regarded *Cost, Quality and Child Outcomes in Child Care Centers*, found that only 12 to 14 percent of children in care are in arrangements that promote their growth and learning, while 12 to 21 percent are in settings that are unsafe and actually impair their development. For infants and toddlers, the percentage of poor/unsafe settings is much higher -- 40 percent (*Florida Child Care Quality Improvement Study: Interim Report*, Howes, Smith, Galinsky, Families and Work Institute, 1995).

- The President's child care initiative included significant investments in both subsidies and quality, **because it makes little sense to spend more money on care that is in many cases substandard** (this is also, of course, an argument for the three discretionary programs we proposed).

Children in higher quality settings develop receptive language more rapidly, have superior math skills, engage in more complex play with both objects and other children and exhibit fewer behavior problems (both at the time and upon entering school). Studies have found that the impacts on social skills and academic performance persist into elementary school (*Are They in Any Real Danger*, Love *et. al.*, Mathematica Policy Research, 1996)

As noted in the CEA paper on early learning: “children who receive care in quality centers tend to be less distracted and more task-oriented, considerate, happy and socially competent in elementary school. They are more self-confident, proficient in language, advanced in cognitive development and make better academic progress. Conversely, children in poor quality programs risk the development of poor school skills and heightened aggression.”

- Administration policy is that spending on child care quality is both beneficial and necessary, and our stance on the Hill should reflect that policy.

LIST OF SUGGESTIONS: ACTIVITIES TO INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF QUALITY CARE FOR INFANTS/TODDLERS

Ensuring that families have access to safe, affordable and high quality child care appropriate for infants and toddlers is a top priority for the Child Care Bureau and the Department. We know that many of States, Tribes and communities have implemented innovative and promising practices for infants and toddlers. We offer these suggestions for your consideration as you explore options for increasing the supply of quality care for infants and toddlers. This list is not intended to be a complete list of possible activities.

HEALTH CONSULTATION IN CHILD CARE & OTHER HEALTHY CHILD CARE AMERICA CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES

Rationale: The vulnerability of infants and toddlers to injuries and infections as well as their rapid change in behavior makes regular and frequent visits and contacts by health consultation extremely important to the quality of their care. However, many child care providers caring for infants have little or no access to health consultation.

Suggestions:

- Outstation health consultants in child care resource and referral agencies to provide health consultation to child care programs caring for infants and toddlers.
- Establish a "warm line" with a toll-free number where health consultants respond to inquiries from infant and toddler care providers.
- Develop a network of health consultants to provide technical assistance, training, and disseminate information to infant and toddler providers on a regular basis.
- Support collaborative activities underway in the 48 States, the District of Columbia, Republic of Palau and Puerto Rico to improve the health and safety of children in child care. Linking the child care and health community can help ensure that infants and toddlers are cared for in a safe environment and receive the health services they need.

MONITORING OF CHILD CARE PROGRAMS

Rationale: Frequent visits to child care programs caring for infants and toddlers can help ensure that programs are meeting state and local requirements as well as implementing appropriate child care practices for infants and toddlers.

Suggestions:

- Utilize state licensing or monitoring specialist to provide technical assistance during or as a follow-up to the licensing inspections.
- Increase monitoring and unannounced inspections of child care settings.

FAMILY CHILD CARE NETWORKS:

Rationale: Infants and toddlers are more likely to be cared for in family child care homes for a variety of reasons: home-like environment, close proximity to the child's home, flexibility in the hours of operation, meeting the needs of parents working nontraditional hours.

Suggestion:

- Develop networks to provide outreach, technical assistance and ongoing support to family child care providers.

TRAINING CURRICULUM

Rationale: Pre-service and continuous training of providers will provide the knowledge and skills needed to appropriately care for infants and toddlers.

Suggestions:

- Invest in pre-service and ongoing training that includes the care and development of infants and toddlers, and the identification of children exposed to violence or who are victims of child abuse and neglect.
- Partner with mental health services to provide support and training to providers caring for infants with psychological, emotional or behavioral problems.
- Partner with accredited institutions, health centers, nursing schools as a resource to educate and provide on-going training to providers.
- Recruit and train providers caring for infants and toddlers with disabilities.
- Provide support to providers for integrating infants with special needs into child care.

SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANTS

Rationale: Financial assistance can enable providers to obtain on-going training and education.

Suggestion:

- Provide grants and scholarships to assist providers with meeting accreditation standards or health and safety requirements.

MENTOR PROGRAMS

Rationale: Mentoring programs can help build an infrastructure to support and promote the healthy development of infants and toddlers.

Suggestions:

- Develop mentoring programs for infant and toddler providers using accredited centers or organizations, Head Start Programs, licensing staff and the Department of Defense (DoD) program.
- Provide opportunities and resources to train providers to interact with teen parents as part of the child care experience to promote parent involvement.

STAFF-TO-CHILD RATIO

Rationale: Lower ratios make infant and toddler care more costly than care provided for older children.

Suggestion:

- Set higher reimbursement rates for providers caring for infants and toddlers.

CONTINUITY OF CARE FOR INFANTS/TODDLERS

Rationale: Continuity of care is important to the emotional and physical development of infants and toddlers.

Suggestions:

- Fund demonstration projects that promote practices to allow infants to remain with the same provider throughout the first three years.
- Increase wages for providers caring for infants and toddlers to reduce the high turnover rates.

CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND REFERRAL AGENCIES

Rationale: There are over 500 CCR&R programs in 49 States. They maintain databases on all legally operating child care and have on-going access to parents and providers. Each year CCR&Rs train nearly 350,000 individuals who work in child care programs.

Suggestion:

- Partner with Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies to: train providers, conduct Medicaid outreach to ensure that infants and toddlers receive preventive care, and to expand the recruitment of infant and toddler providers.

KITH AND KIN CHILD CARE

Rationale: According to a report released by the Commerce Department's Census Bureau, families with working mothers most often rely on fathers, grandparents and other relatives for primary care of children under the age of 5.

Suggestion:

- Partner with child care resource and referral or other child care organizations to develop and implement a project to provide information, training, outreach to informal care providers.

LINKAGES WITH DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DoD) CHILD CARE PROGRAMS

Rationale: In an executive memorandum dated April 17, 1997 the President directed the Department of Defense to share the military child care expertise with the civilian child care programs. In response to the directive DoD has established a 1-800 number (1-888-CDP-3040) for programs to order DoD training materials and to receive information on local DoD installation programs.

Suggestion:

- Partner with the Department of Defense for staff training and monitoring of child care programs.

LINKAGES WITH EARLY HEAD START PROGRAMS

Rationale: Early Head Start (EHS) programs provide comprehensive child development and family support services to low-income families with children under age three. EHS will provide training to new and existing grantees through a national Infant/Toddler Training and Technical Assistance Network.

Suggestions:

- Partner with EHS to train child care providers caring for infants and toddlers.
- Partner with EHS to increase the supply of high quality child care for infants and toddlers.
- Partner with EHS to enhance program services to child care programs caring for infants and toddlers.

PURCHASE EQUIPMENT/MATERIALS

Rationale: New recruits or current providers may need start-up or set-up materials to provide a safe and nurturing setting for infants and toddlers.

Suggestions:

- Provide mini-grants to providers for the purchase of equipment and materials such as cribs, toys and developmental supplies.
- Provide mini-grants to help providers meet health and safety standards.

CHILD CARE SUBSTITUTES

Rationale: Program funding and working long hours to meet the demands of working parents, does not allow providers time to participate in training and education.

Suggestions:

- Provide financial assistance to programs caring for infants and toddlers. The funding will allow the programs to hire substitutes to care for children while staff participate in training and education.
- Train substitutes to care for infants and toddlers.

Simplified Child Care Language

Option 1: Allow states to use \$150M on enforcement and/or scholarships, as they wish. Leave \$30M for HHS. Note that language on enforcement and scholarships is also simpler.

: provided further, that \$180,000,000 is available consistent with the purposes of Section 658G to improve the quality and availability of child care through improvements in health and safety standards enforcement activities and through scholarships for child care providers. Provided further, that \$30,000,000 of the \$180,000,000 shall be available to the Secretary for child care research, demonstration and evaluation activities (directly or by grants or contracts), consumer education, and a child care parent hotline.

Option 2: Reduce or eliminate HHS set aside for research.

1 of the request as an emergency requirement as defined in
2 the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act.

3 REFUGEE AND ENTRANT ASSISTANCE

4 For making payments for refugee and entrant assist-
5 ance activities authorized by title IV of the Immigration
6 and Nationality Act and section 501 of the Refugee Edu-
7 cation Assistance Act of 1980 (Public Law 96-422),
8 \$415,000,000: *Provided*, That funds appropriated pursu-
9 ant to section 414(a) of the Immigration and Nationality
10 Act under Public Law 104-208 for fiscal year 1997 shall
11 be available for the costs of assistance provided and other
12 activities conducted in such year and in fiscal years 1998
13 and 1999.

14 CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

15 For carrying out sections 658A through 658R of the
16 Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 (The Child
17 Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990), to be-
18 come available on October 1, 1999 and remain available
19 through September 30, 2000, \$1,182,672,000: *Provided*,
20 That \$19,120,000 shall be available for child care resource
21 and referral and school-aged child care activities: *Provided*
22 *further*, That of the funds provided, \$50,000,000 shall be
23 reserved for each of ~~fiscal years 1999 and 2000~~ *such fiscal year* by the
24 States for activities authorized under section 658G of the
25 Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 (The Child
26 Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990), such

Senate bill

*Under this Act
Ord. P.L.
105-78*

1 funds to be in addition to the amounts required to be re-
2 served by States under section 658G.

3 SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

4 For making grants to States pursuant to section
5 2002 of the Social Security Act, \$1,909,000,000: *Pro-*
6 *vided*, That (1) notwithstanding section 2003(c) of such
7 Act, as amended, the amount specified for allocation under
8 such section for fiscal year 1999 shall be \$1,909,000,000
9 and (2) notwithstanding subparagraph (B) of section
10 404(d)(2) of such Act, the applicable percent specified
11 under such subparagraph for a State for fiscal year 1999
12 shall be the percent of the State grant under section
13 403(a) of such Act for fiscal year 1998 transferred in fis-
14 cal year 1998 to the State program under title XX of such
15 Act.

16 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS

17 (INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

18 For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, the
19 Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, the Developmental
20 Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, the Head
21 Start Act, the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act
22 (including section 105(a)(2) of the Child Abuse Prevention
23 and Treatment Act), the Native American Programs Act
24 of 1974, title II of Public Law 95-266 (adoption opportu-
25 nities), the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (Pub-
26 lic Law 105-89), the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Last years language

For carrying out sections 658A through 658R of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 (The Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990), in addition to amounts already appropriated for fiscal year 1998, \$65,672,000; and to become available on October 1, 1998 and remain available through September 30, 1999, \$1,000,000,000: Provided, That of funds appropriated for each of fiscal years 1998 and 1999, \$19,120,000 shall be available for child care resource and referral and school-aged child care activities, of which for fiscal year 1998 \$3,000,000 shall be derived from an amount that shall be transferred from the amount appropriated under section 452(j) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 652(j)) for fiscal year 1997 and remaining available for expenditure: Provided further, That of the funds provided for fiscal year 1998, \$50,000,000 shall be reserved by the States for activities authorized under section 658G of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 (The Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990), such funds to be in addition to the amounts required to be reserved by States under such section 658G.

SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

For making grants to States pursuant to section 2002 of the Social Security Act, \$2,299,000,000: Provided, That notwithstanding section 2003(c) of such Act, as amended, the amount specified for allocation under such section for fiscal year 1998 shall be \$2,299,000,000.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS
(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, the Head Start Act, the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, (including section 105(a)(2) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act), the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, the Native American Programs Act of 1974, title II of Public Law 95-266 (adoption opportunities), the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988, part B(1) of title IV and sections 413, 429A and 1110 of the Social Security Act; for making payments under the Community Services Block Grant Act; and for necessary administrative expenses to carry out said Acts and titles I, IV, X, XI, XIV, XVI, and XX of the Social Security Act, the Act of July 5, 1960 (24 U.S.C. ch. 9), the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981, title IV of the Immigration and Nationality Act, section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980, and section 126 and titles IV and V of Public Law 100-485, \$5,682,916,000, of which \$542,165,000 shall be for making payments under the Community Services Block Grant Act, and of which \$4,355,000,000 shall be for making payments under the Head Start Act: Provided, That of the funds made available for the Head Start Act, \$279,250,000 shall be set aside for the Head Start Program for Families with Infants and Toddlers (Early Head Start):

Little Progress for G.O.P. and White House on Spending Bills

By KATHARINE Q. SEELYE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8 — With their deadline just hours away, Congressional Republicans and the White House made little progress today toward resolving their differences over the must-pass spending bills needed to keep the Government open.

Aides said that up to 150 matters were on the table, about a dozen of them major but all of them needing attention, and that new issues were cropping up by the minute as the impeachment vote dominated the stage and members sought to slip in pet projects. These included such items as extending patent periods on various drugs, subsidizing importers of fine wool and increasing military pensions.

"Today was a day that we slipped backwards," said one top Democratic aide.

With the Senate's vote today to pass the bill financing the veterans affairs and housing programs, Congress has still cleared only 6 of the 13 spending bills in advance of the midnight Friday deadline, when temporary financing of the Government runs out. Both sides are expected to agree on Friday to extend the temporary financing for at least a day or two.

Republican leaders in both the House and Senate were scrambling behind the scenes and in negotiations with the White House to piece together the remaining bills, while in public, the House voted to begin an impeachment inquiry of the President and the Senate addressed matters unrelated to spending.

In a kind of surreal reminder of his power as President, Mr. Clinton, on the eve of the impeachment vote, set the appropriations back a notch by vetoing one of the six spending bills that Congress had cleared. This was the measure on agriculture matters and disaster relief for farmers.

Mr. Clinton said in his veto message that he wanted more money for farmers, but the veto, which he signed just before midnight Wednesday, was widely perceived as a last-minute attempt to please Democrats from farm states before they voted on impeachment.

Administration officials said Mr. Clinton wanted to give Congress time to fix the matter before the Friday deadline. It struck Republicans as odd, though, that he would veto the bill since Congress had put more money into the agriculture bill than he had requested; it was only after Democrats said they wanted more that the President joined the cause.

With time running out, Republican leaders said they would not try to override the agriculture veto but would roll the bill into the ever-expanding omnibus package that will contain other contentious issues.

But they did agree tentatively to meet some of the President's more publicized demands, including providing money for fuel assistance for low-income people, for summer jobs and for child care.

For most of the day, House leaders were sequestered in closed-door sessions deciding what to include in the omnibus and what to exclude, leaving many members to gesture with futility toward the Speaker's office and say in a phrase repeated throughout the Capitol that all decisions were above their pay grade.

The House, which has yet to act on six spending bills, voted on none today. The Senate, which has seven spending bills outstanding, easily passed the bill covering veterans affairs and housing but never got around to the next spending bill on its docket, the one covering the Treasury Department and the United States Postal Service.

The fact that so many bills remain unmoved at this point in the process was a sign of how deeply divided Republicans are among themselves, between the two houses and from the Administration.

Perhaps the most contentious bill, despite some progress today, is the one financing labor, health, human services and education. This is the first time since Congress started funding these agencies together more than 40 years ago that both houses appeared unlikely to pass the labor and health bill.

Hang-ups include millions of dollars that President Clinton wants for education, including 100,000 teachers and expanded after-school programs. The President also wants na-

tional testing for students, but the bill bars any steps toward that.

Complicating the outlook for the bill is a proposal floating in the Senate to add a tobacco-related measure that would prevent the Federal Government from receiving any of the money that states receive from tobacco settlements.

Another difficult bill is the one financing the Interior Department, which has passed the House but not the Senate. The President has warned for months that he would veto the bill if it retained the numerous "riders" that he calls anti-environmental.

These include provisions to increase nationwide timber sales, to allow clearcutting in Alaska's Tongass National Forest, to allow roads to be built through wilderness in Alaska's Isembek National Wildlife Refuge and across wetlands in Alaska, to halt plans to reintroduce the grizzly bear into the Selway-Bitteroot system in Idaho and Montana and to mandate the renewal of grazing permits on land owned by the Bureau of Land Management.

Potential roadblocks to agreements on other bills include a measure that the Administration says would weaken the background

checks in purchases of handguns, bar the use of money to study global climate change and deny aid to international family-planning groups that use their own money to advocate abortion rights.

Many Republicans said that while numerous problems loomed, especially over big topics like the census and the money for the International Monetary Fund, they expected to work them out rather than shut down the Government. With the impeachment vote over, members are increasingly anxious to get home to campaign for the November elections.

Representative John Porter, Republican of Illinois and chairman of the labor subcommittee of the appropriations committee, said his committee still had 25 issues to resolve. But Mr. Porter said a Government shutdown was highly unlikely, mainly because of the negotiating skill of Erskine B. Bowles, the President's chief of staff.

"A shutdown has receded as a possibility because of the way Erskine Bowles has approached the discussion," Mr. Porter said.

Administration officials, including Jack Lew, the director of the Office of Management and Budget, and Lawrence Stein, the Administration's liaison with Congress, were meeting tonight with Speaker Newt

Gingrich and others.

In another part of the Capitol, Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin was trying to strike a deal under which Republicans would agree to full financing of the International Monetary Fund. Republicans want to impose conditions on the lending agency in exchange for \$18 billion to shore up its reserves.

Representative Sonny Callahan, Republican of Alabama and chairman of the foreign operations subcommittee of the appropriations committee, said a deal "could materialize tonight or tomorrow." But this matter too is likely to be tossed into the omnibus package, which would be presented to the President on a take-it-or-leave-it basis.

The New York Times

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1998

Senate Rivals Try to Juggle Duties and Denunciations

By JAMES DAO

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8 — At the Republican National Committee on Second Street, allies of Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato held a news conference today to chide Representative Charles E. Schumer, Mr. D'Amato's Democratic challenger, for missing 90 percent of the House Judiciary Committee's votes this year.

"Al D'Amato, the tough campaigner, is staying here in Washington doing his job and making his votes, while Schumer is running around the state campaigning at taxpayer expense," said Representative Peter T. King, a Republican from Nassau County.

Barely two hours later, at the Democratic National Committee on South Capitol Street, Mr. Schumer and two Democratic senators attacked Mr. D'Amato for opposing gun control and accepting \$36,000 in campaign contributions from the National Rifle Association during his 18 years in the Senate.

"Al D'Amato has done everything that the National Rifle Association has asked for," Mr. Schumer said. "If there were ever a clearer case of a senator from New York siding with the special interests rather than the people's interests, I haven't seen it."

Clinched in one of the nation's

closest Senate races this year, Mr. Schumer and Mr. D'Amato have brought their bare-fisted campaigns 350 miles south to Capitol Hill, where Congress is rushing to finish an overflowing schedule by this weekend.

The Congress's end-of-the-session sprint has produced an odd and awkward geographic challenge to the candidates, who are trying to conduct their legislative business while grabbing the attention of voters and news media that are at least a 60-minute plane ride away.

Both candidates have sought to make the most of this juggling act all week. But while this has been something of a new task for Mr. Schumer, it is very much in keeping with the style of Mr. D'Amato, who has focused his time, and public relations efforts, on Washington all year.

The differences say much about the two men's contrasting political needs. Mr. Schumer, largely unknown in large swaths of the state, has needed to campaign more than Mr. D'Amato back home. And Mr. D'Amato, facing a candidate who is running on his lengthy legislative résumé, has sought to cast himself as the state's most effective legislator, someone who gets bills passed against the odds.

