THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
10-17-00

Eason, Oscar Jr NWS

From: Rawle King [rawle_king@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, October 06, 2000 12:03 PM
To: mrle@worldnet.att.net; executive.committee@bignet.org; regional.presidents@bignet.org; chapters@bignet.org; board.chairperson@bignet.org; jameswilson@bignet.org; standing.committee@bignet.org
Subject: Navy Sneak Attack on Employee Rights

ACTION ALERT !!!!!!!

House Passes Bill to Exempt Navy from Employment Discrimination Laws

Washington, October 6, 2000. The U.S. House of Representatives has passed a
measure to exempt the U.S. Navy from compliance with the major Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) regulations. These regulations –
29 C.F.R. 1614 and EEOC MD-110 – implement Title VII of the Civil Rights Act
of 1964, as amended.

This measure is hidden in the Department of Defense authorization bill for
FY2001 (H.R. 4205; SECTION 1106 -see attached analysis. It provides for the
creation of a so-called "Pilot Program" to establish a Navy program for
handling employment discrimination complaints that would take the place of
existing EEOC procedures. There are several aspects of the Pilot Program
that would deny complainants the rights they now have under the existing

EEOC procedure.

** Though the Pilot Program is voluntary for discrimination complainants, there will be heavy pressure for all complainants to use it.
Those who do will be required to sign an agreement waiving their rights to
remain anonymous, to request an EEOC hearing before an Administrative Judge,
and to opt out of the Pilot Program.

** In the Pilot Program, Navy officials will control all of the evidence and other materials of the complaints. If the Navy finds against a
complainant and the complainant appeals the decision to the EEOC, the file
is quite likely to be heavily biased in favor of the Navy.

** Under the Pilot Program, EEOC can not reverse a final agency decision of the Navy on the basis that the agency did not comply with regulatory requirements of the EEOC and 29 C.F.R. 1614. Under existing procedures, EEOC has regulatory authority over the Navy in two circumstances: (1) EEOC can rule on the merits of the case, and (2) EEOC can
investigate federal agencies with systemic patterns of discrimination under
29 C.F.R. 1614 and EEOC directives and for failure to comply with the

EEOC
process. This negates the principle on which EEOC is based: it is an independent enforcement agency established to provide fair and objective

decisions.

** In 1998 alone, there were 1,447 employment discrimination complaints
filed against the U.S. Navy, distinguishing the agency as one of the worst
offenders in the entire federal government. If the Navy is able to get this
legislation passed, other agencies with bad records of employment discrimination will be encouraged to seek exemption from established employment discrimination laws and their implementing regulations.

H.R. 4205 has already passed the House, but did the Members of House know
that this measure was hidden in this huge appropriations measure? Do they
really understand what they voted for?

The Navy has long sought to exempt itself from the EEOC regulations – and
from the law itself. Unless the U.S. Senate deletes this provision from the
FY2001 Defense appropriation, Congress will have approved the Navy's pattern
and practice of rampant employment discrimination, a major setback for the
quest of minority employees to be free from official discrimination by their
government.

Please call the following Member of Congress who sit on the Conference on
the bill. The U.S. Capitol phone number is 202-224-3121.

Rep. John T. Doodling
Rep. Killeary
Rep. Patsy T. Mink
Rep. Dan Burton
Rep. Jos Scarborough
Rep. Henry A. Waxman
Rep. Henry J. Hyde
Rep. Charles T. Canady
Rep. John Conyers Jr.

All members of Senate Committee on Armed Serices: 202-224-3871.

Sen. Strom Thurmond
Sen. John McCaine
Sen. Bob Smith
Sen. James M. Inhofe
Sen. Rich Santorum
Sen. Olumpia J. Snowe
Sen. Pat Roberts
Sen. Wayne Allard
Sen. Tim Hutchinson
Sen. Jeff Sessions
Sen. Carl Levin
Sen. Edward M. Kennedy
Sen. Jeff Bingaman
Sen. Robert C. Byrd

Sen. Charles S. Robb
Sen. Joseph I. Leiberman
Sen. Max Cleland
Sen. Mary L. Landrieu
Sen. Jack Reed

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
10-17-00

JP

I was asked about
this in Seattle—
knew nothing:
Is it a problem?