So it is that in recent weeks, as

Mr. Schumer has been traveling about New York, Mr. D'Amato has ensconced himself in Washington, testifying for acid rain legislation, helping negotiate a sweeping banking bill, and speaking at a commemorative event for Nelson Mandela, the South African President.

Ever the nimble-footed politi-

D'Amato and Schumer battle on Capitol Hill.

cian, Mr. D'Amato has also tried to seize on Mr. Schumer's spotty attendance record by citing it in television commercials, news conferences by surrogates and campaign remarks as evidence that the Congressman "puts politics ahead of people."

Mr. D'Amato's aides say the strategy is intended to strike at the heart of what Mr. Schumer considers his strongest political asset: his legislative record and widely accepted reputation as an effective lawmaker. The aides say they think they can also cast Mr. Schumer as a publicity-grabbing opportunist.

But Mr. Schumer's aides contend that Mr. D'Amato's Washington campaign is really intended to mask what they consider the Senator's greatest liabilities: a lack of interest in legislation, a reputation for placing politics ahead of policy and high negative ratings among many New Yorkers.

The Democratic strategists contend that Mr. D'Amato is so concerned about his weak approval ratings that he has done his best to avoid public events in New York, even to the point of not appearing in his own television commercials.

"The man's been there 18 years," said Hank Morris, Mr. Schumer's media consultant. "He has a negative rating. And his handlers are smart enough that they don't want to remind people of him. He knows he can't win an up or down vote on him. He has to try to turn this into two bad choices."

Mr. D'Amato's campaign today released a study of the Judiciary Committee votes Mr. Schumer had missed, showing that he had participated in only 21 of 267 votes this year. Among those he missed were votes on bills dealing with sexual abuse of children, anti-drug-abuse programs and parents who fail to pay child support.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

October 2, 1998
(House Floor)

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY

(THIS STATEMENT HAS BEEN COORDINATED BY OMB WITH THE CONCERNED AGENCIES.)

H.R. 4274 -- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, FY 1999

(Sponsors: Livingston (R), Louisiana; Porter (R), Illinois)

This Statement of Administration Policy provides the Administration's views on H.R. 4274, the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 1999, as reported by the House Appropriations Committee. Your consideration of the Administration's views would be appreciated.

Due to the very serious funding and language issues present in the Committee bill, discussed below, the President would veto the bill in its current form. The manager's amendment made in order in the rule is wholly inadequate in addressing these concerns.

The only way to achieve the appropriate investment level for programs funded by this bill is to offset discretionary spending by using savings in other areas. The President's FY 1999 Budget proposes levels of discretionary spending for FY 1999 that conform to the Bipartisan Budget Agreement by making savings through user fees and certain mandatory programs to help finance this spending. In the Transportation Equity Act, Congress -- on a broad, bipartisan basis -- took similar action in approving funding for surface transportation programs paid for with mandatory offsets. In addition, this year, as in the past, such mandatory offsets have been approved by the House and the Senate in other appropriations bills. We want to work with the Congress on mutually-agreeable mandatory and other offsets that could be used to increase funding for high-priority discretionary programs, including those funded by this bill. In addition, we hope that the House will reduce funding for lower priority discretionary programs and redirect funding to programs of higher priority.

Department of Education

The Committee bill cuts \$2 billion from the President's overall request for education program funding. As a result, the bill does not adequately support the Nation's efforts to raise student achievement, make schools safe, and improve the capabilities of teachers. High priority programs inadequately funded include (listed in bill order):

- Goals 2000. Funding for Goals 2000 is cut \$255 million below the President's request, which would reverse momentum in all 50 States to raise academic standards and deny 6,000 schools serving over three million students the funds needed to implement innovative education reforms.

- School-to-Work. School-to-Work is cut by a total of \$100 million (between the Departments of Education and Labor) below the President's \$250 million request, which would seriously hamper all States' efforts to help young people of all backgrounds move from high school to careers or postsecondary training and education.
- Technology in Education. The Committee's \$137 million reduction from the request would make it increasingly difficult for States to meet school children's education technology needs, especially in training teachers to integrate educational technology into their curriculum effectively.
- Title I (Education for the Disadvantaged) Grants to Local Educational Agencies. The Committee bill cuts \$392 million from the request, which would leave nearly 520,000 students in high-poverty communities without the extra help they need to master the basics and develop the capability to reach high academic standards.
- Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities. The Committee's \$50 million reduction would deny funding for School Coordinators in nearly one-half of the Nation's middle schools needed to implement effective drug and violence prevention programs.
- Education Opportunity Zones. The Committee bill does not provide the requested \$200 million, which would deny high-poverty urban and rural districts the extra assistance they need to implement effective reforms with tough accountability for performance.
- America Reads. America Reads is denied the \$210 million provided in last year's Bipartisan Budget Agreement for children's literacy and denied the additional \$50 million the President requested. These funds would prevent thousands of young children from receiving the extra help they need to learn to read well and independently by the end of the third grade.
- Bilingual Education. The Committee has cut by \$25 million the President's plan for training teachers to help limited-English proficient children.
- Work-Study. Roughly 57,000 needy students would be denied the opportunity to work to finance their college education because of the Committee's \$50 million reduction.
- Higher Education Initiatives. No funds are provided for three Presidential initiatives for which the President has requested \$237 million:
 - *GEAR UP* to help prepare students at high poverty middle schools for college.
 - *Learning Anytime Anywhere Partnership grants* for pilot projects using distance learning technology.

- *New teacher recruitment and preparation programs.*
- Eisenhower Professional Development. The Committee's \$50 million reduction would leave over 100,000 teachers without the training they need to help them teach to rigorous academic standards.
- After School programs (21st Century Community Learning Centers). A \$140 million cut from the President's request to this program, part of the President's child care initiative, would result in 3,000 fewer centers and no services to nearly 400,000 children.
- Hispanic Initiative. The Administration has proposed funding increases of more than \$600 million for a series of programs, including Title I (Education for the Disadvantaged), to enhance the educational achievement of Hispanic Americans. The bill reduces the request by nearly \$500 million, including some of the cuts described above as well as significant decreases from the request in Adult Education, Bilingual Education, Hispanic Serving Institutions, and Comprehensive School Reform Demonstrations. Funding for these programs should be restored to the level of the President's request.
- Civil Rights Enforcement. Ensuring that civil rights laws and regulations are adequately enforced is a fundamental responsibility of government. The Committee fails to provide the increase of \$6.5 million (for a total of \$68 million) requested by the Office for Civil Rights in the Education Department and reduced by \$2.4 million the request for \$67.8 million for the Labor Department's Office of Federal Contract Compliance. Both activities should be restored to the full requests.

In addition to inadequate funding for priority education programs, the Administration is concerned with several language provisions of the Committee bill that would severely restrict the Administration's ability to continue the development of programs designed to raise academic standards.

- National Tests. The Administration strongly objects to the language limitation and \$15 million funding cut that would bring a halt to the President's efforts to help States and parents raise academic standards through a voluntary national test. The Committee bill's language would prohibit the development, implementation, and administration of the tests unless explicitly authorized. The language prohibition should be deleted and the funding restored.
- Unfocused Block Grants. The Administration strongly objects to language that would, in effect, turn the Goals 2000 and the Eisenhower Professional Development programs into block grants by allowing those funds to be used under the broad Title VI block grant authority. Title VI has no performance or accountability standards. The language should be deleted so that these Federal funds can address national needs and continue to be guided by strong accountability measures.

- Special Education (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act -- IDEA). The bill contains two objectionable IDEA riders. One would undermine the due process protections and parental rights for disabled students who are regarded as violent. The other would, in effect, allow States to discontinue special education services for youth ages 18 to 21 in adult prisons, violating the principle that all disabled youth ages three to 21 have a right to a free, appropriate public education and undermining the Department of Education's ability to enforce the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Both provisions would unnecessarily re-open IDEA before last year's bipartisan reauthorization has had a chance to be implemented and fairly assessed. Both provisions should be stricken.
- Bilingual Education. While we agree with the Committee on the need for some reforms to Bilingual Education, we are opposed to any provision that would set an absolute limit on student participation in bilingual education or alternative programs. Such a step would deny help to students who need it and violate the civil rights of Limited English Proficient students to an equal education. Because of individual differences, students will vary in how long it takes to develop English proficiency. We are also opposed to provisions that would establish a two-year goal for becoming proficient in English, since research has shown that this timetable is unrealistically short.
- Internet Access in Schools and Libraries. The bill contains objectionable language that would deny Federal funds to schools and libraries that have not installed software on their computers to block Internet access to indecent materials to minors. While the Administration strongly supports efforts to ensure that schools and libraries protect minors from indecent materials, it objects to such overly prescriptive language. Many local education agencies have already developed their own acceptable-use policies that are not based on software. Instead, the Administration favors less burdensome and restrictive language that would require that schools and libraries develop their own acceptable-use plans at the local level and certify their implementation.

Department of Labor

The Administration has strong concerns with the inadequate funding levels provided for the following Labor programs (listed in bill order):

- Adult Job Training. The Committee has provided none of the requested increases for the Dislocated Worker (\$100 million) and low-income adult (\$45 million) job training programs. Freezing these programs would mean that some 67,000 fewer workers in need of assistance would be helped. Without the requested increases, early implementation of the Workforce Investment Act could be jeopardized.
- Summer Jobs Program. The Administration strongly opposes the Committee's elimination of the Summer Jobs program. The President's request of \$871 million for this program could finance up to 530,000 summer jobs for economically disadvantaged

youth. The unemployment rate for teens continues to far exceed the overall unemployment rate. The Summer Jobs program plays a vital role in supporting employment among these teens, especially among African-American youths -- approximately 25 percent of summer jobs held by African-American 14-15 year olds come through this program -- and serves as a valuable introduction to the world of work. We urge the House to restore the full request for this program.

- President's Youth Opportunity Areas Initiative. The Committee provides no funding for the President's Youth Opportunity Areas initiative and rescinds the \$250 million appropriated last year for this program. This program would address the problem of pervasive joblessness in high-poverty neighborhoods by making large investments in these areas to effect community-wide change and help 50,000 out-of-school youth. We oppose elimination of this program, which is an essential component of the Administration's Empowerment Zones/Enterprise Communities initiative. We strongly urge the House to fully fund this initiative that was recently enacted with strong bipartisan support as part of the Workforce Investment Act.
- Unemployment Insurance. The House Committee mark does not fund the \$91 million requested for the Unemployment Insurance (UI) integrity initiative. This initiative was authorized in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 and would, over the next five years, achieve \$758 million in mandatory savings. Failure to fund this initiative would mean a continuation of errors in benefit payments and UI taxes. A similar initiative in the Social Security Administration's Disability Insurance program has proven to be a cost effective approach to achieving program savings.
- Worker Protection. The Committee has cut nearly in half the requested increase for programs that protect our workers on the job. For example, the Committee mark for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) redirects resources to State consultation and is nine-percent below the requested level for Federal enforcement, while funding for the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) is frozen at the 1998 level and virtually no funding is provided to the Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration (PWBA) for implementing the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996. We urge the House to restore financing for such critical workplace protection programs.
- Child Labor. The Committee has cut by 85 percent the requested increase for programs that combat child labor abuses domestically and internationally. For example, the Committee mark provides only \$3 million of the \$30 million requested increase for the Bureau of International Labor Affairs to increase its contributions to the International Labor Organization's International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labor. The Committee also provides no funds for the request for demonstration programs that would provide alternatives to field work for migrant youth. We urge the House to restore financing for programs that strive to eliminate child labor abuses.

- OSHA Peer Review. The Committee bill includes language that requires a peer review panel for all proposed OSHA regulations. This provision is unnecessary, overly broad, and would further delay OSHA's process for issuing regulations. OSHA already has an extensive public hearing process where any interested party may testify. OSHA must address all significant issues raised. The agency conducts peer reviews when appropriate. The Administration strongly urges the House to drop this provision.

The Committee bill contains several objectionable language riders addressing regulatory issues in the Department of Labor. These include language imposing new, unnecessary, and burdensome review procedures before the Department can issue Black Lung regulations and a continuation of the rider that prohibits MSHA from enforcing training requirements at certain mines, which have a growing numbers of deaths. These riders would make it more difficult for the Department of Labor to carry out its programs and should be dropped.

Department of Health and Human Services

The Administration appreciates the Committee's efforts to provide much needed funding for important programs crucial to the healthy lives of all Americans. Unfortunately, the Committee has not provided adequate funding for several important programs of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The Administration has strong concerns with the inadequate funding levels provided for the following HHS programs (listed in bill order):

- Prevention Research. The Committee has provided only \$10 million of the \$25 million requested for the Centers for Disease Control to expand research in ways to prevent disease and reduce the need for medical care.
- Bio-Terrorism. The Administration urges the House to provide the full \$111 million requested to improve HHS' ability to respond to attacks of biological and chemical terrorism.
- National Household Survey on Drug Abuse. The Committee mark eliminates funding for data collection activities of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, including the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, which is our single best source of information on youth drug use and youth smoking and is important for evaluating the impact of substance abuse prevention, treatment, and enforcement efforts.
- Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA). Although the Committee has fully funded the President's program level request for HCFA Program Management (with the exception of the Medicare+Choice information campaign), no action has been taken on the \$265 million in new discretionary HCFA user fees. We urge the House to enact the President's requested user fees to finance HCFA activities and to ensure that sufficient resources remain available for education and other priorities.

- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). The Committee would eliminate funding for LIHEAP. Over 36 percent of LIHEAP households have elderly residents, 32 percent have disabled residents, 27 percent have children under the age of six, and 27 percent are the working poor who do not receive any other public assistance. The Administration urges the House to restore funds to the President's requested level.
- Child Care. The Administration urges the House to provide the additional \$174 million requested for a child care initiative that will improve the availability of affordable, quality child care for working parents. This initiative would provide States with resources to enhance child care health and safety standards enforcement, give child care workers scholarships to improve their skills, and increase our commitment to understand better and evaluate how our Nation's child care system is working. Likewise, we ask the House to restore funds to the President's requested level for a \$5 million program designed to assist States in developing support systems for families of children with disabilities.
- Head Start. The Committee funds Head Start at \$4.5 billion, \$160 million below the President's request -- denying slots to up to 25,000 low-income children in FY 1999 and undermining efforts to serve one million children by the year 2002. Head Start has a track record of success in readying disadvantaged children for school, supporting working families by helping parents to get involved in their children's lives and providing services to the entire family. We urge the House to restore Head Start funding to the President's requested level.
- Foster Care and Adoption Assistance. The Committee bill fails to provide the Administration's request for a \$200 million contingency reserve. This language is critical to ensure grant awards should the definite appropriations be insufficient for authorized eligible expenditures in either Foster Care or Adoption Assistance. The House should restore funding to the requested level of \$200 million, or approximately four percent of total program costs.
- Health Disparities. The Committee has failed to include \$30 million requested for demonstration projects to address racial and ethnic health disparities in infant mortality, cancer, diabetes, heart disease and stroke, HIV/AIDS, and immunizations.

In addition, the Committee bill contains several language provisions that are troubling to the Administration.

- Abortion. The Administration urges the House to strike sections 508 and 509 of the Committee bill, which would prohibit the use of funds for abortion. The President believes that abortion should be safe, legal, and rare. These provisions would continue to limit the range of conditions under which a woman's health would permit access to abortion services. Furthermore, section 509 requires a physician to make a legal determination that these conditions have been met. The Administration proposes to work with the Congress to address the issue of abortion funding.

- Organ Donation. The Administration strongly opposes two provisions of the Committee bill that would suspend two HHS rules pertaining to organ donation: a HCFA rule that seeks to expand the number of organs available for donation through more vigorous procurement efforts; and, a Health Resources and Services Administration rule that would require the national organ transplant network to develop policies that would allocate organs based on patients' medical need, not their geographic location.
- Family Planning/Other Potential Health Riders. We understand that several amendments affecting Medicare, Medicaid, and public health programs may be introduced on the House floor that could have a detrimental effect on the Administration's ability to administer its responsibilities efficiently and equitably. We urge restraint in the consideration of these issues.

The Administration strongly objects to language in the House Committee bill, and to any related potential amendments, that would have the effect of requiring family planning or other health care grantees to obtain parental consent or provide advance notification to parents before giving contraceptives to minors. Mandating parental consent discourages minors from seeking health care and reproductive services and thus leads to more unintended pregnancies, abortions, and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV. The Administration urges the House to adopt the proposed Castle/Greenwood amendment, which will ensure that grantees will encourage minors to seek their family's participation in family planning decisions.

- Needle Exchange. The Committee includes a total ban on the use of funds appropriated in this Act for needle exchange programs rather than making the use of funds for such programs conditional upon the certification of the Secretary of Health and Human Services.
- Office of AIDS Research. The Committee bill does not appropriate a specific amount for AIDS research through a single appropriation for the National Institutes of Health's (NIH's) Office of AIDS Research. The single appropriation would help NIH plan and target research funds effectively, minimizing duplication and inefficiencies across the 21 institutes and centers that carry out HIV/AIDS research.
- Medicaid Drug Coverage. The Committee bill would prohibit HCFA from paying for a specific pharmaceutical agent under Medicaid except for post-surgical treatment. We oppose the use of the appropriations process to make selective coverage determinations and judgments regarding how best to treat specific medical problems. Further, the provision is unnecessary because the Secretary already has authority to limit coverage for pharmaceutical agents if prescribed inappropriately, and States already have broad latitude to limit the use of drugs under Federal law through drug utilization review and prior authorization programs.

- Social Services Block Grant. The Administration opposes a provision that would restrict State authority to transfer Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds to SSBG in FY 1999 to no more than the amounts transferred by individual States in FY 1998. Enacting such a provision so late in FY 1998 would inequitably limit State flexibility for the future.

Social Security Administration

The Committee bill does not provide \$19 million for administrative expenses, contingent on the authorization of a user fee for services provided by the Social Security Administration to attorneys who represent claimants for benefits. These services include withholding money from certain past due benefits and issuing payments to certain claimant representatives. The Administration continues to support enactment of this user fee and appropriation of the anticipated collections for administrative expenses.

In addition, the Committee bill does not provide \$50 million for administrative expenses for the conduct of additional non-disability Supplemental Security Income (SSI) redeterminations of eligibility. These resources and the resulting redeterminations are essential to ensuring the integrity of the SSI program and reducing unnecessary benefit payments. Failure to provide this funding would result in serious staffing shortfalls.

Other Agencies

- National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). The Committee provides funding for the NLRB at the FY 1997 level. This would result in a loss of over 100 staff, an increase in case backlogs, and could result in furloughs and office closings. This reduction would cripple an agency key to protecting workers' rights on the job, and we urge the House to restore the NLRB to the requested level.

Section 516 amends the National Labor Relations Act to require the NLRB to adjust its dollar jurisdictional standards for inflation on October 1, 1998, and every five years thereafter. This change would deny workers in some small businesses the protection afforded to others to organize and bargain collectively. This change to substantive law raising the jurisdictional thresholds more than five-fold should not be done through the appropriations process, but only after hearings and debate. The Administration urges the House to drop this provision.

- Corporation for National and Community Service. The Administration is deeply concerned about the Committee's \$27 million reduction to the request for the Corporation for National and Community Service. This reduction freezes the Corporation's Senior Service program at the FY 1998 level and cuts VISTA \$5 million below FY 1998. These reductions would deny more than 500 VISTA members the opportunity to serve in low-income communities Nation-wide and would reduce the number of seniors serving their communities by 15,000. The Administration urges the House to fully fund the Corporation at the \$279 million level proposed in the FY 1999 Budget.