BC

copied
Podesta

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
10-16-00

Lynn Cutler

spək^{w}k^{w}álqs
Colleen F. Cawston
CHAIRPERSON
Colville Business Council
Nespelem District

Cutler
Stiefler

Confederated Tribes of the
Colville Reservation
Post Office Box 150
Nespelem, WA 99155

Direct: (509) 634-2208
Switchboard: (509) 634-2200
Cell: (509) 631-0489
Fax: (509) 634-4116
E-mail: cctcbcla@televar.com
Website: www.colville-tribal.com

copied
Cutler
Podesta

PHOTOCOPY
WJC HANDWRITING

JP
can we get the votes to veto this?
RK

THE WHITE HOUSE

10-12-00

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release October 10, 2000

Copied
Podesta

TEXT OF A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT
TO THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AND THE SENATE MAJORITY LEADER

October 10, 2000

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. Leader:)

I am writing to express my serious concerns that the Congressional Republican Leadership is preparing to pass unjustifiably large Medicare health maintenance organization (HMO) payment increases while preventing passage of a strong Patients' Bill of Rights. Managed care reform in the 106th Congress should focus on patient protections, not on excessive payments to managed care plans. Moreover, these reimbursement increases are effectively diverting resources from critically important health care priorities.

This past weekend marked the 1-year anniversary of the overwhelmingly bipartisan passage of the Norwood-Dingell Patients' Bill of Rights. Despite the bipartisan majority supporting this bill in the Senate, parliamentary and political tactics have blocked an up-or-down vote on this long-overdue legislation.

At least as disconcerting is that Congress is proposing to dedicate $25 to $53 billion in increased payments to managed care -- without a sound policy basis. The Congress is currently contemplating dedicating 40 to 55 percent of their total investment in provider payments and beneficiary services to increase managed care payments -- over twice the amount they plan to spend on hospitals and over five times the amount that they plan to spend on beneficiaries. The Congress is proposing this investment despite studies showing that Medicare managed care plans are overpaid by nearly $1,000 per enrollee and that their payment rates have grown faster under the Balanced Budget Act than the payment rates for traditional Medicare.

It is important to note that increased payments provide no guarantee that Medicare HMOs will stop dropping benefits or abandoning seniors' communities altogether. It is clear that increasing payments to managed care plans did not work this year -- we invested an additional $1.4 billion in Medicare+ Choice, yet watched nearly 1 million seniors and people with disabilities lose access to plans. Without explicit accountability provisions, it will not work next year either.

The unwarranted managed care payment increases would deprive funding for initiatives that would have real effects on peoples' lives, such as: restoring State options to insure vulnerable legal immigrants; fully funding the Ricky Ray Relief Fund; providing health insurance to children with disabilities; funding grants to integrate people with disabilities into the community; improving nursing home quality; eliminating Medicare preventive

more

(OVER)

10-12-00

services cost sharing; targeting dollars to vulnerable hospitals; assuring adequate payments to teaching hospitals and home health agencies; and funding other critical health priorities. These high-priority initiatives are outlined in additional detail in the attached document.

These initiatives represent our highest health priorities. In contrast, Congress is increasing reimbursement to managed care plans at a time when Medicare managed care plans are about to receive billions of dollars in increased Medicare payments, which are linked to increases in fee-for-service payments to hospitals, nursing homes, and other providers.