- Corporation for Public Broadcasting. The Administration strongly objects to the lack of funding provided for the President's initiative to assist public broadcasters in converting to digital technology. The transition to digital technology promises to create tremendous opportunities for expanded and enhanced educational and public service programming while promoting innovative technology applications. Providing the Corporation with funding in FY 1999 will allow public broadcasting to convert to digital technology on a schedule similar to that of commercial stations. This will facilitate fundraising efforts and allow public broadcasters to participate in the establishment of digital standards.
- Railroad Retirement Board (RRB). The Committee bill does not include language to provide the RRB with authority to offer voluntary separation incentive payments (or "buyouts") through the end of calendar year 1998. RRB's experience has shown that reducing employment through buyouts is much less disruptive to agency operations than conducting a reduction-in-force. The Administration urges the House to provide this buyout authority.

The Committee bill includes language prohibiting the RRB Inspector General from using funds for any audit, investigation, or review of the Medicare program. The Administration believes that this language should be dropped. RRB has statutory authority to administer a separate contract for RRB, Part B Medicare claims. As long as RRB has authority to negotiate and administer a separate Medicare contract, the RRB Inspector General ought not to be prohibited from using funds to review, audit, or investigate activity related to that contract.

The President's Agenda for Women

This Administration has made a commitment to American women and their families by expanding opportunities for women, making our homes and communities safer, investing in education and job training, protecting our children's health, promoting reproductive health services, and generating more business opportunities for women. The President's Budget for the next fiscal year plans to build on these efforts by strengthening key programs designed to create more employment and education opportunities for women, facilitate access to health and child care, and improve family planning and abortion services.

As the Congressional appropriations process has advanced, however, it has become increasingly clear that the Administration's commitment to women is being undermined by Congress. Significant underfunding of key programs would weaken enforcement of job discrimination laws, undercut child care and nutrition programs, make it more difficult for women to move from welfare to work, and jeopardize women's access to family planning and abortion information and services.

The following list contains examples of programs where Congress has funded programs at levels below the President's request.

Enforcement of Anti-Discriminatory Laws:

- The President requested an increase of \$37 million for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, which enforces federal laws prohibiting discrimination. The House plans to cut that request by \$18 million and the Senate would cut \$25 million.
- The President would increase funding for the Dept. of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance by \$5.4 million, a number that the House and Senate would cut in half. The OFCC enforces employment discrimination laws for federal contractors and sub-contractors.

Children:

- The President has requested an increase of \$157 million for WIC, the nutrition program for low-income women, infants and children. The House would refuse to increase WIC funding beyond the current level and the Senate would add \$24 million to the current level, still leaving it well below the President's request.
- The President's request for an increase of \$313 million for the Head Start program would be cut by \$160 million in the House. Head Start's comprehensive child development services have a proven track record of success in readying disadvantaged children for school.

- The President's request for 21st Century Community Learning Centers would increase the program's budget from \$40 million to \$200 million. The House would fund the program at \$60 million, a cut of \$140 million to the President's increase, or 70% below his request. The Senate would fund the program at \$75 million, still substantially lower than the President's budget. The proposal would provide for 3,000 additional school and community-based before school and after school programs to extend learning activities and social services and to improve student achievement.
- The President proposed new funding of \$174 million to improve child care by establishing scholarships for child care providers, conducting research to learn how child care can best meet the needs of children and enforcing safety standards by increasing inspections of child care facilities. The House plans to provide no funds whatsoever for this initiative.
- The President's proposal to provide \$5 million to fund a demonstration project for child care apprenticeships to establish training and standards for qualified providers would not be funded by the House.

Employment:

- The President's budget proposed an increase of more than 125% for SBA Women's Business Centers, to \$9 million. The House would deny that increase, leaving funding at the current level of \$4 million.
- The President's request to provide \$100 million for the Dept. of Transportation's Access to Jobs program, which provides grants to develop transportation services to help individuals make the transition from welfare to work, would be cut by 50%.
- In the area of housing vouchers, the President's budget proposed an important additional step to promote work and welfare reform through a plan to provide 50,000 new housing vouchers to welfare recipients who need housing assistance in order to get or keep a job. Both the House and Senate have not provided sufficient funding for this critical initiative. The HUD/VA Appropriations bill passed by the House provides for only 17,700 Welfare to Work Housing Vouchers. The bill passed by the Senate provides for only 7,000 housing vouchers.
- Congress would make cuts in programs to help farmers, including outreach programs to help minority and women farmers apply for government programs and with other technical assistance.

Restrictions on Family Planning and Abortion:

- The President's request to increase funding for family planning services at clinics by \$15 million would be denied by the House and the Senate. The House would deny any additional funds and the Senate would underfund the President's budget by \$3 million.
- A House provision would limit the ability of family planning clinics to help prevent unintended pregnancies by requiring minors to either receive parental consent or provide advance notice before receiving contraceptives.
- A provision in the House would prohibit the FDA from testing, developing, or approving any drug for the chemical inducement of abortion, which would include RU-486, thereby usurping the Agency's role in making scientific determinations about the effect of drugs on the safety and health of the American people.
- While maintaining current restrictions on FEHBP coverage of abortions, the House bill further tightens access by denying currently legal abortion coverage, i.e., danger to the mother's life, rape or incest. The Senate bill continues the current restrictions on FEHBP coverage of abortions.
- Both the House and Senate would prohibit the Bureau of Prisons from funding abortions, except in the cases of rape, incest, or the life of the mother.
- Both the House and Senate would retain and expand the Hyde Amendment, which severely limits the use of funds in the Labor/HHS bill for abortion.
- A provision in the House bars the use of U.S. population funds for non-governmental organizations if the organization uses any of its own resources for abortion-related services.

President Clinton's Fall Agenda Highlights: Saving Social Security First, Protecting Patient Rights, Investing in Education and the Environment, Stabilizing International Financial System

September 3, 1998

President Clinton's economic strategy of fiscal discipline, strategic investments in our people, and opening markets abroad has helped create the strongest economy in a generation and will deliver the first budget surplus in three decades. Now is a time to build on our success and there is much work for Congress to do in the weeks before adjournment. President Clinton, working with the Congress, is determined to:

- ✓ **Save Social Security First** --The President will fight any attempt to break the budget rules and drain the surplus. His commitment is unwavering: every penny of any future surplus must be reserved until a bipartisan plan to save Social Security is enacted.
- ✓ **Pass a Patients' Bill of Rights** --The President will work to pass a strong enforceable patients' bill of rights to give Americans the protections they deserve.
- ✓ **Invest in Education** --The President will work to strengthen public schools through higher standards, expanded opportunities, increased accountability, school modernization and smaller classes, and greater access to technology.
- ✓ **Invest in a Cleaner Environment** -- President Clinton will push his significant new investments to curb water pollution, clean up toxic dumps, protect precious lands, and combat global warming.
- ✓ **Stabilize the International Financial System** --The President will work to provide the International Monetary Fund (IMF) the resources it needs to protect the international financial system --and therefore the United States economy.

Save Social Security First

Fiscal discipline has helped create the strongest economy in a generation. In 1992, the deficit stood at a record \$290 billion and was projected by CBO to exceed \$350 billion this year. The President's 1993 Economic Plan helped cut the deficit, lowered interest rates, spurred business investment, and strengthened the economy. With last year's bipartisan Balanced Budget, the President finished the job of balancing the budget and this year we will record the first budget surplus in 29 years. With our fiscal house in order, we must use our solid fiscal footing to face the next major fiscal

January, President Clinton proposed that every penny of the surplus be reserved to "Save Social Security First."

Building on his tax cutting record, the President has called on Congress to pass targeted tax relief --to spur school modernization, help families better afford child-care, help clean the environment, expand pension coverage, and develop low-income housing. The President insists that every tax cut and new spending program meet the budget rules and be fully paid for. He will strongly oppose any proposal that breaks the budget rules and drains the surplus. As the President has said:

"I believe we should tell our children and our grandchildren that we think enough of them and their future that we're going to resist spending a penny of the surplus on things that I would very much like to spend it on --or you would --until we have met our basic obligation to our future, passing a bipartisan plan to save Social Security" [July 22, 1998, Signing of the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act]

Pass A Patients' Bill of Rights

President Clinton calls on the Congress to pass a strong, enforceable patients' bill of rights that assures Americans the quality health care they need. This bill should include important patient protections such as:

- ✓ **Assuring direct access to specialists.**
- ✓ **Real emergency room protections.**
- ✓ **Continuity of care provisions that protect patients from abrupt changes in treatment.**
- ✓ **A fair, timely, and independent appeals process for patient grievances.**
- ✓ **Enforcement provisions to make these rights real.**

The President has urged the Senate Leadership to make passing the patients' bill of rights the first order of business this fall. The Republicans have proposed legislation that would be more loophole than law. Their proposals cover too few people; provide too few patient protections; and contain unnecessary and irrelevant provisions that undermine the chances for a bipartisan agreement on a patients' bill of rights. For example, these proposals would let HMOs, not informed health professionals, define medical necessity and would fail to guarantee direct access to specialists.

The President is working to implement patients' bill of rights in health plans under Federal jurisdiction. In February, the President issued an Executive Memorandum directing all Federal health plans to come into compliance with the patients' bill of rights. In response to this directive, for example:

- ✓ Department of Health and Human Services has extended the patients' bill of rights to the 40 million Americans who receive Medicare.
- ✓ Department of Veterans' Affairs has begun to put in place a new, rapid appeals process for its 3 million beneficiaries. The Department of Defense issued a directive to all military bases throughout the world, extending patient protections to 8 million servicemen and women and

their families.

- ✓ Department of Labor is requiring plans it oversees to have an improved internal appeals process.

Invest in Education

President Clinton is working to strengthen public education by raising standards, increasing accountability and expanding public school choice, including charter schools, and to prepare students for the 21st Century through increased investments in public schools, expanded awareness of and access to higher education, and training to ensure success in the workplace.

- **Strengthening Public Education.** President Clinton will fight for full funding for programs and new initiatives that will help all children reach challenging academic standards, strengthen accountability, provide access to technology, improve the quality of teaching, expand Head Start and after school programs, and make our schools safe and drug free.
- **Modernizing Our Schools.** The President is calling for federal tax credits to help renovate, modernize, and build over 5,000 public schools nationwide.
- **Reduce Class Size.** The President will press Congress to enact his proposal to reduce class size to a national average of 18 in grades 1-3, by helping local schools hire 100,000 well-prepared teachers.
- **Expanding Investments In Youth Education And Training.** One of the President's top priorities is fighting efforts by Congress to eliminate both the Summer Jobs Program, which provides jobs to roughly 530,000 disadvantaged young people, and the new Youth Opportunity Area Initiative, which would help provide job training and help finding jobs for up to 50,000 youth in the poorest communities nationwide.
- **Passage Of The Higher Education Act, With The High Hopes Mentoring Initiative and Teacher Recruitment.** President Clinton urges Congress to pass the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, to reduce interest rates on student loans; extend the Pell Grant and Federal Work-Study programs; enact his High Hopes program to establish college-school partnerships in order to spark young people's interest in college and provide them with the mentoring and other support they need to prepare for college; and strengthen teacher training and recruitment programs.
- **Education Technology.** The President has made an unprecedented commitment to bringing technology into the classroom and called for technology training for teachers and expanded access for teachers and students to computers in the classroom; however, the House appropriations bill threatens these initiatives;
- **Strengthening And Expanding Charter Schools.** President Clinton will continue to work with Congress to pass bipartisan legislation to strengthen federal support for the growing charter

school movement.

- **Helping Every Eight-Year Old Learn To Read.** President Clinton will continue his work with Congress to enact a child literacy bill to ensure that children receive quality instruction from well-trained teachers and have opportunities to develop their reading skills with trained tutors after-school and on the weekend.
- **Voluntary National Standards and Tests.** President Clinton will continue to fight for voluntary national standards and tests in 4th grade reading and 8th grade math, to help students master the basic skills and to give parents, communities and educators accurate information on how well our students perform.

Invest in a Cleaner Environment

President Clinton is proposing significant new investments to curb water pollution, clean up toxic dumps, protect precious lands, and combat global warming. Yet the Republican Congress is not only failing to fully fund these priorities, but is launching a stealth attack on the environment with a host of legislative riders aimed at rolling back protections already in place.

- **Clean, Safe Water for America.** The President is proposing an additional \$2.3 billion over five years to help clean up the almost 40 percent of America's surveyed waterways still too polluted for fishing or swimming. Budget bills in the House and Senate fall well short of the President's request, denying communities and farmers vital help in curbing pollution.
- **Saving and Restoring Parks and Other Natural Treasures.** The President is proposing a 43 percent increase over five years to acquire scenic and historic lands, yet Congress is denying full funding. What's more, Congress is withholding 1998 appropriations that the President has allocated to protect over 100 sites in 35 states, including Civil War battlefields, critical winter range for Yellowstone bison, New Mexico's Baca Ranch, and completion of the Appalachian Trail.
- **Leading the Fight Against Global Warming.** The President's five-year \$6.3 billion package of tax incentives and research investment would reduce greenhouse gas pollution through energy efficiency and clean energy technologies. But Congress, ignoring the growing evidence of global warming, wants to cut these sensible, cost-effective programs.
- **Doubling the Pace of Toxic Cleanups.** The President is proposing an additional \$650 million in Fiscal Year 99 --a 40 percent increase --to accelerate Superfund cleanups with a goal of completing a total of 900 cleanups by 2001. By denying these funds, Congress threatens to delay cleanup at up to 171 sites.
- **Fighting Against Stealth Attacks on the Environment.** Some of the many anti-environmental riders would force overcutting of timber on national forests, cripple wildlife protection efforts, deny taxpayers a fair return from oil leasing on public lands, and allow a \$30 million road through an Alaska wildlife refuge. The President will not tolerate stealth tactics that do

unacceptable harm to the environment or threaten public health.

Stabilize the International Financial System

Driven by a return to fiscal strength, the United States' economy is the strongest it has been in a generation. Unemployment and inflation are at their lowest levels in decades. Some other nations around the world, however, are experiencing major economic upheaval and this has already hurt our exports and farmers. A strong International Monetary Fund is a stabilizing force in the world economy and is vital to protect the international financial system -- and therefore the U.S. economy -- against the risk of new, escalating, or spreading crises. The Senate has wisely provided full funding for the IMF, but the House has failed to include any such funding. President Clinton will fight for full funding for the IMF to help keep

Following President Clinton's Lead Senate Rejects Extreme House Republican Labor-HHS Bill

September 1, 1998

Last year, President Clinton delivered a bipartisan balanced budget that made critical investments in our children, including the largest investment in children's health since Medicaid was created and tax credits to make college more affordable. Building on that success, the President has proposed important investments to prepare our children for the 21st century. Instead of continuing to move forward on a bipartisan path, House Republicans chose an extreme approach, eliminating energy assistance for low-income families and the summer jobs program. President Clinton has repeatedly criticized the House bill and rallied bipartisan opposition.

A step forward -- Senate joins President Clinton and rejects House bill:

- **Funds Low-Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP).** The House bill eliminates LIHEAP, denying more than five million low-income families assistance to pay for home heating and cooling costs. The Senate bill funds the President's budget request to help these families.
- **Funds the Summer Jobs Program,** which provides about one in five of the jobs for African American 16-17 year olds. Unlike the House, which eliminated this successful program, the Senate included the President's request that rewards hard work and provides valuable work experience to over one-half million low-income youth.
- **Supports Goals 2000.** To move forward on raising academic standards, the President proposed a \$10 million increase for Goals 2000. The Senate funded half of that increase, in stark contrast to the \$255 million or 51% cut in the House bill, which would have adversely affected 6,000 schools serving over 3 million students.
- **Supports effort against child labor.** Unlike the House, which provided just \$6 million, the Senate fully funds the President's request for \$30 million for the International Program for the Elimination of Child Labor (IPEC), a proven model for eliminating forced, indentured, abusive, and hazardous labor for children around the world.

Progress in some other key areas, but not in others. More work needs to be done:

- **Supports Title I (Education for the Disadvantaged).** The House bill cuts the President's Request for Title I by \$392 million, denying additional help to nearly 520,000 students in high-poverty communities. The Senate bill adds \$301 million over FY 1998, but remains \$91 million below the President's budget.
- **Provides partial funding to prepare disadvantaged children for college.** By denying all of the President's request of \$140 million for the High Hopes program, the House bill denies more than one million at-risk middle school students (over five years) the mentoring and tutoring needed to raise education expectations and eliminate barriers to college. In contrast, the Senate provides \$75 million, roughly half of the President's request.
- **A start on education technology.** The House bill cuts investments in education technology, denying funding to 400 school districts nationwide to provide students and teachers with access to computers. The Senate bill adds \$39 million over FY98, but remains \$98 million below the President's budget.

- **Insufficient funds for after-school programs.** The House bill reduces the President's request for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program by \$140 million, denying approximately 425,000 school-age children participation in before- and after-school programs. The Senate provided \$15 million more than the House but it is still \$125 million below the President's requested investment.
- **Does not fully fund out-of-school youth initiative.** The House bill provided no funding, denying training and job finding help for up to 50,000 youth each year in the poorest communities. The Senate provided \$125 million in FY99 funding, but this is still \$125 million below the President's budget. For FY00, the Senate provided the President's full \$250 million request.
- **Falls short on Hispanic education initiative.** The President's Budget proposed funding increases of \$212 million for a series of programs to enhance the educational achievement of Hispanic Americans. The House bill reduces this request by more than \$90 million, with significant decreases in the request for Adult Education, Bilingual Education, Hispanic Serving Institutions, and Comprehensive School Reform Demonstrations. The Senate bill reduces the President's request by \$170 million, with significant decreases in the programs above as well as for Migrant Education and TRIO programs.
- **Fails to fund reading initiative.** The Senate bill denies \$260 million for the America Reads Challenge, denying funding to schools and communities to improve reading programs and provide tutors.
- **Takes a step backwards on key health efforts.** The Senate bill would have a devastating effect on the ability of the Health Care Financing Administration to manage the Medicare, Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance programs. Further, the Senate bill undermines the President's efforts to improve the public health by under funding the President's requests for demonstrations to improve racial health disparities, substance abuse treatment programs, health professions assistance grants, and disease prevention activities at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- **Falls short on charter schools.** The Senate bill provides only \$80 million for the charter schools program, \$20 million short of the \$100 million in the President's Balanced Budget proposal. The President has set a goal of 3,000 public charter schools--public schools which are started by teachers and parents, freed from bureaucratic regulations, and remain open only as long as they produce results.
- **Retreats from National Standards and Tests.** Both the House and Senate bills contain riders that would stop progress on the development and implementation of voluntary national tests in reading and math, denying parents, students and teachers the help they need to meet high standards, and important information on student and school performance.

PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE PRESIDENT GORE SUPPORTING ISSUES CRUCIAL TO RACIAL PROGRESS AND EQUALITY

House and Senate Budget Plans Shortchange Many Key Programs

September 4, 1998

This Administration has made a commitment to racial issues by strengthening programs serving minority communities, heightening enforcement of civil rights laws, and continuing the ongoing work of the President's Initiative on Race. The President's Budget for the next fiscal year proposed a renewed commitment to strong and effective civil rights enforcement to help ensure that economic opportunities and progress reach all segments of a diverse American population.

Unfortunately, the Congress had not yet joined the Administration in making a commitment to programs that benefit minority communities. At this point in the appropriations process Congress has underfunded many programs intended to benefit minorities, cutting funds relative to the President's budget for institutions that enforce civil rights and for programs which aid minorities in the areas of education, the environment, health, jobs and training. Congress has also added riders that undermine the government's ability to protect the rights and interests of minorities.

The following list contains examples of programs where Congress has funded programs at levels below the President's request.