It is long past time that we work together in a bipartisan fashion to respond to the Nation's highest health care priorities. It is irresponsible to provide excessively high reimbursement rates for HMOs without ensuring that they are accountable through the Patients' Bill of Rights and through commitments to provide stable and reliable services to Medicare beneficiaries. I urge you to produce more balanced legislation that puts Medicare beneficiaries and the Nation's taxpayers first.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

# # #

HEALTH CARE PRIORITIES LEFT UNDERFUNDED DUE TO MASSIVE OVERPAYMENTS TO MANAGED CARE PLANS

Restoring the State options to insure vulnerable legal immigrants. Despite the fact that legal immigrants pay taxes and have typically waited years to come to the U.S., welfare reform prohibited States from extending Medicaid or State Children's Health Insurance Program coverage to legal immigrant children and pregnant women for their first five years in this country. This contributed to the sharp decline in Medicaid and subsequently S-CHIP participation by legal immigrant children (from 37 percent in 1995 to 29 percent in 1999). Restoring this State option would insure 144,000 children and 33,000 pregnant women per year at a 10-year cost of $1.6 billion, and has broad, bipartisan support including that of Governor Jeb Bush.

Fully funding the Ricky Ray Relief Fund. The bipartisan Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund was enacted to provide one-time $100,000 relief payments to up to 7,500 persons with hemophilia (or their survivors) who contracted HIV while receiving blood clotting factor between 1982 and 1987. However, due to under-funding, approximately 5,000 people with HIV/AIDS or their families are on a waiting list, hoping to get this relief payment while the person infected is still alive. Ricky Ray himself and hundreds of others have died while waiting for this relief and none of the initiatives in Congress includes a dollar of the needed $570 million -- which is only about 1 percent of what they dedicated to managed care overpayments.

Health insurance for children with disabilities. Children with special health care needs are three times more likely to be ill and to miss school. Because of their high healthcare costs, parents often cannot afford private insurance and, instead, forego additional income to maintain Medicaid eligibility. Some even place their children in institutions or give up their children so they remain Medicaid-eligible under unfair and outdated rules. The Family Opportunity Act, which has bipartisan support from 78 Senators, would give States the option of letting families with children with disabilities buy into Medicaid. This commonsense policy builds on the bipartisan Work Incentives Improvement Act and is a wise investment.

Grants to integrate people with disabilities into the community. To address the institutional bias in Medicaid toward nursing homes, my Administration has supported $50 million in System Grants for States, which are part of Senator Harkin's MiCASSA bill, to develop infrastructure that supports community-based care for persons with disabilities. People with disabilities should have real choice in where they want to live, where they receive needed services, in what services they receive, and from whom they are obtained.

Improving nursing home quality. Health and safety are a top concern for both the 1.6 million older Americans and people with disabilities who receive care in nursing homes and their families and friends. Many nursing homes provide high quality care. However, recent reports found that over 50 percent of nursing homes do not maintain the minimum staffing levels necessary to ensure the delivery of quality care. Despite this fact, none of the dollars in the beneficiary and provider restoration initiatives are targeted to increasing the staffing ratios that are linked to increased quality. To rectify this, Republicans have joined Democrats in supporting the Administration's $1 billion State grant program to increase staffing levels by improving staff recruitment and retention, increasing training, and reward nursing facilities with good records.

more

(OVER)

Eliminating Medicare preventive services cost sharing. The value of preventive benefits is enormous, contributing to early detection, management and cure of diseases that would otherwise be debilitating and costly. However, too few seniors use these services, in part due to today's copay requirements. In the first 2 years that Medicare covered screening mammography, only 14 percent of eligible women without supplemental insurance received a mammogram. Eliminating cost sharing for current services costs about $3 billion over 10 years -- but will save innumerable lives and dollars in the future.

Targeting dollars to vulnerable hospitals and home health agencies. Hospitals and home health agencies have experienced financial distress in the last several years, partly from excessive Balanced Budget Act changes and partly from the shift to managed care which, according to recent studies, pays well below Medicare rates. This distress is particularly acute among hospitals serving low-income patients. While the Commerce Committee made a good start in investing over $8 billion over 10 years in Medicaid disproportionate share hospital payments, my Administration supports investing more -- $10 billion over 10 years to increase both the State and hospital-specific limits on these payments. In addition, Medicare spending on home health has significantly declined in recent years and an investment in home health care will likely have a greater impact on improving beneficiary access to care than increase managed care payments.

Other critical health priorities. The provider payment restoration bills should also include other important health policies like: Medicaid and CHIP outreach initiatives; Medicaid coverage of smoking cessation; extended Medicare coverage for workers with disabilities; waiver of the waiting period for Medicare for people with Lou Gehrig's disease; home health coverage for people using adult day care; and adequate funding of providers such as teaching hospitals and hospices. In addition, there has been no attempt by the Republican leadership of the U.S. Senate to even allow Committee consideration of legislation for an affordable, voluntary Medicare prescription drug benefit. This failure to act will result in millions of vulnerable seniors and people with disabilities waiting longer to get the relief that they so desperately need.

# # #

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
10-7-00

Gene — Again — should we do this? — BC

Mr Pres, letter from Betty Bumpers on a budget issue

Shots by age two if they're important to you.

Every Child By Two

The Carter/Bumpers Campaign For Early Immunization

To: President Bill Clinton

Thru: Mary Morrison

Fax: 202/456-6703

Every Child By Two
666 11th Street, NW, Suite 202
Washington, DC 20001-4542
202-783-7034, Ext. 17 (p)
202-783-7042 (f)

copied
Sperling
Podesta

Phone: 202/456-6610		From:	Betty Bumpers
Date: 10/04/2000		Pages:	4 - including cover page

Re: Immunization Registries Funding

XX Urgent ☐ For Review ☐ Please Comment ☐ Please Reply ☐ Please Rec

Dear Bill,

Attached is a background sheet justifying the logic for requesting an increase in the Vaccines For Children (VFC) budget to support immunization computer registry development/maintenance. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) will be requesting an additional 70 million dollars through the VFC program to help pay the costs associated with registry development. The registries must have a sustainable source of funding to become successful.

This request is based on a meeting that we had with Secretary Shalala early this spring that resulted in her declaration of support for VFC funding for registries at this years National Immunization Conference. I have sent this background information to Donna in hopes that she or Surgeon General Satcher will make a call to Jack Lew in the Office of Management & Budget to inform him of their support for this funding increase. Without Jack's support, I fear that the request may fall to deaf ears.

The more we at ECBT think about funding registry development through the VFC program, the more it makes sense to us. The data that the registries house is essential to VFC, and in the long run, computerizing it and making it available to all VFC coordinators and service providers will save countless administrative hours and costs.

Rosalynn and I have been working diligently to promote registry development since 1997 when you directed Secretary Shalala to ensure their development nationwide. We both know that your commitment to children's health began long before you came to Washington. I have been thrilled to see the progress made in immunization delivery since your very first Rose Garden Ceremony when you promised to ensure the health of our children by establishing the Children's Immunization Initiative. The development of registries, in my opinion, is the most significant step public health has achieved to ensure *sustainable* immunization coverage and is a real credit to your commitment. I hope therefore that you will support this increased funding for VFC so that we can ensure a permanent solution to locating children in need of vaccines.

All my best to you, as always. Betty

The Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program and Immunization Registries

Background

- An important and yet unfulfilled goal of President Clinton's Childhood Immunization Initiative was to build a sustainable system to maintain high immunization coverage. Immunization registries are an important means to achieve this goal and are defined as **confidential, computerized information systems that contain information about immunizations and children.** On July 23, 1997, President Clinton said: *"I'm directing Secretary Shalala to start working with the states on an integrated immunization registry system...we have to do it and do it right."* In response to this mandate, the National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC) led an Initiative on Immunization Registries. Following a series of public meetings and focus groups, NVAC approved the report "Development of Community- and State-Based Immunization Registries" on January 12, 1999.