- **Programs Enforcing Civil Rights Laws:**

- Congress plans to cut funds requested in six different agencies charged with enforcement of Civil Rights Laws, including the EEOC, HUD's Fair Housing Activities Grants, the US Commission on Civil Rights, and the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division.
- The House would deny the President's request for an increase of \$37 million for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, which enforces federal laws prohibiting discrimination. The House would cut the President's request by \$18 million and the Senate would cut it by \$25 million.
- The House would deny the President's request for an increase of \$22 million for HUD's Fair Housing Activities Grants, cutting \$12 million from the President's request. The Senate would cut \$17 million, which would reduce the President's total request of \$52 million by 33%. These grants provide resources to public and private sector fair housing groups enforcing Federal laws against housing discrimination.
- Both the House and Senate would deny the President's request for an increase

of \$2 million for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, cutting from \$11 million to \$9 million. The Commission monitors the status of civil rights' protection and reports to the President, Congress and the public.

- Congress would underfund the Civil Rights Division of the Dept of Justice, the chief civil rights enforcement agency of the federal government, by \$4 million in the House, and \$9 million in the Senate, relative to the President's request.
- Other critical enforcement programs that are funded below the President's request include:
 - the Dept of Education's Office for Civil Rights, which ensures equal access to education; and
 - the Dept of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance, which enforces employment discrimination laws for Federal contractors and sub-contractors.

Census Sampling:

- Congress would provide funding only for the first half of the year. This would disrupt hiring of temporary workers and other key functions, and would lead to a less accurate census and undercount minorities.

Programs Serving Minority Communities:

Education and Training:

- The House plans to kill the Summer Jobs program which provides about one in five of the jobs for African-American 16-17 year olds, at a time when the African-American teenage unemployment rate runs at 29%. The Senate plans to fully fund the Summer Jobs program.
- The House would eliminate the entire \$250 million Congress made available last year for providing job training and job finding help for up to 50,000 at-risk youth in some of our poorest communities, while the Senate would eliminate \$125 million of these funds.
- The House bill would limit bilingual education to an absolute cut-off of four years of participation.
- **The Hispanic Education Initiative:**

The House denied the President's request for an increase of \$33 million for Bilingual and Immigrant Education, which is meant to help low English proficiency students learn English and achieve high academic standards. Primarily, this would deny as many as 4,000 teachers the

training to work with students who have limited English proficiency.

- The President requested an increase of \$33 million for Adult Education, which many new Hispanic immigrants rely on to learn English in preparation for entrance to the labor force. The House would cut this request by \$16 million; the Senate would cut it by \$38 million, which is a reduction of \$5 million from the previous year.
 - The President's request for an increase of \$30 million for Obey Comprehensive School Reform would help fund almost 600 new comprehensive school reform projects in Title One Schools. Both the House and the Senate would deny any increase in funding over last year.
 - The Senate would cut TRIO programs, which work with low-income high school and college students to encourage them to complete their education, by \$27 million.
 - The President's request for an increase of \$50 million for Migrant Education, which provides services to migrant children, faces a cut of \$35 million in the Senate.
- The House would cut the President's request for an increase of \$325 million for the Head Start program by \$160 million. This would reduce the President's total request of \$4,660 million for Head Start by 34%. The program provides comprehensive child development services to help prepare disadvantaged youngsters for school.

Title One Education for the Disadvantaged would be cut by \$392 million in the House and \$91 million in the Senate, denying students in high-poverty communities the extra help they need to develop the capability to reach high academic standards.
 - The House provides no funds for the High Hopes program which would help low-income students prepare for and pursue post-secondary education. The Senate bill provides only \$75 million of the Administration's \$140 million request for High Hopes.
 - The House plans to use federal funds to pay for private school vouchers in the District of Columbia, thereby draining badly needed resources from public schools there. This action would set a dangerous and unwise precedent that would favor private schools with taxpayer money, and undermine public schools at a time when they most need support. This provision also undermines local control of the District, which the Administration has consistently supported.

Health:

- The House and Senate have underfunded some important parts of the President's Race and Health Initiative. The House did not provide \$30 million to the Centers for Disease Control to support new demonstration grants on racial disparities in health. These demonstrations would help identify new methods to reduce racial disparities in HIV rates, infant mortality, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and cancer.

The Senate has also underfunded existing CDC programs to benefit minorities such as HIV prevention, diabetes prevention and prostate cancer education. Despite increases by both the House and Senate for the Indian Health Service, neither chamber has met the President's specific request for a \$10 million initiative to fund race and health activities within IHS such as breast cancer and drug and alcohol prevention and treatment.

Environment:

- Congress would make deep cuts of at least 50% in the HUD portion elements of the President's Brownfields Redevelopment Program, which is meant to promote local cleanup of formerly contaminated sites, and restore urban sites to productive uses, bringing jobs and economic development to poor communities located near such sites. The House would cut elements of Brownfields administered by HUD by \$30 million, and the Senate would make a cut of \$25 million.
- The Senate would prevent the use of EPA Brownfields funds to provide valuable investment seed money to finance clean-up of these sites.

Farmers:

In addition, Congress would make cuts in a set of programs meant to help minority farmers:

- The House would cut farm ownership loans targeted to minority and beginner farmers by \$10 million from the President's request for an increase of \$21 million;
- Both the House and the Senate denied the President's request for a \$7 million increase for outreach programs to help minority and women farmers apply for government programs and with other technical assistance; and
- The House permits prior discrimination claims against USDA to go forward for farm loans only, but not housing loans, as the President requested and the Senate bill provides.

Congress has made cuts or put restrictive riders on a broad range of other issues that affect minority Americans.

- The House plans to kill the LIHEAP program, which provides assistance to low-income families to pay for home heating and cooling costs. LIHEAP helped prevent further deaths and suffering during this summer's heat wave. The Senate bill would fund LIHEAP at the level of the President's request.

The Legal Services Corporation, which provides legal services to low-income families would be cut by \$90 million in the House, \$33 million (almost 12%) below last year's funding level. The President's request for an increase of \$57 million for LSC would be cut by \$40 million in the Senate.

- The Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund provides grants, loans, and technical assistance to institutions such as community development banks, low-income credit unions, loan and venture capital funds, and microenterprise funds. The House bill would cut CDFI by \$45 million and the Senate would cut the program by \$70 million. The Senate level is \$25 million (31%) below last year's.
- The SBA's Minority Enterprise Technical Assistance program would be cut by more than two-thirds, from \$9.5 million to \$2.6 million, in both the House and Senate.
- The President has requested an increase of \$157 million for WIC, the nutrition program for low-income women, infants and children. The House would deny the full increase of \$157 million and the Senate would make a cut from the President's request of \$133 million

Africa Issues in the Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill

African Development Fund: The President's FY 1999 Budget Request is for \$155 million. The Senate Committee has allocated only \$5 million to the fund. (By comparison, the House allocated \$128 million to the fund.) The Africa Development Fund works in conjunction with the World Bank to provide multi-lateral lending for infrastructure and other projects including power plants, road building and education.

African Development Foundation: The Senate mark, \$8 million, is \$6 million below the Administration's request. ADF provides grants to small entrepreneurs

and non-government entities.

Economic Support Fund: The President's FY 1999 Economic Support Fund request of \$2.5 billion included \$67 million for Africa. The Senate Committee bill underfunds the ESF request (at \$2.3 billion) and in particular underfunds by one-third countries other than Israel and Egypt. While the bill does not earmark funds explicitly for Africa at this level, it would be impossible to fully fund the Africa request without significant cuts to other key Administration priorities such as Latin America, and vice versa. ESF is government to government assistance offered by AID and the State Dept.

Debt: The Administration's FY 1999 debt reduction request of \$72 million includes \$35 million for additional debt reduction for African countries that have implemented key economic reforms. The Senate Committee bill funds the debt reduction program at \$25 million, or 65% below the request.

AID Development Assistance/Child Survival: The FY 1999 Development Assistance/Child Survival request of \$1.7 billion included \$730 million for Africa. The Senate Committee bill funds total Development Assistance and Child Survival at this level. However, it includes a number of unrequested earmarks. Because it is not clear which country or region these earmarks will go to, it is difficult to tell how this would affect the Africa request. However, the proliferation of earmarks for other countries or programs in the Senate bill could make it difficult to fund all of the President's priorities in Africa without squeezing other critical Administration assistance priorities.

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PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE PRESIDENT GORE
FIGHTING FOR SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS

September 4, 1998

Since taking office, President Clinton has put into place a crime-fighting strategy that gives communities the tools they need to keep their neighborhoods safe. Crime rates have fallen for five years in a row, to their lowest levels in a generation. President Clinton has proposed important investments to continue this success -- more police on our streets, anti-drug initiatives for offenders and schools, and efforts to keep guns out of the hands of criminals. While Congress has funded much of the President's strategy, the current Senate Commerce, Justice, State appropriations bill falls short, and even reverses course, on key anti-drug and crime fighting efforts by:

Undermining the Brady Law. The President strongly opposes efforts to undermine Brady background checks which have successfully halted a quarter of a million handgun sales to felons, fugitives, and stalkers. The Senate bill would undermine implementation of the National Instant Check System by prohibiting the FBI from charging gun dealers the same fee for Brady background checks it charges others such as day care providers -- forcing the FBI to either forego processing millions of checks or to transfer resources from other crime-fighting efforts.

Under funding testing and treatment of drug offenders. President Clinton is committed to promoting a policy of frequent drug testing, sanctions, and treatment for drug offenders in the criminal justice system. Despite its proven effectiveness in reducing recidivism and future drug use, both the Senate and House fail to fund the President's \$85 million drug testing and treatment initiative.

Undercutting progress on Methamphetamine. Leading the effort against the emerging drug methamphetamine, President Clinton fought for and signed into law strengthened penalties for meth trafficking and established new controls over precursor chemicals used to make meth. Hundreds of meth labs have been seized, and enforcement efforts have helped to curtail meth use. The Senate bill reverses course on these efforts by substantially weakening DEA's authority to prevent the diversion of precursor chemicals to meth traffickers.

**PROGRESS VS. PARTISANSHIP
THE ANTI-WOMAN GOP CONGRESS**

I. REAL PROGRESS: PRESIDENT CLINTON, CONGRESSIONAL DEMOCRATS WORK HARD FOR WOMEN

FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

President Clinton and Democrats Passed the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). In 1993, Democrats passed the FMLA which gives 12 weeks unpaid leave to Americans for the birth of a child, illness of a child, spouse, or parent, and for a worker's illness. Fifteen million families have already benefitted from this legislation. Now, the President and Democrats want to expand FMLA to allow workers to take time off for doctor's appointments and to go to parent-teacher conferences. [Wall Street Journal, 1/17/95; AP, 2/5/98]

CRIME

President Clinton, Democrats Pass Toughest, Smartest Anti-Crime Bill. Democrats passed the 1994 Anti-Crime Bill which gives communities and law enforcement the tools and support they need to keep America's streets safe. The bill included: 1) "three strikes and you're out" provisions; 2) the death penalty for over 60 crimes, including drug kingpins; 3) funding for more prisons; 4) a ban on 19 types of deadly assault weapons; 5) putting 100,000 new cops on the street. The Anti-Crime Bill worked. The crime rates are the lowest in a generation, there has been a 22% drop in the murder rate, and there has been a 16% drop in violent crime. [1994 CQ Almanac, pg. 287-194; 1994 CQ Almanac, pg. 273; U.S. Dept. of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 6/98]

→ **President Clinton, Democrats Enacted the Violence Against Women Law.** Democrats passed the Violence Against Women Act -- an element of the 1994 Anti-Crime Bill -- to combat domestic violence with support for law enforcement, more prosecutors, a national hotline, more shelters and counseling. [1994 Congressional Quarterly, p. 273]

MINIMUM WAGE

President Clinton and Democrats Gave Workers a Pay Raise; 6 Million Women Benefited. In 1996, Democrats defeated the GOP Congress' fierce opposition to a boost in the minimum wage, raising it by 90 cents. About 10 million workers -- 6 million of whom were women -- benefited from the minimum wage increase. The President and Democrats are pushing for another increase in the minimum wage. [Washington Times, 1/13/98; Washington Post, 2/13/98; Department of Labor]

CHOICE

President Clinton, Democrats Protecting a Woman's Right To Choose. President Clinton, Democrats are fighting to protect a woman's right to choose. In 1993, President Clinton 1) removed the GOP gag rule that prevented staff of federally funded family planning clinics from discussing abortion with their patients and 2) asked that the Food and Drug Administration reconsider a ban on the importing of RU-486. Democrats passed, and the President signed the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act which established a safety-zone around women's health clinics. This year, the President proposed a \$15 million increase in Title X family planning grants for Fiscal Year 1999. Democrats in Congress have also fought repeated GOP attempts to take away a woman's right to choose. [Gannett News Service, 3/10/93; UPI, 5/26/94; Chicago Tribune, 1/23/98]

PROGRESS VS. PARTISANSHIP
THE ANTI-WOMAN GOP CONGRESS

STOPPING YOUTH SMOKING

President Clinton, Democrats Supported Strong Anti-Teen Smoking Legislation; GOP Killed Legislation. In 1998, Democrats supported strong anti-teen smoking legislation, which would have stopped Big Tobacco from marketing to children and teenagers. The GOP Senate defeated this legislation. [The White House, "Leading the Fight To Reduce Teen Smoking," 5/20/98]

PROTECTING KIDS FROM GUNS

President Clinton, Democrats Fighting To Protect Kids From Guns. In 1998, Democrats offered a plan to require all handguns sold in the U.S. to be equipped with trigger locks to prevent accidents involving children. Also in 1998, Democrats offered a plan to impose penalties on any adult who improperly stored a gun which is subsequently used by a child in a crime. [AP, 7/21/98; USA Today, 7/7/98; Washington Times, 7/23/98]

President Clinton, Democrats Banned 19 Deadly Assault Weapons; Passed Brady Bill. In 1994, Democrats passed the Anti-Crime Bill, which banned the manufacture of 19 military-style assault weapons. In 1993, Democrats passed the Brady Bill, which implements a short five-day waiting period before an individual can buy a handgun. *So far, nearly 250,000 convicted felons, stalkers and fugitives have been prevented from buying handguns.* [1994 CQ Almanac, pg. 273; Handgun Control Inc. citing BATF figures, 2/96; 1993 CQ Almanac, pg. 300; BATF Report, 1/18/96]

SAFE AND DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS

President Clinton and Democrats Expanded and Protected Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program. President Clinton and Democrats passed the Elementary & Secondary Education Act of 1994 which included an expansion of the Safe & Drug-Free Schools program. Forty million students benefit from this program which assists in drug prevention efforts in 97% of America's school districts. The President and Democrats protected this important program from drastic GOP cuts. [Education Department release, 2/9/96]

CHILD CARE

President Clinton Proposed Expansion of Child Care Opportunities. In 1998, President Clinton proposed an expansion of child care opportunities for working families. The proposal will: 1) provide tax credits and subsidies to help working parents pay for child care; 2) expand Head Start and after-school care programs; and 3) provide funds to help states police child-care providers. [New York Daily News, 4/24/98]

REDUCING CLASS SIZE, REBUILDING SCHOOLS

President Clinton, Democrats Want To Hire 100,000 New Teachers; Rebuild 5,000 Public Schools. In 1998, the President and Democrats backed a plan to reduce class size by hiring 100,000 new teachers to reduce most elementary school class sizes to below 18 students per teacher. In 1998, Democrats also supported a plan to repair and rebuild 5,000 run-down public schools with \$22 billion in public bonding authority. [AP, 4/23/98; Wash Post, 4/15/98; D PC, 3/19/98]

HEAD START

President Clinton and Democrats Dramatically Increased Head Start Funding By 60 Percent. Between 1993 and 1998, the President and Democrats increased Head Start funding by nearly 60%. These increases allow more than 830,000 children to participate in this pre-school education program. [HHS, Administration for Children and Families, 1/96; National Economic Council, "President Clinton and Congressional Democrats: Expanding Critical Investments Brick-By-Brick"]

PROGRESS VS. PARTISANSHIP
THE ANTI-WOMAN GOP CONGRESS

SOCIAL SECURITY

President, Democrats Promise to Use Entire Budget Surplus To Protect Social Security. In his 1998 State of the Union address, President Clinton urged Congress to reserve the first budget surplus in a generation to protect Social Security. The President reminded the Republican Congress that the surplus--estimated by the CBO to be \$1.4 trillion over ten years--should first be used to protect Social Security, not for tax cuts. [State of the Union Address, 1/27/98; Wash Times, 8/14/98]

2. PARTISAN GAMES: REPUBLICANS TARGET WOMEN FOR PROGRAM CUTS & HARMFUL LEGISLATION

SAFE AND DRUG FREE SCHOOLS

GOP Repeatedly Voted to Cut Safe & Drug-Free Schools Program. Congressional Republicans have repeatedly voted to cut the Safe and Drug-Free Schools program. Just this year, the House GOP voted to cut \$50 million from the Safe and Drug-Free Schools program, denying nearly one-half of the nation's middle schools the needed funds to implement drug prevention programs. [Statement of Administration Policy on FY 1999 Labor, HHS, Educ. Appropriations Bill, 7/14/98, 8/4/98; Dept of Education, "House Appropriations Committee Cut In the President's FY1999 Priority Education Programs, 7/16/98]

HEAD START

1995: Republicans Denied Head Start to 180,000 Children Nationwide. The 1995 GOP budget would have denied Head Start benefits to 180,000 children over seven years. President Clinton vetoed this GOP budget bill. [National Economic Council, 11/27/95]

1998: Republican Budget Denies Head Start to 85,000 Children, Including Early Head Start to 40,000 Children. The Fiscal Year 1999 House Republican budget would deny Head Start to 85,000 children in 2003, including 40,000 children in early Head Start [NEC, 6/4/98]

STUDENT LOANS

GOP Denied Students Loans To Millions of Students. In 1995, Republicans voted to eliminate Pell Grant college scholarships for 380,000 deserving students. The GOP also attacked the Direct Student Loan program, which makes it easier for students to get loans. The GOP tried to eliminate Direct Student Loans by capping the program at 10% of loan volume, meaning that more than 2.2 million college students would have been ineligible for the program. President Clinton vetoed this budget bill. [Cong. Press Releases, 9/13/95; Cong. Record, 11/17/95, Sen. Vt 584; Educ. Dept., 12/15/95]

CHOICE

GOP Attacking A Woman's Right To Choose. The GOP continues its campaign to end a woman's right to choose. Since the Republicans took control of Congress in 1995, Congress has voted 71 times to limit a woman's right to choose. Recent efforts include:

→ A GOP amendment passed this year by the House 223 to 202, which would prohibit the Food and Drug Administration from approving RU-486.

→ GOP efforts to eliminate domestic and international family planning by the House and Senate GOP. In 1997, the House GOP tried to eliminate all international family planning funding.