- The CDC believes that registries provide the most efficient solution to sustaining high immunization coverage in all groups of children, because registries:
    - consolidate scattered records,
    - provide instantly accessible decision support for providers,
    - can inform the provider of contraindications,
    - serve as efficient reminder and recall tools,
    - provide assessment of coverage for the population in the registry and subgroups of this population,
    - provide vaccine inventory management tools, and
    - provide reports needed by providers pertaining to application of immunization practices.

- Currently, all 61 VFC projects eligible for VFC program funding are developing immunization registries. In addition to the above, immunization registries have been used to increase vaccine safety. Arkansas and California registry data were used to identify and revaccinate children who received vaccinations from sub-potent vaccine lots or an inadequate dosage of vaccine.

- There is a Healthy People 2010 goal of increasing to 95% the proportion of children (0-<6 years of age) who participate in a fully operational population-based immunization registry.

- One of the major barriers to fully operational registries is the lack of a sustainable funding source. Considerable progress has been achieved in the development of immunization registries – currently, all 50 states, the District of Columbia, 5 territories, and numerous cities and communities are developing or implementing registries. However, these efforts have significant cost and considerable effort is still needed to realize the full benefits of the systems.

How do registries relate to the VFC program

- Monitoring VFC program compliance among 44,555 enrolled providers and achieving and sustaining high vaccination coverage in VFC-eligible children is a continuing challenge.

- The VFC statute (Section 1928 of the Social Security Act) requires VFC-enrolled private and public providers to follow the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended schedule and ensure the medical appropriateness of each vaccine. Providers are also responsible for checking the VFC-eligibility status of children. Registries assist providers in adhering to these program requirements through automated, reliable, real-time:
  - aggregation of all immunizations a child has received to create an accurate and complete immunization history;
  - immunization decision support to ensure that immunization needs are accurately assessed and no missed opportunities for immunization occur;
  - facilitated introduction of new vaccines or changes in the vaccine schedule;
  - management of VFC-supplied vaccine inventories;
  - prevention of unnecessary (duplicative) doses of vaccine;
  - coverage rate estimates based on the registry's database;
  - quality assurance reports (e.g., VFC-eligibility screening, VFC vaccine doses administered, VFC vaccine orders compared to VFC population estimates, etc.);
  - monitoring of VFC vaccine administration to only VFC-eligible children; and,
  - review of provider VFC-eligibility screening procedures and documentation.

- In FY 2000, CDC received an additional $10 million dollars to increase VFC provider compliance with program requirements through routine VFC provider accountability site visits. During these site visits, state/local VFC program staff conduct manual reviews of medical charts, logs, and vaccine reports to assess provider compliance with VFC program requirements. Immunization registries would be an added tool for ensuring compliance with these requirements, as they would give providers the information needed to assess a child's immunization status while at the same time give state/local VFC program staff the information they need to ensure VFC program integrity. When fully operational, immunization registries will contain the required data elements to conduct automated accountability reviews of VFC-enrolled providers. Recent data published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine suggest that registries (once fully operational) will yield a cost offset totaling $113.8 million per year.

VFC Immunization Registry Costs

- The use of VFC entitlement funds for registry development and operation will in no way adversely effect discretionary funding for immunization. Use of VFC funds for registries will not deny anyone any entitlement benefits; in fact, it will enhance the benefits currently received through the VFC program.

- Results from several studies estimate that the national annual cost needed to complete and maintain immunization registries is approximately $5 per child per year, for all children up to six years of age in the U.S., or approximately $125 million annually. However, registry funding has been limited with only 40% of the total costs being allocated and expended on an annual basis. Current investments come from a combination of Federal, State, local, and private sector resources.

- Additional Federal support through the operational funds of the VFC program would provide a critical and stable base of financing.

- A legal determination has been made that use of VFC entitlement funds for registries is consistent with the authorizing statute. VFC funding in the amount of $70 million can be justified for use in developing and operating registries. If approved, beginning in FY 2001, CDC will require all VFC projects to develop and implement immunization registries as an expanded VFC program provider accountability activity.

J. Dennis Hastert
Fourteenth District
Illinois

(202) 225-0600

E/C —
POTUS response
attached

Office of the Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

October 25, 2000

00 OCT 25 PM 5:53

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for your letter today regarding the Taxpayer's Relief Act of 2000. I agree with you that we should work together in a bipartisan fashion, and I believe that this work product is the result of a hard fought compromise. Outside of the concerns you raised in the letter, I would submit that this tax bill does not contain the Marriage Penalty tax relief and the Death Tax relief that you vetoed earlier this year. We in the Congress believe that getting rid of the taxes on death and marriage were plain common sense. You had a different view, and as a result we have not attempted to include those provisions on this tax bill.

We have included the minimum wage increase on this bill as I suggested in my letter to you in August of this year. This minimum wage increase will not include the FLSA or the FUTA provisions because of your objections.

This bill includes the Community Renewal/New Markets initiative that you and I have worked on for over a year. This provision is a remarkable bipartisan victory, which will have an immediate impact on the most distressed urban and rural communities in our nation. You should be proud of your work on this provision. This legislation will include an expansion of the Qualified Zone Academy Bond program created in the 1997 Taxpayer Relief Act, which meets many of the objectives of your school construction proposal. It does this without adding unnecessary costs to school construction, thereby making certain that more money will go to education and less money will go to waste.

We have included the Foreign Sales Corporation change we all agree is necessary. We have also included a long-term health care tax deduction, which you told me was acceptable to your Administration. To deal with the increasing problem of the uninsured, we have included the A+ Health Care deduction, which gives the same deductibility to individuals that big corporations currently enjoy. While we understand your concerns with this proposal, we believe this is an important breakthrough in helping the uninsured pay for health insurance.

Perhaps the most important provision of this bill is the 401K/IRA expansion bill that enjoyed the overwhelming support of the Congress. This bipartisan provision will give Americans of all ages more resources for their retirement security.

You should be as proud of the many accomplishments that this legislation represents for your priorities, as we in the Congress are proud of the many victories this bill represents for the American people. You may disagree with some of the details in this bill, just as some of our members disagree with other details. But all Americans will see this bill as a victory for common sense, and I urge you to support it.

Sincerely,

Denny Hastert
Speaker of the House

J. Dennis Hastert
14th District
Illinois

Bunker

Office of the Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Please Deliver To:

Name: ______________________________

Fax: [redacted] 456-6220

From:

☐ Scott B. Palmer
Chief of Staff

☐ Christy Surprenant
Director of Administration /
Assistant to the Chief of Staff

☐ Other: ______________________

Total Number of Pages: 2

Comments:

____

____

____

____

If you have any problems receiving this fax, please call (202) 225-5555
Office of the Chief of Staff
The Speakers Office
H-228, The U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 26, 2000

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Thank you for your letter yesterday responding to my proposed consensus tax package. As I said yesterday, I believe we all have a responsibility to make every possible effort to come together on a bipartisan agreement on tax relief and Medicare/ Medicaid that will maintain fiscal discipline and serve the interests of all the American people. That is why I put forward a good faith offer yesterday that sought to reflect our differing priorities in a balanced manner. I was disappointed, however, that, without any consultation with me or Congressional Democrats, you chose to put forward a partisan legislative package that ignores our key concerns on school construction, health care, and pensions policy. If this current tax and Medicare/Medicaid package is presented to me, I will have no choice but to veto it.

While we have already reached substantial agreement in important areas, such as replacement of the Foreign Sales Corporations regime, your legislation has substantial flaws in several key areas.