→ GOP restrictions on the right to choose for women in the military, federal workforce, and poor women. [Women's Network for Change, "Get the Facts," 9/11/97; 7/9/98; 5/14/98]

PROGRESS VS. PARTISANSHIP
THE ANTI-WOMAN GOP CONGRESS

Republicans Want to Reinstate the Gag Rule. In 1994, the House Republican Leadership and GOP candidates across the country signed the Contract with America, which included the "Personal Responsibility Act." The "Personal Responsibility Act" would reinstate the "gag rule" which does not allow federally funded clinics to provide abortion counseling. [[Contract With America](#)]

REDUCING CLASS SIZE, REBUILDING SCHOOLS

GOP Senate Killed Democratic Plans to Hire 100,000 New Teachers, Rebuild 5,000 Public Schools. In 1998, Republicans voted to kill a plan to hire 100,000 new teachers to reduce elementary school class sizes to below 18 students per teacher. Also in 1998, Republicans killed a plan to rebuild and repair 5,000 public schools with \$22 billion in public bonding authority. [[Washington Post](#), 4/22/98]

CHILDREN'S HEALTH CARE

GOP Budget Drastically Cut Children's Health Care. Under the 1995 Republican budget, about 18 million children would have lost their guaranteed health care coverage. The \$170 billion Medicaid cut proposed by the GOP would have reduced the availability health care for poor children. [[CQ Almanac](#), 1995, Senate Vote #584, passed 52-47, 11/17/95; DPC, 11/17/95; [Congressional Quarterly](#), 11/18/95, p. 3540]

CHILD CARE

Republicans Voted To Kill Child Care And After-School Programs. In 1998, Republicans voted to kill a proposal by Democrats to create after-school programs for children across the country. The GOP killed the proposal by a vote of 51-49. Also in 1998, Senate Republicans rejected the President's proposal to increase the Child Care and Development Block Grants by \$7.5 billion over 5 years. [Copley News Service, 5/27/98; DPC, 4/2/98; FY99 S. Con. Res. 86, Committee Report, 3/18/98]

SCHOOL LUNCHES

Congressional Republicans Tried to End the Federal Guarantee of a School Lunch. In 1995, House Republicans voted to end the federal school lunch program -- which feeds over 25 million children a day -- and replace it with block grants that states could use for purposes other than feeding children. [George Miller press release, 2/27/95; [NY Times](#), 4/9/95; [Cong. Record](#), 1/20/96, p. 170, CQ Vote#3, HR 4, 3/24/95; [AP](#), 1/19/96]

FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

GOP Opposed Family and Medical Leave Act; Opposes Expansion of FMLA. For years, the GOP fought passage of the Family and Medical Leave Act; President Bush vetoed the legislation twice. "*This bill is anti-family because it will increase unemployment, and that hurts the family.*" House Speaker Newt Gingrich said about the Family and Medical Leave Act. The GOP is also opposed to expanding FMLA to allow workers to take time off for doctor's appointments and go to parent teacher conferences. [[Orange County Register](#), 9/11/92; [AP/St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#), 1/9/97]

STOPPING YOUTH SMOKING

1998: GOP Took \$12 Million Big Tobacco, Then Killed Anti-Teen Smoking Bill. After taking nearly \$12 million in campaign cash from Big Tobacco in the last 3 ½ years, the Republican leadership showed its addiction to tobacco money by killing legislation designed to curb teen smoking. [[Washington Times](#), 5/18/98; [Washington Post](#), 8/13/97, 3/29/98; [USA Today](#), 8/29/97; Center For Responsive Politics Web page]

PROGRESS VS. PARTISANSHIP
THE ANTI-WOMAN GOP CONGRESS

PROTECTING KIDS FROM GUNS

GOP Repeatedly Voted Against Protecting Kids From Guns. 1) The majority of Republicans voted against a ban on 19 types of deadly assault weapons. 2) Then in 1996, the House GOP voted to repeal that 1994 ban. 3) The majority of GOPers voted against the Brady Bill which implements a short five-day waiting period before an individual can purchase a handgun, allowing time for background checks. 4) In 1998, the GOP killed a Democratic plan to require all handguns sold in the US to be equipped with trigger locks to prevent accidents. [1994 CO Almanac, Hse vt # 156, 5/5/94; 1994 CO Almanac, Hse vt # 416, 8/21/94; 1994 CO Almanac, Sen. vt #295, 8/25/94; NYT, 3/18/95; 1993 CO Almanac, Sen. vote # 394, 11/20/93; 1993 CO Almanac, Hse vt # 564, 11/10/93; 1993 CO Almanac, Sen. vis # 387 & # 390, 11/19/93; Meet the Press, 1994; BATF report, 1/18/96; AP, 7/21/98]

CRIME

Majority of GOP Voted Against Toughest Anti-Crime Bill In History; Voted Against Putting 100,000 Cops on The Street, Then Voted To Eliminate the Program. In 1994, a majority of Republicans voted against the Democrats' Anti-Crime Bill which has produced the lowest crime rate in 25 years, including a 22% drop in the murder rate and a 16% drop in the rate of violent crime. The Anti-Crime Bill is putting 100,000 new police officers on the street. In 1995, Newt Gingrich and the House GOP Leadership included a provision in their "Contract With America" that would have eliminated the COPS program. [1994 CO Almanac, p. 50-S, vote #295; 1994 CO Almanac, House vote # 416, 8/21/94; Veto message on HR 2076; "Contract with America: Taking Back our Streets Act"]

→ **GOP Voted Against the Violence Against Women Act.** In 1994, Republicans voted against the Democrats' 1994 Anti-Crime Bill and its \$1.6 billion in funding for the Violence Against Women Act which combats domestic violence with more support for law enforcement, additional prosecutors, a national hotline, more shelters and counseling. [Los Angeles Times, 8/24/94; 1994 CO Almanac, Senate vote #295, 8/25/94, House vote #416, 8/21/94]

SOCIAL SECURITY

GOP Opposes Using Surplus to Protect Social Security First; Gingrich Proposes Risky Tax Scheme To Raid Social Security To Pay For Tax Cuts For the Rich. The GOP is opposed to using the first budget surplus in a generation to protect Social Security. Instead the GOP has proposed a risky scheme to squander \$750 billion of the surplus, 98 percent of which is entirely due to Social Security, on wasteful tax cuts targeted to the well-off. [Wall Street Journal, 7/22/98, 7/29/98; Business Week, 8/3/98]

→ **GOP Tax Giveaway Means \$17,600 Tax Cut for Well-Off; 75 Cents/Week for Working Americans.** Gingrich's risky tax scheme will give 60 percent of the benefits to those making above \$200,000 a year -- an average tax cut of \$17,600 per year. However, for taxpayers under \$50,000 -- 70 percent of American taxpayers -- Gingrich's tax cut would be worth just 75 cents a week. [ITEP, "The Gingrich 1998 Tax Plan: An ITEP Policy Briefing," 7/31/98]

President Clinton's Fall Agenda Highlights:

Saving Social Security First, Protecting Patient Rights, Investing in Education and the Environment, Stabilizing International Financial System

September 3, 1998

President Clinton's economic strategy of fiscal discipline, strategic investments in our people, and opening markets abroad has helped create the strongest economy in a generation and will deliver the first budget surplus in three decades. Now is a time to build on our success and there is much work for Congress to do in the weeks before adjournment. President Clinton, working with the Congress, is determined to:

- ✓ **Save Social Security First** -- The President will fight any attempt to break the budget rules and drain the surplus. His commitment is unwavering: every penny of any future surplus must be reserved until a bipartisan plan to save Social Security is enacted.
- ✓ **Pass a Patients' Bill of Rights** -- The President will work to pass a strong enforceable patients' bill of rights to give Americans the protections they deserve.
- ✓ **Invest in Education** -- The President will work to strengthen public schools through higher standards, expanded opportunities, increased accountability, school modernization and smaller classes, and greater access to technology.
- ✓ **Invest in a Cleaner Environment** -- President Clinton will push his significant new investments to curb water pollution, clean up toxic dumps, protect precious lands, and combat global warming.
- ✓ **Stabilize the International Financial System** -- The President will work to provide the International Monetary Fund (IMF) the resources it needs to protect the international financial system -- and therefore the United States economy.

Save Social Security First

Fiscal discipline has helped create the strongest economy in a generation. In 1992, the deficit stood at a record \$290 billion and was projected by CBO to exceed \$350 billion this year. The President's 1993 Economic Plan helped cut the deficit, lowered interest rates, spurred business investment, and strengthened the economy. With last year's bipartisan Balanced Budget, the President finished the job of balancing the budget and this year we will record the first budget surplus in 29 years. With our fiscal house in order, we must use our solid fiscal footing to face the next major fiscal challenge: the retirement of the baby boom generation. This is why, in his State of the Union in January, President Clinton proposed that every penny of the surplus be reserved to "Save Social Security First."

Building on his tax cutting record, the President has called on Congress to pass targeted tax relief -- to spur school modernization, help families better afford child-care, help clean the environment, expand pension coverage, and develop low-income housing. The President insists that every tax cut and new spending program meet the budget rules and be fully paid for. He will strongly oppose any proposal that breaks the budget rules and drains the surplus. As the President has said:

"I believe we should tell our children and our grandchildren that we think enough of them and their future that we're going to resist spending a penny of the surplus on things that I would very much like to spend it on -- or you would -- until we have met our basic obligation to our future, passing a bipartisan plan to save Social Security" [July 22, 1998, Signing of the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act]

Pass A Patients' Bill of Rights

President Clinton calls on the Congress to pass a strong, enforceable patients' bill of rights that assures Americans the quality health care they need. This bill should include important patient protections such as:

- ✓ **Assuring direct access to specialists.**
- ✓ **Real emergency room protections.**
- ✓ **Continuity of care provisions that protect patients from abrupt changes in treatment.**
- ✓ **A fair, timely, and independent appeals process for patient grievances.**
- ✓ **Enforcement provisions to make these rights real.**

The President has urged the Senate Leadership to make passing the patients' bill of rights the first order of business this fall. The Republicans have proposed legislation that would be more loophole than law. Their proposals cover too few people; provide too few patient protections; and contain unnecessary and irrelevant provisions that undermine the chances for a bipartisan agreement on a patients' bill of rights. For example, these proposals would let HMOs, not informed health professionals, define medical necessity and would fail to guarantee direct access to specialists.

The President is working to implement patients' bill of rights in health plans under Federal jurisdiction.

In February, the President issued an Executive Memorandum directing all Federal health plans to come into compliance with the patients' bill of rights. In response to this directive, for example:

- ✓ Department of Health and Human Services has extended the patients' bill of rights to the 40 million Americans who receive Medicare.
- ✓ Department of Veterans' Affairs has begun to put in place a new, rapid appeals process for its 3 million beneficiaries. The Department of Defense issued a directive to all military bases throughout the world, extending patient protections to 8 million servicemen and women and their families.
- ✓ Department of Labor is requiring plans it oversees to have an improved internal appeals process.

Invest in Education

President Clinton is working to strengthen public education by raising standards, increasing accountability and expanding public school choice, including charter schools, and to prepare students for the 21st Century through increased investments in public schools, expanded awareness of and access to higher education, and training to ensure success in the workplace.

- **Strengthening Public Education.** President Clinton will fight for full funding for programs and new initiatives that will help all children reach challenging academic standards, strengthen accountability, provide access to technology, improve the quality of teaching, expand Head Start and after school programs, and make our schools safe and drug free.
- **Modernizing Our Schools.** The President is calling for federal tax credits to help renovate, modernize, and build over 5,000 public schools nationwide.
- **Reduce Class Size.** The President will press Congress to enact his proposal to reduce class size to a national average of 18 in grades 1-3, by helping local schools hire 100,000 well-prepared teachers.
- **Expanding Investments In Youth Education And Training.** One of the President's top priorities is fighting efforts by Congress to eliminate both the Summer Jobs Program, which provides jobs to roughly 530,000 disadvantaged young people, and the new Youth Opportunity Area Initiative, which would help provide job training and help finding jobs for up to 50,000 youth in the poorest communities nationwide.
- **Passage Of The Higher Education Act, With The High Hopes Mentoring Initiative and Teacher Recruitment.** President Clinton urges Congress to pass the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, to reduce interest rates on student loans; extend the Pell Grant and Federal Work-Study programs; enact his High Hopes program to establish college-school partnerships in order to spark young people's interest in college and provide them with the mentoring and other support they need to prepare for college; and strengthen teacher training and recruitment programs.

- **Education Technology.** The President has made an unprecedented commitment to bringing technology into the classroom and called for technology training for teachers and expanded access for teachers and students to computers in the classroom; however, the House appropriations bill threatens these initiatives;
- **Strengthening And Expanding Charter Schools.** President Clinton will continue to work with Congress to pass bipartisan legislation to strengthen federal support for the growing charter school movement.
- **Helping Every Eight-Year Old Learn To Read.** President Clinton will continue his work with Congress to enact a child literacy bill to ensure that children receive quality instruction from well-trained teachers and have opportunities to develop their reading skills with trained tutors after-school and on the weekend.
- **Voluntary National Standards and Tests.** President Clinton will continue to fight for voluntary national standards and tests in 4th grade reading and 8th grade math, to help students master the basic skills and to give parents, communities and educators accurate information on how well our students perform.

Invest in a Cleaner Environment

President Clinton is proposing significant new investments to curb water pollution, clean up toxic dumps, protect precious lands, and combat global warming. Yet the Republican Congress is not only failing to fully fund these priorities, but is launching a stealth attack on the environment with a host of legislative riders aimed at rolling back protections already in place.

- **Clean, Safe Water for America.** The President is proposing an additional \$2.3 billion over five years to help clean up the almost 40 percent of America's surveyed waterways still too polluted for fishing or swimming. Budget bills in the House and Senate fall well short of the President's request, denying communities and farmers vital help in curbing pollution.
- **Saving and Restoring Parks and Other Natural Treasures.** The President is proposing a 43 percent increase over five years to acquire scenic and historic lands, yet Congress is denying full funding. What's more, Congress is withholding 1998 appropriations that the President has allocated to protect over 100 sites in 35 states, including Civil War battlefields, critical winter range for Yellowstone bison, New Mexico's Baca Ranch, and completion of the Appalachian Trail.
- **Leading the Fight Against Global Warming.** The President's five-year \$6.3 billion package of tax incentives and research investment would reduce greenhouse gas pollution through energy efficiency and clean energy technologies. But Congress, ignoring the growing evidence of global warming, wants to cut these sensible, cost-effective programs.
- **Doubling the Pace of Toxic Cleanups.** The President is proposing an additional \$650 million in Fiscal Year 99 -- a 40 percent increase -- to accelerate Superfund cleanups with a goal of completing a total of 900 cleanups by 2001. By denying these funds, Congress threatens to delay cleanup at up to 171 sites.
- **Fighting Against Stealth Attacks on the Environment.** Some of the many anti-environmental riders would force overcutting of timber on national forests, cripple wildlife protection efforts, deny taxpayers a fair return from oil leasing on public lands, and allow a \$30 million road through an Alaska wildlife refuge. The President will not tolerate stealth tactics that do unacceptable harm to the environment or threaten public health.

Stabilize the International Financial System

Driven by a return to fiscal strength, the United States' economy is the strongest it has been in a generation. Unemployment and inflation are at their lowest levels in decades. Some other nations around the world, however, are experiencing major economic upheaval and this has already hurt our exports and farmers. A strong International Monetary Fund is a stabilizing force in the world economy and is vital to protect the international financial system -- and therefore the U.S. economy -- against the risk of new, escalating, or spreading crises. The Senate has wisely provided full funding for the IMF, but the House has failed to include any such funding. President Clinton will fight for full funding for the IMF to help keep our economy strong.

FY 1999 Major Labor/HHS/Education Programs Affecting Families and Children

	FY 1998 Enacted	FY 1999				
		President's Budget	House Committee	Senate Committee	House Comm Diff from P.B.	Senate Comm Diff from P.B.
HHS: Administration on Children and Families						
Head Start	4,347	4,660	4,500	3,295	-160	-1,365
<i>Head Start FY2000 advance approp. (non-add)</i>				1,365		
Child Care & Development Block Grant*	1,003	1,177	1,000	1,000	-177	-177
<i>CCDBG: FY2000 advance approp. (non-add)</i>				1,183		
LIHEAP (inc. FY98 emergency release)	1,150	1,087	0	1,100	-1,087	13
<i>LIHEAP Emergency Fund Available (non-add)</i>	300	300	0	300	-300	0
Adoption Opportunities and Incentive	23	47	47	45	0	-2
Social Services Block Grant	0	-471	-162	-471	309	0
Developmental Disabilities State Support Systems	0	5	0	6	-5	1
All Other ACF 1/	1,720	1,750	1,814	1,817	64	67
Total: ACF	8,243	8,255	7,199	6,792	-1,056	-1,463
Department of Education						
Goals 2000	491	501	246	496	-256	-5
Education Technology	584	721	541	624	-180	-98
Title I: Grants to LEAs 2/	7,375	7,767	7,375	7,676	-392	-91
America Reads	0	260	0	0	-260	-260
High Hopes	0	140	0	75	-140	-65
National Tests	19	15	0	15	-15	0
After School Programs (21st Cent. Comm. Learning Ctrs.)	40	200	60	75	-140	-125
All other Department of Education 3/	21,049	21,551	21,889	22,083	338	532
Total: Department of Education 2,3/	29,559	31,155	30,111	31,044	-1,045	-111
Department of Labor						
Summer Jobs Program	871	871	0	871	-871	0
Youth Opportunity Areas						
FY 1999 Advance Appropriation	0	250	0	125	-250	-125
FY 2000 Advance Appropriation	0	250	0	250	-250	0
Child Labor	3	39	9	37	-30	-2
Child Care Apprenticeships	0	5	0	4	-5	-1

FY 1998	President's	House	Senate	House Comm	Senate Comm
Enacted	Budget	Committee	Committee	Diff from P.B.	Diff from P.B.

1/ FY98 adjusted and FY99 House and Senate include carryover funds for Refugee and Entrant Assistance program.

CBO does not score these carryover funds.

2/ All totals include advanced appropriated funding which becomes available in the next fiscal year.

3/ The House and Senate bill totals do NOT include the BA that is "parked" in the Pell grant account and is not needed to fund either bill's Pell policy. The House "parked" \$384M and the Senate "parked" \$931M.

Appropriations Update
September 16, 1998

- The House has passed 11 bills (all but Foreign Operations and Labor/HHS/Education), and the Senate has passed 10 (all but District of Columbia, Interior, and Labor/HHS/Education).
- The Interior bill is on the Senate floor now.
- Floor consideration of Labor-HHS has not been scheduled for the House or Senate. The House Republicans still appear to be short votes.
- **Key emergency vote yesterday** -- In debate over appointing Ag Approp. Conferees, Rep. Kaptur (D-OH) offered a motion to instruct conferees to adopt Senate agricultural disaster provisions, including designating the funding as an emergency requirement, without offsets, agreed to (voice vote). Rep. Coburn (R-OK) led an effort to insist that the agricultural disaster assistance be paid for. He lost on a vote of 331-66.
- House/Senate Republican leadership appear to be preparing a multi-billion dollar emergency spending bill that is likely to be incorporated into either the presumed omnibus bill or the Defense bill. The emergency package would include:
 - Y2K (\$3.25 billion);
 - Bosnia (\$1.9 billion);
 - Anti-terrorism (\$1.5 to \$2.0 billion);
 - South Korea flooding (\$0.3 billion);
 - Defense readiness, possibly including anti-missile defense funding (\$2 to \$3 billion);
 - Agriculture disaster funding (Speaker Gingrich has Republican staff working on a \$3 to \$5 billion package); and,
 - an initiative to fight the drug war in the Western Hemisphere (amount unknown).
- The House is expected to take up a clean, short-term CR either late this week or on Thursday, September 24th. The CR will likely run through October 9th or October 11th.
- Only one bill, Military Construction, has been through conference. The conference report has been approved by the House and Senate, and the enrolled bill arrived at the White House 9/10/98.