As I stated yesterday, I believe it is absolutely essential that we do as much as possible to meet America's need for safe and modern schools. It is estimated that there may be as much as a $125 billion dollar financing gap in meeting the school construction and modernization needs of our children. The bipartisan Rangel-Johnson proposal to finance $25 billion in bonds to construct and modernize 6,000 schools is, quite frankly, the very least we should do, given the magnitude of this problem and its importance to America's future. Unfortunately, your proposal falls far short of the mark. We should not sacrifice thousands of modernized schools to pay for inefficient tax incentives that help only a few. For example, the arbitrage provision encourages delay in urgently needed school construction and would disproportionately help wealthy school districts.

On health care, my offer sought to lay a path to common ground by coupling both of our priorities on health and long-term care. Unfortunately, your health care proposal completely ignores our proposal to cover millions of uninsured, working Americans. Instead you put forward a series of tax cuts that, particularly when standing alone, would be inequitable, inefficient, and even potentially counterproductive health care policy. For example, while our FamilyCare proposal would expand coverage to 4 million uninsured parents at a cost of slightly over $3,000 per person, your proposal would provide additional coverage to one-seventh the people at six times the cost per person. Moreover, your proposal would give the least assistance to moderate-income families that need help the most, while even raising concerns that those with employer-based coverage today could lose their insurance.

Similarly, on long-term care, I offered to embrace your proposed deduction for long-term care insurance in exchange for inclusion of my proposal to give families, who are burdened today by long-term care needs, a $3,000 tax credit. Unfortunately, your legislation ignores the bipartisan package I suggested and instead would provide half the benefits of my proposal for financially pressed families trying to provide long-term care for elderly and sick family members. Surely we can agree on this bipartisan compromise that has already been endorsed by a broad array of members of Congress, advocates for seniors and people with disabilities, and insurers. Similarly, I am perplexed that we cannot agree to include the bipartisan credit for vaccine research and purchases that is essential to save lives and advance public health.

I also am disappointed that you have made virtually no attempt to address the concerns my Administration has expressed to you about the pension provisions of your bill. By dropping the progressive savings incentives from the Senate Finance Committee bill, you have failed to address the lack of pension coverage for over 70 million people. Moreover, employers may have new incentives to drop pension coverage for some of the low- and moderate-income workers lucky enough to have pension plans today.

Finally, I remain deeply concerned that your Medicare and Medicaid refinement proposal continues to fail to attach accountability provisions to excessive payment increases to health maintenance organizations (HMOs) while rejecting critical investments in beneficiaries and vulnerable health care providers. Specifically, you insist on an unjustifiable spending increase for HMOs at the same time as you exclude bipartisan policies such as health insurance options for children with disabilities, legal immigrant pregnant women and children, and enrolling uninsured children in schools, as well as needed payment increases to hospitals, academic health centers, home health agencies, and other vulnerable providers. Congress should not go home without responding to the urgent health needs of our seniors, people with disabilities, and children and the health care providers who serve them.

A far better path than the current one is for Congressional Republicans, Democrats, and my Administration to come together in a bipartisan process to find common ground on both tax relief and Medicare/Medicaid refinements.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

J. Dennis Hastert
Fourteenth District
Illinois

(202) 225-0600

Office of the Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

October 25, 2000

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for your letter today regarding the Taxpayer's Relief Act of 2000. I agree with you that we should work together in a bipartisan fashion, and I believe that this work product is the result of a hard fought compromise. Outside of the concerns you raised in the letter, I would submit that this tax bill does not contain the Marriage Penalty tax relief and the Death Tax relief that you vetoed earlier this year. We in the Congress believe that getting rid of the taxes on death and marriage were plain common sense. You had a different view, and as a result we have not attempted to include those provisions on this tax bill.

We have included the minimum wage increase on this bill as I suggested in my letter to you in August of this year. This minimum wage increase will not include the FLSA or the FUTA provisions because of your objections.