- Eight other bills have been passed by both the House and the Senate and await conference action:
 - Agriculture/Rural Development
 - Commerce/Justice/State
 - Defense
 - Energy/Water Development
 - Legislative Branch
 - Transportation
 - Treasury/General Government
 - VA/HUD/Independent Agencies.
- Seven bills currently have veto threats attached to either the House (seven) or Senate (three) versions of the bills (or pending amendments):
 - 1) Commerce/Justice/State
 - Senior advisers veto recommendation on House-passed bill due to inadequate funding of priority programs (e.g., LSC) and objectionable language provisions (e.g., Census).
 - 2) Defense
 - Senior national security advisers veto recommendation on House-passed bill due to section 8106 requirement for prior congressional approval before the President can initiate offensive military operations.
 - 3) District of Columbia
 - Senior advisers veto recommendation on House-passed bill due to funding for school vouchers, prohibition of adoption in the District by couples who are unmarried or not related by blood, and prohibition on needle exchange program. Potential senior advisers veto recommendation on Senate Committee bill if an amendment were adopted to provide for the use of private school vouchers in D.C. (not added in Senate Committee but could be added on Senate Floor.) (Note: Senate position not yet sent.)
 - 4) Foreign Operations
 - Senior advisers veto recommendation on House Subcommittee and Senate Committee bill due to inadequate funding for key Administration priorities such as IMF (House), NIS (House and Senate) and GEF (House and Senate) and a number of objectionable language provisions.
 - 5) Interior
 - Senior advisers veto recommendation on House-passed and Senate Committee bill due to inadequate funding of priority programs (Energy Conservation/Climate Change) and large number of objectionable language provisions (e.g., Columbia River Basin Ecosystem Management Project).

6) Labor/HHS/Education

- Presidential veto threat on House Committee bill due to very serious funding and language issues, including \$2 billion cut to request for education program funding, language restricting development of programs to raise academic standards, Labor-related riders, and numerous other issues.

7) VA/HUD/Independent Agencies

- Senior advisers veto recommendation on House-passed bill due to under-funding of key Presidential priorities such as National Service, Superfund, and climate change, and problematic language regarding the Kyoto Protocol.

Major Labor/HHS/Education Programs Affecting Families and Children

Last year, President Clinton delivered a bipartisan balanced budget agreement that made critical investments in our children, including the largest investment in children's health since Medicaid was created and tax credits to make the college more affordable. Building on that success, the President proposed a balanced budget that included important investments to prepare our children for the 21st century, including more affordable quality child care, smaller class sizes, and modernized schools.

The Labor/HHS/Education appropriation bill is a key vehicle for making these investments. The Administration has paid very close attention to the bill and made our position very clear at every step of the process: both at the subcommittee and full committee level in the House and the Senate.

The **House** full committee bill returns to partisanship and by turning its back on our children's future. The bill that denies young people across the country important education, training, and job opportunities.

The **Senate** full committee bill represents a dramatic departure from and improvement over the House Committee's actions. While there remain important issues to resolve, the Administration recognizes the Committees efforts to act in a bi-partisan manner to restore funding to key priorities, including Summer Youth Employment and Low Income Home Energy Assistance, and to provide increased funding for a number of very important education, training, and health investments.

There is still more that must be done. The only way to achieve the appropriate investment level for programs funded by this bill is to offset the necessary additional discretionary spending by using savings in other areas.

The President's FY 1999 Budget proposes levels of discretionary spending for FY 1999 that conform to the Bipartisan Budget Agreement by making savings through user fees and certain mandatory programs to help finance this spending.

In the Transportation Equity Act, Congress -- on a broad, bipartisan basis -- took similar action in approving funding for surface transportation programs paid for with mandatory offsets. In addition, this year, as in the past, such mandatory offsets have been approved by the House and Senate in other appropriations bills. We want to work with the Congress on mutually-agreeable mandatory and other offsets that could be used to increase funding for high-priority discretionary programs, including those funded by this bill.

Summer Jobs Program. The House eliminates the \$871 million Summer Jobs program, which could finance 530,000 summer jobs for economically disadvantaged youth. The unemployment rate for teens continues to far exceed the overall unemployment rate. The Summer Jobs program plays a vital role in supporting employment among these teens, especially among African-American youths -- approximately 25 percent of summer jobs held by African-American 14-15

year olds come through this program -- and serves as a valuable introduction to the world of work. The Senate fully funds this program.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). The House Committee Bill would eliminate funding for the Low Income Heating Assistance Program. This would force over five million of our Nation's most vulnerable households to choose between heating their homes or feeding their families. Over 36 percent of LIHEAP households have elderly residents, 32 percent have disabled residents, 27 percent have children under the age of six, and 27 percent are the working poor who do not receive any other public assistance. The Senate Committee restores full funding for LIHEAP. The importance of LIHEAP was underscored this summer, when the program provided valuable relief from the heat wave and drought in many Southern States.

Head Start. The Senate Committee provides the full \$4.66 billion requested by the President for Head Start. Of these funds, \$1.365 are not available for obligation until 10/1/99. The House Committee provides \$4.5 billion, \$160 million below the request. Up to 25,000 fewer children would receive services at the House level. Head Start funds will help many poor children prepare more effectively for school and the P.B. and Senate funding levels will maintain progress toward the President's goal of making one million Head Start opportunities available annually.

Child Care. The President's request for the child care initiative included \$180 million to enhance child care health and safety standards enforcement, give child care workers scholarships to improve their skills, and increase our commitment to understand and better evaluate how our nation's child care system is working. The House did not provide this funding. The Senate Committee advance appropriated \$1.183 billion for child care in FY 2000. As currently drafted, the Senate bill provides the increase of \$180 million for additional child care subsidies -- not for the standards enforcement, provider scholarships, and research activities proposed by the Administration.

Developmental Disabilities Support The President's request also includes \$5 million to assist States in developing support systems for families of children with disabilities. The House provided no funding; the Senate provided \$6 million.

Adoption Assistance The House did provide the full \$47 million requested by the President for adoption opportunities and to provide incentives to states that increase the number of children adopted from the foster care system. The Senate provided \$2 million less than the House.

Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) The President's Budget reduced mandatory funding for SSBG by \$471 million below the authorized FY 1999 level (\$390 million below the FY 1998 enacted level) to provide a discretionary offset to increase funds for higher priority programs in the appropriations bill. The Senate adopted the Administration proposal, the House reduced SSBG by \$81 million, the same level as in FY 1998.

Goals 2000 The House cuts the President's \$501 million request for Goals 2000 by \$255 million, which would reverse momentum in all 50 States to raise academic standards and deny 6,000 schools serving over three million students the funds needed to implement innovative education

reforms. The Senate provides \$496 million for Goals 2000, \$5 million less than the President's request.

Education Technology The President requested \$721 million for education technology, a \$137 million increase over FY 1998. This request would fund a new initiative to improve the training of teachers in the effective use of new technology in the classroom, and would provide a \$50 million increase in the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund (TLCF), which would provide schools with modern technology-related services and equipment to help students learn more effectively. Neither the House nor Senate funds the teacher training initiative, and neither provide any of the President's requested increase for the TLCF.

Title I (Education for the Disadvantaged) Grants to Local Educational Agencies The House cuts the President's \$7.767 billion request for this program by \$392 million, providing a total of \$7.375 billion, which would deny additional help to nearly 520,000 students in high-poverty communities. The Senate bill cuts the President's request by \$91 million, for a total appropriation of \$7.676 billion.

America Reads The House and Senate both deny the \$210 million provided in last year's Bipartisan Budget Agreement for children's literacy, and the additional \$50 million the President requested for this program. Denying these funds would prevent thousands of young children from receiving the extra tutoring they need to read well and independently by the end of the third grade.

High Hopes The House does not fund the President's new \$140 million High Hopes initiative, which would help prepare approximately 175,000 students in high poverty middle schools for college. The Senate provides \$75 million for this program, which would serve approximately 80,000 fewer students than the President's request.

National Tests Both the House and Senate bills include objectionable language that would hinder efforts to help States and parents raise academic standards through a voluntary national tests. Language in the House bill would prohibit the use of any funds to implement, administer, or even develop these national tests. The Senate bill's language is less objectionable, as it would allow the Department of Education to continue to develop these voluntary national tests. But, unfortunately, the Senate bill would still prohibit field testing, implementation, and administration of these tests.

After-School Programs (21st Century Community Learning Centers) As a part of the child care initiative, the President requested \$200 million, a \$160 million increase from FY 1998, to provide educational after-school activities to approximately 500,000 children. The House cuts the President's request by \$140 million and the Senate cuts it by \$125 million.

Youth Opportunity Areas (YOA) The YOA program supports multiple education, job training, and social services for about 50,000 youth annually in Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, and similar high poverty areas. The program goal is to boost employment among out-of-school youth in the local area from under 50% currently to 80%. The President's FY

1999 budget requested a FY 2000 Advance Appropriation (AA) of \$250 million to fund the second year of Federal-to-local competitive grants averaging \$14 million annually to 15-20 high poverty/unemployment areas. The FY 1999 request was in addition to the FY 1999 AA of \$250 million provided by Congress last year, contingent upon enactment of authorizing legislation by July 1, 1998 (authorizing legislation was enacted in August). The House Committee-reported bill (1) provides no funding for the \$250 million FY 2000 AA requested in the FY 1999 Budget and; (2) rescinds the \$250 million FY 1999 contingent AA provided in FY 1998 for this program. The Senate Committee bill (1) provides \$125 million of the \$250 million FY 1999 AA requested and; (2) provides the total \$250 million FY 2000 AA requested.

Child care apprenticeships The President's request for the child care initiative included \$5 million in the Labor Department to replicate a model for training registered apprentices as child care development specialists. In limited operation since 1989, this model incorporates on-the-job training and postsecondary education to produce highly qualified child care providers; improve the earnings and career potential of child care workers; and promote stability and reduced turnover in the child care industry. This model has produced some 300 child care apprenticeship graduates, all of whom are employed in the child care industry. Another 500 apprentices currently are enrolled in the program. The House committee bill provides no funding for the initiative. The Senate committee provides \$4 million.

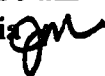
Efforts against child labor The President requested an additional \$36 million in the Department of Labor to combat child labor abuses domestically and internationally. The DOL initiative includes (1) \$27 million for the Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) to increase its contributions to the International Labor Organization's International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labor (IPEC) to \$30 million; (2) \$4 million to target child labor abuses in U.S. agriculture by increasing enforcement efforts and data collection; and (3) \$5 million for demonstration programs to provide alternatives to field work for migrant youth. The House committee provides an additional \$6 million for the initiative, comprised of \$3 million for ILAB and \$3 million for increased enforcement and data collection. The House provided no funding for migrant youth demonstrations. The Senate committee provides \$37 million in new funds for DOL, fully funding the requests for IPEC, migrant youth demonstrations, and improved data collection.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 14, 1998

MEETING WITH DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSWOMEN

DATE: Tuesday, September 15, 1998
LOCATION: Yellow Oval, Residence
TIME: 9:30 am - 10:30 am
FROM: Janet Murguia 

I. PURPOSE

To meet with Democratic women Members of Congress regarding issues facing America's families and children which remain at stake in the 105th Congress.

II. BACKGROUND

Congresswomen Juanita Millender-McDonald, Eleanor Holmes Norton, Rosa DeLauro, and Nancy Pelosi have invited their Democratic women colleagues to join you for a discussion regarding key issues affecting families and children which remain at stake in the 105th Congress. Their hope is that this discussion will energize women of the House and Senate and encourage them to focus their constituencies on these critically important issues.

The shared Democratic Fall Legislative/Administration Agenda includes: Education, Health Care, Social Security and the Environment. In addition, key appropriations bills affecting child care, Head Start, adoption, LIHEAP, and summer jobs will be addressed prior to adjournment. Attached are two documents for your review: (1) Overview of Issues/ Talking points and (2) Appropriations Issues.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Pre-Brief

First Lady
Melanne Verveer
Ann Lewis
Janet Murguia
Jennifer Klein

Event

Members of Congress

Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA)
Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC)
Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY)
Rep. Corrine Brown (D-FL) * coming late
Rep. Julia Carson (D-IN)
Rep. Pat Danner (D-MO)
Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)
Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-CA)
Rep. Donna Christian-Green (D-VI)
Rep. Jane Harman (D-CA)
Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)
Rep. Barbara Kennelly (D-CT)
Rep. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (D-MI)
Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA)
Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY)
Rep. Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY)
Rep. Karen McCarthy (D-MO)
Rep. Cynthia McKinney (D-GA)
Rep. Juanita Millender-McDonald (D-CA)
Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)
Rep. Lynn Rivers (D-MI)
Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA)
Rep. Deborah Ann Stabenow (D-MI)
Rep. Lynn Woolsey (D-CA)

Pending

Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA)
Rep. Eva Clayton (D-NC)
Rep. Elizabeth Furse (D-OR)
Rep. Darlene Hooley (D-OR)
Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX)
Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH)
Rep. Carrie Meek (D-FL)
Rep. Patsy Mink (D-HI)
Rep. Loretta Sanchez (D-CA)
Rep. Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY)
Rep. Karen Thurman (D-FL)
Rep. Nydia Velazquez (D-NY)
Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA)

IV. PRESS PLAN

Closed Press.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

To be briefed on site.

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

September 14, 1998

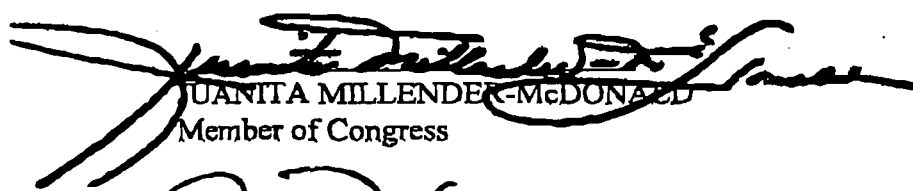
Dear Democratic Congresswoman:

We would like to invite you to a private meeting between First Lady Hillary Clinton and the Democratic Congresswomen on Tuesday, September 15th. The meeting will take place at the White House from 9 to 9:30 am.

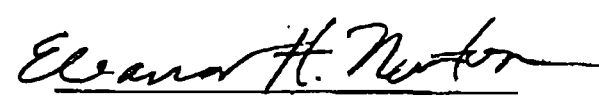
The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the issues affecting America's families and how we might address those issues in the final weeks of the 105th Congress. Children and families continue to need our leadership on issues of child care, education, health care, and a Social Security system that addresses the different employment experiences of women. The time has come for the women of the House to continue to provide strong leadership on issues that affect children and families the most.

We hope that you will join us tomorrow for this important meeting with the First Lady. Please RSVP to Liz Powell with Congresswoman Millender-McDonald at 5-7924.

Sincerely,



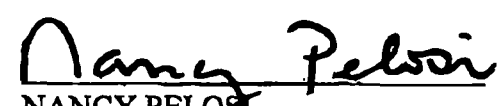
JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD
Member of Congress



ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
Member of Congress



ROSA DeLAURO
Member of Congress



NANCY PELOSI
Member of Congress

**MEETING WITH CONGRESSIONAL WOMEN DEMOCRATS:
OVERVIEW OF ISSUES/TALKING POINTS
September 15, 1998**

Issues for this Congress

Appropriations. Last year, Democrats and Republicans worked together to produce a cooperative, bipartisan budget agreement. This year, House Republicans rejected cooperation for confrontation and produced a budget without Democratic support or participation. The House budget bills -- many of which the President has vowed to veto -- fulfill wish lists of the ideological right wing, and slashes the President's proposed investments. The Senate Appropriations Committee has rejected this approach and has approved a Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Bill that is much closer to addressing our priorities. Still, work remains to be done. We must protect critical investments, such as:

- Head Start;
- Child Care Discretionary Funding (\$182 million as allocated by the Senate);
- Goals 2000;
- America Reads literacy program;
- High Hopes Scholarships;
- National testing to raise academic standards
- WIC nutrition program for low-income women, infants and children.

[See Addendum for full discussion of key Appropriations Issues]

Bankruptcy Reform. Bankruptcy reform legislation has posed significant threats to women and children by endangering child support and alimony collection. The House-passed bill failed to address these threats. Because of our collective advocacy efforts and pressure, the Senate bill now under consideration includes many needed improvements. Still, we must be vigilant as this bill moves to Conference to make sure that child support is protected and that this bill is more balanced to address abuse by both consumers and creditors.

Head Start. Head Start is up for reauthorization this year, and House Republicans had been playing politics with this important, historically bipartisan program. Because of pressure from many of you, the House moved yesterday to approve a bill that removes many of the objectionable provisions, including vouchers. We must work to get through Conference and finish Head Start reauthorization this year.

Issues Requiring Ongoing Attention

Child Care. We must continue to work together on this issue that Americans, particularly women, care deeply about. The Child Care Action Campaign and the Children's Defense Fund recently released a survey showing that women voters overwhelmingly support stronger national investment in child care. Fifty-three percent of women said they would be extremely or very likely to vote for a candidate who supports helping low-income working families afford quality

child care. Sixty-nine percent would be extremely or very likely to vote for a candidate who supports after-school programs. The House Democrats (led by many of you) introduced a significant child care bill in June, and the Administration remains committed to getting meaningful child care legislation done.

Patients' Bill of Rights. We need to push for a *real* patients' bill of rights that includes: direct access to specialists; access to emergency services; continuity of care provisions to protect patients from abrupt changes if their provider is dropped from a health plan; and strong enforcement provisions. The Republican Leadership's bills have serious flaws. For example they do not cover all health plans, leaving millions of Americans without protections; do not assure access to emergency services; fail to protect continuity of care; and undermine existing privacy protections.

Social Security. The President is committed to reserving any future budget surplus until a bipartisan plan to save Social Security is enacted. As you have noted in your June letter to the President, we must consider the effects on women of any proposal to reform Social Security. Women represent 60 percent of all Social Security recipients, and elderly unmarried women get more than half of their income from Social Security. The current system protects women (for example, by providing an inflation-protected benefit that lasts as long as a recipient lives, and by providing benefits that are a higher fraction of lifetime earnings for lower income workers). We need to work together to protect women as we reform and strengthen Social Security.

Education. The President remains committed to strengthening public education by: reducing class size by helping local schools hire 100,000 teachers; calling for federal tax credits to help renovate and build over 5,000 public schools; bringing technology into classrooms; passing America Reads legislation; strengthening and expanding charter schools; and continuing to fight for voluntary national standards and tests in 4th grade reading and 8th grade math.

Tobacco. First and foremost, the President will continue to push for comprehensive bipartisan legislation that will significantly reduce youth smoking by imposing a significant price increase on cigarettes, reaffirming FDA's full authority over tobacco products, and imposing heavy surcharges on tobacco companies that keep marketing tobacco to young people. But even as we continue to fight to enact legislation, the President is moving forward to reduce youth smoking by executive action. He has directed HHS to coordinate a public health review of the recently-released tobacco industry documents and to develop a plan to make the documents more accessible to the public. He also called on HHS to collect more accurate information on teen tobacco use, including information on tobacco use by brand, so that parents will know which companies are marketing products to their children.

Children's Access to Guns. As it seems more and more likely that Congress will recess without passing a juvenile crime bill, attention has turned towards the issue of children's access to guns. The President has called on Congress to pass a tough, targeted federal Child Access Prevention (CAP) law that holds adults responsible if they allow children easy access to loaded firearms,

with new penalties to punish the most egregious offenders. A recent study published by the Journal of the American Medical Association found that CAP laws reduced fatal unintentional shootings by an average of 23 percent. We will continue to work to pass this legislation in the next Congress.

Women's Health.

- **Genetic Discrimination.** Studies show that a leading reason women do not get genetic testing for breast cancer is because they fear the information will be used to discriminate against them. The President will continue to urge Congress to pass bipartisan legislation to prohibit health plans from inappropriately using genetic screening information to deny coverage, set premiums, or to distribute confidential information, and to prohibit employers from using genetic information to discriminate against employees.
- **Increasing Support for Family Planning.** We need to continue to make progress on family planning and other women's health issues. The President's FY 1999 budget increases funding for Title X Family Planning grants by \$15 million -- a 46 percent increase since FY 1992 -- and increases funding by about \$200 million for the National Institutes of Health for research on infertility and contraception, and for CDC programs to educate teenagers about sexual development and abstinence.
- **Medicare Buy-In.** Currently, three million Americans ages 55 to 65 are uninsured, and women make up 60 percent of this population. The President's proposal helps this vulnerable population access to health insurance by allowing Americans ages 62 to 65 to buy into Medicare, through a premium that ensures that this policy is self-financed, and providing vulnerable displaced workers 55 and over access to Medicare by offering those who have involuntarily lost their jobs and their health care coverage a similar Medicare buy-in option.

21st Century Research Fund. Scientists are on the cusp of dramatic breakthroughs in biomedical research. The President is proposing a sustained investment in biomedical research -- with a 50 percent increase in the National Institutes of Health in the next five years -- so that \$20 billion will be dedicated to biomedical research in 2003. In FY99 alone, the "21st Century Research Fund" would provide the largest increases in history for the NIH (\$1.15 billion). (The Senate version of Labor-HHS increases funding for NIH by \$2 billion for FY 99, while the House version increases funding by \$1.2 billion).

ADDENDUM: APPROPRIATIONS ISSUES

MAJOR LABOR/HHS/EDUCATION PROGRAMS AFFECTING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Summer Jobs Program. The House eliminates the \$871 million Summer Jobs program, which could finance 530,000 summer jobs for economically disadvantaged youth. The unemployment rate for teens continues to far exceed the overall unemployment rate. The Summer Jobs program plays a vital role in supporting employment among these teens, especially among African-American youths -- approximately 25 percent of summer jobs held by African-American 14-15 year olds come through this program -- and serves as a valuable introduction to the world of work. The Senate fully funds this program.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). The House Committee Bill would eliminate funding for the Low Income Heating Assistance Program. This would force over five million of our Nation's most vulnerable households to choose between heating their homes or feeding their families. Over 36 percent of LIHEAP households have elderly residents, 32 percent have disabled residents, 27 percent have children under the age of six, and 27 percent are the working poor who do not receive any other public assistance. The Senate Committee restores full funding for LIHEAP. The importance of LIHEAP was underscored this summer, when the program provided valuable relief from the heat wave and drought in many Southern States.

Head Start. The Senate Committee provides the full \$4.66 billion requested by the President for Head Start. Of these funds, \$1.365 are not available for obligation until 10/1/99. The House Committee provides \$4.5 billion, \$160 million below the request. Up to 25,000 fewer children would receive services at the House level. Head Start funds will help many poor children prepare more effectively for school and the P.B. and Senate funding levels will maintain progress toward the President's goal of making one million Head Start opportunities available annually.

Child Care. The President's request for the child care initiative included \$180 million to enhance child care health and safety standards enforcement, give child care workers scholarships to improve their skills, and increase our commitment to understand and better evaluate how our nation's child care system is working. The House did not provide this funding. The Senate Committee advance appropriated \$1.183 billion for child care in FY 2000. As currently drafted, the Senate bill provides the increase of \$180 million for additional child care subsidies --not for the standards enforcement, provider scholarships, and research activities proposed by the Administration.

Developmental Disabilities Support. The President's request also includes \$5 million to assist States in developing support systems for families of children with disabilities. The House provided no funding; the Senate provided \$6 million.

Adoption Assistance. The House did provide the full \$47 million requested by the President for adoption opportunities and to provide incentives to states that increase the number of children adopted from the foster care system. The Senate provided \$2 million less than the House.

Social Services Block Grant (SSBG). The President's Budget reduced mandatory funding for SSBG by \$471 million below the authorized FY 1999 level (\$390 million below the FY 1998 enacted level) to provide a discretionary offset to increase funds for higher priority programs in the appropriations bill. The Senate adopted the Administration proposal, the House reduced SSBG by \$81 million, the same level as in FY 1998.

Goals 2000. The House cuts the President's \$501 million request for Goals 2000 by \$255 million, which would reverse momentum in all 50 States to raise academic standards and deny 6,000 schools serving over three million students the funds needed to implement innovative education reforms. The Senate provides \$496 million for Goals 2000, \$5 million less than the President's request.

Education Technology. The President requested \$721 million for education technology, a \$137 million increase over FY 1998. This request would fund a new initiative to improve the training of teachers in the effective use of new technology in the classroom, and would provide a \$50 million increase in the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund (TLCF), which would provide schools with modern technology-related services and equipment to help students learn more effectively. Neither the House nor Senate funds the teacher training initiative, and neither provide any of the President's requested increase for the TLCF.

Title I (Education for the Disadvantaged) Grants to Local Educational Agencies. The House cuts the President's \$7.767 billion request for this program by \$392 million, providing a total of \$7.375 billion, which would deny additional help to nearly 520,000 students in high-poverty communities. The Senate bill cuts the President's request by \$91 million, for a total appropriation of \$7.676 billion.

America Reads. The House and Senate both deny the \$210 million provided in last year's Bipartisan Budget Agreement for children's literacy, and the additional \$50 million the President requested for this program. Denying these funds would prevent thousands of young children from receiving the extra tutoring they need to read well and independently by the end of the third grade.

High Hopes. The House does not fund the President's new \$140 million High Hopes initiative, which would help prepare approximately 175,000 students in high poverty middle schools for college. The Senate provides \$75 million for this program, which would serve approximately 80,000 fewer students than the President's request.

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After-School Programs (21st Century Community Learning Centers). As a part of the child care initiative, the President requested \$200 million, a \$160 million increase from FY 1998, to provide educational after-school activities to approximately 500,000 children. The House cuts the President's request by \$140 million and the Senate cuts it by \$125 million.

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Efforts Against Child Labor. The President requested an additional \$36 million in the Department of Labor to combat child labor abuses domestically and internationally. The DOL initiative includes (1) \$27 million for the Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) to increase its contributions to the International Labor Organization's International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labor (IPEC) to \$30 million; (2) \$4 million to target child labor abuses in U.S. agriculture by increasing enforcement efforts and data collection; and (3) \$5 million for demonstration programs to provide alternatives to field work for migrant youth. The House committee provides an additional \$6 million for the initiative, comprised of \$3 million for ILAB and \$3 million for increased enforcement and data collection. The House provided no funding for migrant youth demonstrations. The Senate committee provides \$37 million in new funds for DOL, fully funding the requests for IPEC, migrant youth demonstrations, and improved data collection.

OTHER APPROPRIATIONS BILLS -- MAJOR ISSUES AFFECTING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

The WIC Program. The President has requested an increase of \$157 million for WIC, the nutrition program for low-income women, infants and children. The House would refuse to increase WIC funding beyond the current level and the Senate would add \$24 million to the current level, still leaving it well below the President's request.

Housing Vouchers. In the area of housing vouchers, the President's budget proposed an important additional step to promote work and welfare reform through a plan to provide 50,000 new housing vouchers to welfare recipients who need housing assistance in order to get or keep a job. Both the House and Senate have not provided sufficient funding for this critical initiative. The HUD/VA Appropriations bill passed by the House provides for only 17,700 Welfare to Work Housing Vouchers. The bill passed by the Senate provides for only 7,000 housing vouchers.

Census Sampling. Congress would provide funding only for the first half of the year. This would disrupt hiring of temporary workers and other key functions, and would lead to a less accurate census and undercount minorities and children. Many Federal agencies like the EEOC are statutorily required to use decennial census data to develop, evaluate and implement their programs. In the last census, in 1990, children made up more than half the undercounted, even though they account for about one-quarter of the population.

Restrictions on Family Planning and Abortion:

- The President's request to increase funding for family planning services at clinics by \$15 million (a 46% increase since 1992) would be denied by the House and the Senate. The House would deny any additional funds and the Senate would underfund the President's budget by \$3 million.
- A House provision would limit the ability of family planning clinics to help prevent unintended pregnancies by requiring minors to either receive parental consent or provide advance notice before receiving contraceptives.
- A provision in the House would prohibit the FDA from testing, developing, or approving any drug for the chemical inducement of abortion, which would include RU-486, thereby usurping the Agency's role in making scientific determinations about the effect of drugs on the safety and health of the American people.
- While maintaining current restrictions on FEHBP coverage of abortions, the House bill further tightens access by denying currently legal abortion coverage, i.e., danger to the mother's life, rape or incest. The Senate bill continues the current restrictions on FEHBP coverage of abortions.
- Both the House and Senate would prohibit the Bureau of Prisons from funding abortions, except in the cases of rape, incest, or the life of the mother.

- Both the House and Senate would retain and expand the Hyde Amendment, which severely limits the use of funds in the Labor/HHS bill for abortion.
- A provision in the House bars the use of U.S. population funds for non-governmental organizations if the organization uses any of its own resources for abortion-related services.

Meeting with Congressional
Democratic Women**Key Points:**

I think that this is not the forum to address the investigation in any direct matter, but it could be addressed in the sense that the remarks she gives to the women's caucus are about all of us (including the President) not being diverted from the important fight we have on our hands this month to ensure that our budget reflects our values and priorities.

The polling this last week showed the importance of many issues that reflect on the basic values of protecting and nurturing our children:

Now is the time to stand by the principles for maintaining important investments in education and training. We have balanced the budget, and now we have to maintain Social Security First and support a budget this year that meets our values:

The Republicans have issued threats against some very important programs, and this month we need to make sure that we have a budget that meets our priorities and values.

Each one of the threats made by the Republicans against these programs is really an assault on the needs of families to raise and educate their children – from Head Start and Child Care to Proper nutrition and child care safety.

The programs involved that we have to fight for are: (you can then put together specific information on these issues, but these are the ones in contention and that polled through the roof):

- Funding of the America Reads Program – they are threatening to cut \$260 million in funding to ensure that every third grader can read – one of our most important educational priorities for young children.
- WIC funding for 100,000 need participants that has been threatened
- Fight Republican efforts to curb head Start to 85,000 participants. Funding for Head Start that must be expanded, not just maintained, given the critical nature of this program.
- Funding for Child Care safety programs, which the Republicans have blocked
- Attempts to eliminate the Summer Jobs Program
- Cut the national service opportunities offer to young persons through Americorps

The attachments document some of the facts that we have on this and the polling as well.

[Mark Penn - Penn, Schoen + Berland]

This chart ranks which programs are most important to voters in the budget negotiations. WIC funding, America Reads, Head Start, Child Care and tax cuts before Social Security are all at the top of the list.

Following are some criticisms of the Republican's budget. After I read each one, I'd like you to tell me if it makes you much more likely to support the Republican's budget, somewhat more likely to support, somewhat more likely to oppose or much more likely to oppose the Republican's budget?	All		Party		
	Much More Likely to Oppose	Support/Oppose	D	R	I
The Republican budget cuts funding for the Women, Infants and Children's Supplemental Nutrition program, cutting off 100,000 needy participants.	48	28/70	24/ 76	54/ 39	16/ 85
The Republican budget cuts 260 million dollars for the America Reads Challenge, denying funding to schools and communities to improve reading programs and provide tutors.	48	28/69	14/ 81	57/ 41	22/ 76
The Republican budget denies child-care funding to improve and enforce health and safety standards.	45	30/67	16/ 85	52/ 43	27/ 71
The Republican budget enacts tax cuts before the future of Social Security is protected.	44	32/65	25/ 75	56/ 42	22/ 73
The Republican budget cuts Head Start by denying slots in the Head Start program to up to 25,000 low-income children.	43	28/69	22/ 78	49/ 46	19/ 76
The Republican budget eliminates the Summer Jobs programs which gives disadvantaged youths the opportunity to gain work experience over the summer months.	42	32/64	25/ 71	49/ 50	29/ 66
The Republican budget eliminates funding for mentoring and tutoring to at-risk middle-school students to raise education expectations and eliminate barriers to college.	40	33/63	20/ 74	49/ 44	28/ 68
The Republican budget eliminates National Service, denying 49,000 Americans the opportunity to serve in Americorps and denying over 1 million students a chance to participate in service learning activities.	40	38/57	17/ 80	51/ 40	44/ 50
The Republican budget denies funds for after-school programs which give students a safe place to be after school for recreation, to do homework and to get extra help.	39	37/59	27/ 72	54/ 43	36/ 60
The Republican budget denies funding to schools nationwide to provide students and teachers with access to computers and denies specialized instruction in computers to a large number of new teachers.	38	33/62	21/ 75	61/ 34	23/ 72
The Republican budget denies 6,000 schools nationwide funds to help students reach high standards	37	34/63	24/ 76	53/ 43	30/ 64

and would halt development of voluntary national tests in fourth grade reading and eighth grade math.					
The Republican budget eliminates funding for middle-schools nationwide that would provide full-time Safe and Drug-Free Coordinators.	36	37/57	25/ 74	54/ 39	34/ 57
The Republican budget cuts almost 600 million dollars from Superfund, delaying environmental cleanups nationwide.	36	38/57	26/ 73	64/ 34	32/ 60
The Republican budget eliminates funding that would help low-income families pay for home-heating and home-air-conditioning costs.	35	34/60	19/ 76	60/ 34	28/ 64
The Republican budget cripples our ability to conduct a fair and accurate 2000 census by restricting funding for the Census bureau and prevents the use of statistical sampling.	25	40/49	32/ 61	67/ 24	31/ 55

President Clinton Opposes Extreme House Republican Budget Provisions

Here are some of the extreme 1998 House Republican budget proposals President Clinton opposes...

- **FAILURE TO SAVE SOCIAL SECURITY FIRST:**
Republicans are considering various plans to enact massive tax cuts before Social Security's future is protected. Any budget the President signs will Save Social Security First.
- **ENVIRONMENT— 28 PERCENT CUT IN SUPERFUND:**
The House Republican version of the Veterans Affairs/HUD Appropriations bill *cuts \$593 million (28 percent) from the President's request for Superfund, delaying environmental cleanups nationwide.* [Statement of Administration Policy (SAP), HR 4194, 7/16/98]
- **CENSUS — CRIPPLING OUR ABILITY TO COUNT ALL AMERICANS:**
The House Republican Commerce/Justice/State Appropriations bill *cripples our ability to conduct a fair and accurate 2000 Census by restricting funding for the Census Bureau — preventing the use of statistical sampling.* [SAP, H.R. 4276, 8/3/98]
- **EDUCATION — TITLE I CUTS WOULD EFFECT 520,000 CHILDREN:**
The House Republican version of the Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations bill *cuts \$392 million from the President's request for Title I Programs, which would reduce education opportunities for 520,000 disadvantaged children.* [SAP, H.R. 4274, 8/4/98]
- **EDUCATION/SERVICE — ELIMINATION OF NATIONAL SERVICE:**
The House Republican version of the Veterans Affairs/HUD Appropriations bill *eliminates National Service, denying 49,000 Americans the opportunity to serve as Americorps members and denying over one million students a chance to participate in service learning activities.* [SAP, H.R. 4194, 7/16/98]
- **EDUCATION — AFTER-SCHOOL CARE DENIED TO NEARLY 400,000 CHILDREN:**
The House Republican version of the Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations bill *cuts \$140 million from the President's request for after-school care programs, resulting in 3,000 fewer 21st Century Community Learning Centers and no services to nearly 400,000 children.* [SAP, H.R. 4274, 8/4/98]
- **EDUCATION — DENYING \$260 MILLION FOR "AMERICA READS":**
The House Republican version of the Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations bill *denies a total of \$260 million for the President's "America Reads" Children's Literacy Initiative, preventing thousands of young children from receiving the extra help they need to learn to read by the end of the third grade.* [SAP, H.R. 4274, 8/4/98]
- **SUMMER JOBS — ELIMINATION OF PROGRAM AND 530,000 JOBS:**
The House Republican version of the Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations bill *eliminates the Summer Jobs Program, which provides 530,000 jobs for disadvantaged teens.* [SAP, H.R. 4274, 8/4/98]
- **NUTRITION — CUTTING ASSISTANCE TO 100,000 WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN:**
Both the House and Senate Republican versions of the Agriculture/Rural Development/FDA Appropriations bill *cut \$157 million from the President's request for the Women, Infants And Children's Supplemental Nutrition Program, cutting off 100,000 needy participants.* [SAP, H.R. 4101, 6/23/98; S. 2159, 7/13/98]
- **ENERGY ASSISTANCE — ELIMINATING THE "LIHEAP" PROGRAM:**
The House Republican version of the Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations bill *eliminates the LIHEAP Program, which helps elderly, disabled and children stay cool in the Summer and warm in the Winter.* [SAP, H.R. 4274, 8/4/98]

DNC Material

THE DEMOCRATIC MESSAGE FOR 1998

Democrats nationwide are focused on a single message for the 1998 elections:

■ **DEMOCRATS ARE THE PARTY OF PROGRESS**

President Clinton and Democrats in Congress have made real progress for America and its working families since 1993:

- ✓ The best economy in a generation: 16 million new jobs;
- ✓ A balanced budget: Targeted tax cuts for working families;
- ✓ Tough on crime: Putting 100,000 more cops on the street, and taking guns out of the hands of criminals;
- ✓ Better education: More student loans and HOPE Scholarships;
- ✓ Protecting our children: Cleaning up toxic wastes and the toughest new air quality standards in a generation.

■ **REPUBLICANS ARE THE PARTY OF PARTISANSHIP**

Republicans, however, have chosen the path of partisanship:

- ✓ Voting AGAINST legislation that helps working families: *Against* Family & Medical Leave Act; *against* 100,000 more cops on the street; and *against* a real HMO Patients' Bill of Rights;
- ✓ Voting FOR harmful legislation: *For* slashing Medicare by \$270 billion; *for* cutting the Safe & Drug-Free Schools program; and *for* gutting environmental safeguards;
- ✓ Spending millions in taxpayer money on wasteful, partisan investigations; and
- ✓ Putting right-wing special interests ahead of working families.

THE TOP FOUR DEMOCRATIC ISSUES

Democrats nationwide are focused on four main issues to help America's working families. These four issues most clearly show the differences between Democratic progress and Republican partisanship.

1) SAVING SOCIAL SECURITY:

- ▶ **Democratic** economic programs gave us the first budget surplus in a generation.
- ▶ **Democrats** want to use this surplus to save Social Security for seniors and future generations.
- ▶ **Republicans**, however, want to raid the Social Security surplus with a risky scheme to give \$750 billion in wasteful tax cuts to their richest campaign contributors -- instead of saving Social Security first.

2) A REAL PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS:

- ▶ **Democrats** are fighting for a **real** HMO Patients' Bill of Rights that allows HMO doctors -- not accountants -- to make crucial health care decisions.
- ▶ **Republicans** do not want to protect patients. Republicans first instructed their lobbyist-donors to kill HMO reform. **Then** the GOP killed a real Patients' Bill of Rights. Instead, Republicans want a weak, election-year version that leaves 100 million Americans unprotected.

3) IMPROVING EDUCATION:

- ▶ **Democrats** want to hire an additional 100,000 elementary school teachers to reduce average class size to below 18 students per teacher.
- ▶ **Democrats** want to rebuild and repair 5,000 rundown public school buildings.
- ▶ **Republicans** voted to kill both of these common-sense proposals. Instead, Republicans want to undermine our public education system by shifting scarce resources from public schools to private schools.

4) PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT:

- ▶ **Democrats** want to protect our children and the environment by cleaning up an additional 170 toxic waste sites in 43 states.
- ▶ **Republicans** are endangering our children by blocking toxic waste clean up, and allowing the big donor-polluters to rewrite vital environmental safeguards.

PROGRESS vs. PARTISANSHIP		
ISSUE	DEMOCRATIC PROGRESS	REPUBLICAN PARTISANSHIP
<u>SAVE SOCIAL SECURITY:</u> Dedicate budget surplus to saving Social Security for future generations.	FOR	AGAINST
<u>PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS:</u> Permit HMO doctors -- not accountants -- to make vital health care decisions.	FOR	AGAINST
<u>SMALLER CLASS SIZE:</u> Hire 100,000 more elementary school teachers to reduce class size to under 18 students per teacher.	FOR	AGAINST
<u>REBUILD 5,000 PUBLIC SCHOOLS:</u> Repair and rebuild 5,000 rundown public schools.	FOR	AGAINST
<u>STOP TEEN SMOKING:</u> Stop Big Tobacco from selling its deadly products to America's youth.	FOR	AGAINST
<u>CLEAN UP TOXIC WASTE:</u> Clean up 170 more toxic waste sites in 43 states.	FOR	AGAINST
<u>PROTECT & EXPAND MEDICARE:</u> Protect Medicare against \$270 billion in extreme cuts and expand it to older displaced workers.	FOR	AGAINST
<u>SAFE & DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS:</u> Protect the Safe & Drug-Free schools program from extreme cuts.	FOR	AGAINST
<u>TOUGH ON CRIME:</u> Fight crime with 100,000 more cops on the street, Assault Weapons Ban, and the Brady Bill.	FOR	AGAINST

NIGHTMARE ON YOUR STREET: WHAT HAPPENS TO WOMEN IF REPUBLICANS WIN IN NOVEMBER

Why do women need to actively support Democratic candidates this fall? Republicans already tried to kill, cut, and undermine programs that help women and their families -- but were stopped by President Clinton and Democrats in Congress. But if the GOP wins this fall, here's what they could do:

EDUCATION CUTS: *Republicans Will Sacrifice Public Education to Appease Their Right-Wing Base*

- Republicans are choosing right-wing special interests over America's children, and they want to dismantle public education.
- Republicans already voted to slash spending for student loans, Pell Grants, Safe and Drug-Free Schools, and the Head Start program. In fact, Republicans even wanted to eliminate the Department of Education.
- If Republicans win in November, they will continue to kill, cut and undermine vital education programs like Head Start, student loans, and Safe and Drug-Free schools. Republicans this year already killed plans to hire 100,000 new teachers to reduce classroom size and rebuild 5,000 run-down public schools. In short, the Republican education plan means fewer teachers, but more drug dealers, in our nation's public schools.

LIMITS ON REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS: *Republicans Will Wage An All-Out Assault on Reproductive Rights*

- Republicans want to end a woman's right to choose to appease their right-wing special-interest base.
- Republicans already tried to outlaw abortion for federal workers, military personnel, and poor women; and already tried to reinstate the gag rule, which prevents doctors from even discussing a woman's reproductive options at federally-funded clinics.
- If Republicans win in November, they will continue to restrict women's reproductive rights, forcing more women into deadly back-alley abortions.

MORE HMO HORROR STORIES: *Republicans Put Corporate Profits Ahead of Patients' Health*

- Republicans would rather have accountants -- not doctors -- make life-and-death health care decisions.
- Republicans already voted to kill real reform of Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and already instructed their lobbyist friends to "get off your wallets" and kill health care reform. Instead of real HMO reform, House Republicans passed a phony, election-year "deform" plan and want to leave 100 million Americans unprotected.
- If Republicans win in November, no real health care reform will pass, and convicted criminals will have more health care rights than sick patients. In short, a GOP win means more tragic HMO horror stories because the GOP puts profits ahead of patients.

MORE CRIME: Under Republicans, America Would Have More Crime, Fewer Cops, More Deadly Assault Weapons, Fewer Restrictions on Felons Buying Handguns -- and More Fear

- Republicans are not tough on *crime*; they are tough on *crime prevention*.
- Republicans **already** voted against the tough 1994 anti-crime bill which contained the Violence Against Women Act; **already** voted against putting 100,000 cops on the streets; **already** tried to repeal the Assault Weapons Ban; and **already** voted to slash the Safe and Drug-Free School program.
- If Republicans win in November, they will continue to be the lapdogs of their gun-lobby donors. America will have fewer police officers working to keep us safe; more assault weapons on the streets, and convicted felons will have easier access to handguns. Americans will be less safe in their homes, at work, in school, and walking down the street.

MORE POLLUTION: Republicans Will Weaken Vital Environmental Protections, Leading to Dirty Water, Unhealthy Air, and More Toxic Waste

- Republicans put the interests of corporate polluters ahead of protecting Americans from toxic wastes and dangerous pollutants.
- The GOP **already** allowed fat-cat corporate polluters to write legislation gutting important environmental health and safety standards. In addition, Republicans **already** voted for legislation that would have meant more dirty air, more polluted water, and more toxic wastes.
- If Republicans win in November, polluters will be in charge of public health, meaning more dirty air, more e-coli-tainted meat, more polluted water, and more toxic waste dumps.

NO PAY RAISE: Republicans Won't Raise the Minimum Wage

- Republicans are so out-of-touch with working Americans, they think \$206 per week -- the amount a minimum-wage worker makes before taxes -- is enough to raise a family.
- Republicans **already** tried to kill the 1996 minimum wage increase, and **already** said they would not vote on new Democratic proposals to increase the minimum wage. Six million women benefited from the 1996 increase in the minimum wage.
- If the GOP wins in November, working Americans will be denied a reasonable pay raise. In fact, one Republican said families living only on the minimum wage "*don't really exist*."

FEWER JOBS: Republicans Destroyed the Economy Once -- And They Will Do It Again if They Get A Chance

- The GOP's risky economic proposals would undo six years of economic growth and record prosperity, killing jobs, creating huge deficits, and increasing inflation.
- Republicans **already** voted against the President's 1993 Economic Plan, which created the best economy in 30 years; **already** proposed a risky tax scheme that would loot the Social Security surplus to pay for nearly a *trillion dollars* tax cuts for the rich; and the GOP **already** shut down the government twice in an attempt to force their anti-working family budget on America.
- If Republicans win in November, their risky economic policies will return America to the days of soaring deficits, increased unemployment, and higher inflation -- all while risking the future of Social Security.

PROGRESS VS. PARTISANSHIP**THE ANTI-WOMAN GOP CONGRESS****KEY POINTS FOR WOMEN VOTERS****1. REAL PROGRESS: PRESIDENT, CONGRESSIONAL DEMOCRATS
WORK TO HELP WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

- Democrats and President Clinton Passed the Family and Medical Leave Act.
- President Clinton Signed the Brady Bill, Assault Weapons Ban.
- President Clinton Signed Violence Against Women Act.
- Democrats Raised the Minimum Wage For 6 Million Women.
- President Clinton Imposed Tough Restrictions to Keep Children Tobacco-Free.
- Democrats Fighting To Protect Kids From Guns; Support Trigger Locks on Handguns.
- Democrats Want to Hire 100,000 New Teachers, Rebuild 5,000 Public Schools.
- President Clinton, Democrats Dramatically Increased Head Start Funding by 60 Percent.
- President Clinton, Democrats Expanded and Protected Safe and Drug-Free Schools.
- President Clinton, Democrats Support Expanding Child Care Opportunities
- President Clinton, Democrats Using Budget Surplus To Protect Social Security First.
- President Clinton, Democrats Protected Medicare From \$270 Billion in GOP Cuts.
- President Clinton, Democrats Protecting a Woman's Right To Choose.

**2. PARTISAN GAMES: REPUBLICANS REPEATEDLY TARGET
WOMEN AND CHILDREN FOR PROGRAM CUTS & HARMFUL
LEGISLATION**

- GOP Opposed Family And Medical Leave Act; Oppose Expansion of FMLA.
- GOP Takes \$12 Million From Big Tobacco, Then Killed Anti-Teen Smoking Legislation.
- Republicans Voted to Repeal Assault Weapons Ban, Voted Against Brady Bill.
- Republicans Voted Against the Violence Against Women Act.
- GOP Attacking A Woman's Right To Choose
- GOP Has Repeatedly Voted To Cut Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program.
- GOP Voted To Deny Head Start To 180,000 Children Nationwide.
- FY99 GOP Budget Would Deny Head Start to 85,000 Children.
- Congressional Republicans Tried to End the Federal Guarantee of a School Lunch.
- GOP Voted To Deny Student Loans To Millions of Students.
- GOP Killed Plans To Hire 100,000 New Teachers, Rebuild 5,000 Public Schools.
- GOP Wants to Squander Social Security Surplus on Wasteful Tax Cuts.

President Clinton's Fall Agenda Highlights:
Saving Social Security First, Protecting Patient Rights, Investing in
Education and the Environment, Stabilizing International Financial System
September 3, 1998

President Clinton's economic strategy of fiscal discipline, strategic investments in our people, and opening markets abroad has helped create the strongest economy in a generation and will deliver the first budget surplus in three decades. Now is a time to build on our success and there is much work for Congress to do in the weeks before adjournment. President Clinton, working with the Congress, is determined to:

- ✓ **Save Social Security First** -- The President will fight any attempt to break the budget rules and drain the surplus. His commitment is unwavering: every penny of any future surplus must be reserved until a bipartisan plan to save Social Security is enacted.
- ✓ **Pass a Patients' Bill of Rights** -- The President will work to pass a strong enforceable patients' bill of rights to give Americans the protections they deserve.
- ✓ **Invest in Education** -- The President will work to strengthen public schools through higher standards, expanded opportunities, increased accountability, school modernization and smaller classes, and greater access to technology.
- ✓ **Invest in a Cleaner Environment** -- President Clinton will push his significant new investments to curb water pollution, clean up toxic dumps, protect precious lands, and combat global warming.
- ✓ **Stabilize the International Financial System** -- The President will work to provide the International Monetary Fund (IMF) the resources it needs to protect the international financial system -- and therefore the United States economy.

Save Social Security First

Fiscal discipline has helped create the strongest economy in a generation. In 1992, the deficit stood at a record \$290 billion and was projected by CBO to exceed \$350 billion this year. The President's 1993 Economic Plan helped cut the deficit, lowered interest rates, spurred business investment, and strengthened the economy. With last year's bipartisan Balanced Budget, the President finished the job of balancing the budget and this year we will record the first budget surplus in 29 years. With our fiscal house in order, we must use our solid fiscal footing to face the next major fiscal challenge: the retirement of the baby boom generation. This is why, in his State of the Union in January, President Clinton proposed that every penny of the surplus be reserved to "Save Social Security First."

Building on his tax cutting record, the President has called on Congress to pass targeted tax relief -- to spur school modernization, help families better afford child-care, help clean the environment, expand pension coverage, and develop low-income housing. The President insists that every tax cut and new spending program meet the budget rules and be fully paid for. He will strongly oppose any proposal that breaks the budget rules and drains the surplus. As the President has said:

"I believe we should tell our children and our grandchildren that we think enough of them and their future that we're going to resist spending a penny of the surplus on things that I would very much like to spend it on -- or you would -- until we have met our basic obligation to our future, passing a bipartisan plan to save Social Security" [July 22, 1998, Signing of the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act]

Pass A Patients' Bill of Rights

President Clinton calls on the Congress to pass a strong, enforceable patients' bill of rights that assures Americans the quality health care they need. This bill should include important patient protections such as:

- ✓ **Assuring direct access to specialists.**
- ✓ **Real emergency room protections.**
- ✓ **Continuity of care provisions that protect patients from abrupt changes in treatment.**
- ✓ **A fair, timely, and independent appeals process for patient grievances.**
- ✓ **Enforcement provisions to make these rights real.**

The President has urged the Senate Leadership to make passing the patients' bill of rights the first order of business this fall. The Republicans have proposed legislation that would be more loophole than law. Their proposals cover too few people; provide too few patient protections; and contain unnecessary and irrelevant provisions that undermine the chances for a bipartisan agreement on a patients' bill of rights. For example, these proposals would let HMOs, not informed health professionals, define medical necessity and would fail to guarantee direct access to specialists.

The President is working to implement patients' bill of rights in health plans under Federal jurisdiction. In February, the President issued an Executive Memorandum directing all Federal health plans to come into compliance with the patients' bill of rights. In response to this directive, for example:

- ✓ Department of Health and Human Services has extended the patients' bill of rights to the 40 million Americans who receive Medicare.
- ✓ Department of Veterans' Affairs has begun to put in place a new, rapid appeals process for its 3 million beneficiaries. The Department of Defense issued a directive to all military bases throughout the world, extending patient protections to 8 million servicemen and women and their families.
- ✓ Department of Labor is requiring plans it oversees to have an improved internal appeals process.

Invest in Education

President Clinton is working to strengthen public education by raising standards, increasing accountability and expanding public school choice, including charter schools, and to prepare students for the 21st Century through increased investments in public schools, expanded awareness of and access to higher education, and training to ensure success in the workplace.

- **Strengthening Public Education.** President Clinton will fight for full funding for programs and new initiatives that will help all children reach challenging academic standards, strengthen accountability, provide access to technology, improve the quality of teaching, expand Head Start and after school programs, and make our schools safe and drug free.
- **Modernizing Our Schools.** The President is calling for federal tax credits to help renovate, modernize, and build over 5,000 public schools nationwide.
- **Reduce Class Size.** The President will press Congress to enact his proposal to reduce class size to a national average of 18 in grades 1-3, by helping local schools hire 100,000 well-prepared teachers.
- **Expanding Investments In Youth Education And Training.** One of the President's top priorities is fighting efforts by Congress to eliminate both the Summer Jobs Program, which provides jobs to roughly 530,000 disadvantaged young people, and the new Youth Opportunity Area Initiative, which would help provide job training and help finding jobs for up to 50,000 youth in the poorest communities nationwide.
- **Passage Of The Higher Education Act, With The High Hopes Mentoring Initiative and Teacher Recruitment.** President Clinton urges Congress to pass the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, to reduce interest rates on student loans; extend the Pell Grant and Federal Work-Study programs; enact his High Hopes program to establish college-school partnerships in order to spark young people's interest in college and provide them with the mentoring and other support they need to prepare for college; and

strengthen teacher training and recruitment programs.

- **Education Technology.** The President has made an unprecedented commitment to bringing technology into the classroom and called for technology training for teachers and expanded access for teachers and students to computers in the classroom; however, the House appropriations bill threatens these initiatives;
- **Strengthening And Expanding Charter Schools.** President Clinton will continue to work with Congress to pass bipartisan legislation to strengthen federal support for the growing charter school movement.
- **Helping Every Eight-Year Old Learn To Read.** President Clinton will continue his work with Congress to enact a child literacy bill to ensure that children receive quality instruction from well-trained teachers and have opportunities to develop their reading skills with trained tutors after-school and on the weekend.
- **Voluntary National Standards and Tests.** President Clinton will continue to fight for voluntary national standards and tests in 4th grade reading and 8th grade math, to help students master the basic skills and to give parents, communities and educators accurate information on how well our students perform.

Invest in a Cleaner Environment

President Clinton is proposing significant new investments to curb water pollution, clean up toxic dumps, protect precious lands, and combat global warming. Yet the Republican Congress is not only failing to fully fund these priorities, but is launching a stealth attack on the environment with a host of legislative riders aimed at rolling back protections already in place.

- **Clean, Safe Water for America.** The President is proposing an additional \$2.3 billion over five years to help clean up the almost 40 percent of America's surveyed waterways still too polluted for fishing or swimming. Budget bills in the House and Senate fall well short of the President's request, denying communities and farmers vital help in curbing pollution.
- **Saving and Restoring Parks and Other Natural Treasures.** The President is proposing a 43 percent increase over five years to acquire scenic and historic lands, yet Congress is denying full funding. What's more, Congress is withholding 1998 appropriations that the President has allocated to protect over 100 sites in 35 states, including Civil War battlefields, critical winter range for Yellowstone bison, New Mexico's Baca Ranch, and completion of the Appalachian Trail.
- **Leading the Fight Against Global Warming.** The President's five-year \$6.3 billion package of tax incentives and research investment would reduce greenhouse gas pollution through energy efficiency and clean energy technologies. But Congress, ignoring the growing evidence of global warming, wants to cut these sensible, cost-effective programs.
- **Doubling the Pace of Toxic Cleanups.** The President is proposing an additional \$650 million in Fiscal Year 99 -- a 40 percent increase -- to accelerate Superfund cleanups with a goal of completing a total of 900 cleanups by 2001. By denying these funds, Congress threatens to delay cleanup at up to 171 sites.
- **Fighting Against Stealth Attacks on the Environment.** Some of the many anti-environmental riders would force overcutting of timber on national forests, cripple wildlife protection efforts, deny taxpayers a fair return from oil leasing on public lands, and allow a \$30 million road through an Alaska wildlife refuge. The President will not tolerate stealth tactics that do unacceptable harm to the environment or threaten public health.

Stabilize the International Financial System

Driven by a return to fiscal strength, the United States' economy is the strongest it has been in a generation. Unemployment and inflation are at their lowest levels in decades. Some other nations around the world, however, are experiencing major economic upheaval and this has already hurt our exports and farmers. A strong International Monetary Fund is a stabilizing force in the world economy and is vital to protect the international financial system -- and therefore the U.S. economy -- against the risk of new, escalating, or spreading crises. The Senate has wisely provided full funding for the IMF, but the House has failed to include any such funding.

President Clinton will fight for full funding for the IMF to help keep our economy strong.

**CHILD CARE SUBSIDY SUPPLEMENT
SPECIAL MATCH**

STATE	1997 ACTUAL	1998 APPROPRIATION	1999 ESTIMATE
Alabama	--	--	\$17,242,572
Alaska	--	--	3,038,098
Arizona	--	--	19,078,973
Arkansas	--	--	10,488,422
California	--	--	150,715,420
Colorado	--	--	16,180,549
Connecticut	--	--	13,309,496
Delaware	--	--	2,900,431
Dist. of Col.	--	--	1,902,191
Florida	--	--	56,653,331
Georgia	--	--	31,922,075
Hawaii	--	--	5,108,462
Idaho	--	--	5,429,320
Illinois	--	--	51,900,696
Indiana	--	--	24,000,707
Iowa	--	--	11,227,386
Kansas	--	--	10,964,788
Kentucky	--	--	15,306,968
Louisiana	--	--	19,592,486
Maine	--	--	4,725,919
Maryland	--	--	21,412,724
Massachusetts	--	--	23,634,938
Michigan	--	--	41,006,046
Minnesota	--	--	19,887,169
Mississippi	--	--	11,960,661
Missouri	--	--	22,316,518
Montana	--	--	3,604,057
Nebraska	--	--	7,000,552
Nevada	--	--	6,985,537
New Hampshire	--	--	4,815,112
New Jersey	--	--	33,107,969
New Mexico	--	--	8,082,350
New York	--	--	75,737,669
North Carolina	--	--	30,103,960
North Dakota	--	--	2,624,126
Ohio	--	--	45,699,883
Oklahoma	--	--	13,947,355
Oregon	--	--	12,898,115
Pennsylvania	--	--	46,742,178
Puerto Rico	--	--	0

**CHILD CARE SUBSIDY SUPPLEMENT
SPECIAL MATCH**

STATE	1997 ACTUAL	1998 APPROPRIATION	1999 ESTIMATE
Rhode Island	--	--	3,864,422
South Carolina	--	--	15,141,004
South Dakota	--	--	3,199,280
Tennessee	--	--	21,320,509
Texas	--	--	89,389,466
Utah	--	--	10,732,697
Vermont	--	--	2,333,818
Virginia	--	--	26,776,050
Washington	--	--	23,248,516
West Virginia	--	--	6,474,006
Wisconsin	--	--	21,252,736
Wyoming	--	--	2,026,128
Total States	--	--	1,129,012,000
Tribes	--	--	23,100,000
Technical Assistance	--	--	2,888,000
Total Budget Authority	--	--	\$1,155,000,000