This bill includes the Community Renewal/New Markets initiative that you and I have worked on for over a year. This provision is a remarkable bipartisan victory, which will have an immediate impact on the most distressed urban and rural communities in our nation. You should be proud of your work on this provision. This legislation will include an expansion of the Qualified Zone Academy Bond program created in the 1997 Taxpayer Relief Act, which meets many of the objectives of your school construction proposal. It does this without adding unnecessary costs to school construction, thereby making certain that more money will go to education and less money will go to waste.

We have included the Foreign Sales Corporation change we all agree is necessary. We have also included a long-term health care tax deduction, which you told me was acceptable to your Administration. To deal with the increasing problem of the uninsured, we have included the A+ Health Care deduction, which gives the same deductibility to individuals that big corporations currently enjoy. While we understand your concerns with this proposal, we believe this is an important breakthrough in helping the uninsured pay for health insurance.

Perhaps the most important provision of this bill is the 401K/IRA expansion bill that enjoyed the overwhelming support of the Congress. This bipartisan provision will give Americans of all ages more resources for their retirement security.

You should be as proud of the many accomplishments that this legislation represents for your priorities, as we in the Congress are proud of the many victories this bill represents for the American people. You may disagree with some of the details in this bill, just as some of our members disagree with other details. But all Americans will see this bill as a victory for common sense, and I urge you to support it.

Sincerely,

Denny Hastert
Speaker of the House

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1314

PUBLIC DOCUMENT

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Address Correction Requested
Do Not Forward

J Dennis Hastert
M.C.

2000 OCT 27 PM 1:50

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

E/C 10/30/00

POTUS responses attached

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 24, 2000

President William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

We write to request your support for including provisions in any appropriations measure or any end-of-year tax relief bill before the Congress adjourns that would provide equity to Indian tribes by treating tribal governments the same as state and local governments under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA).

Under FUTA, tribes are currently treated as corporate employers rather than governmental employers. The FUTA statute expressly exempts state and local governments from paying the FUTA program's federal administrative costs, but does not expressly exempt tribal governments. The FUTA statute also expressly permits state and local governments to participate by reimbursing the unemployment funds for benefits actually paid out to former employees. By contrast, because Indian tribes are not expressly mentioned in the FUTA statute, they must pay in advance a higher flat tax and federal administrative costs as if they were for-profit corporations.

Over the past 15 years, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the U.S. Department of Labor, and various states have inconsistently applied the FUTA statute to tribal governments. Some states and federal agencies have indicated that Indian tribes were exempt and need not or could not participate in the state unemployment fund. The IRS even refunded FUTA tax payments made by several Indian tribes. However, the IRS has reversed its position and is assessing FUTA taxes against a few Indian tribes for periods when they did not participate and received no unemployment benefits. The IRS is even seeking taxes, penalties and interest from one Indian tribe for a period when the state denied benefits to one of the tribe's former employees because state law declared the tribe an exempt employer. We support language that would eliminate the past federal unemployment tax liability of tribal governments where the state has not paid unemployment benefits to former tribal employees or the tribal government has fully reimbursed the state for any benefits paid.

Legislation has been introduced in both the House and the Senate that contains tribal FUTA provisions addressing our concerns summarized herein. Recently, the Senate Finance Committee included these provisions in Section 175 of S. 3152, the Community Renewal and New Markets Act of 2000. Identical tribal FUTA provisions are in H.R. 4556, a bill pending in the House that Secretary of Labor Alexis Herman endorsed earlier this year.

We urge you to actively support the inclusion of the tribal FUTA provisions in any appropriations measure or end-of-year tax relief bill before Congress adjourns this session. By correcting this tax inequity, we will provide tax relief to tribal governments which are often the largest employers on the many Indian reservations continuing to suffer from high unemployment rates.

We appreciate your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Dale E. Kildee, M.C.
Co-chairman
Congressional Native American Caucus

David E. Bonior, M.C.
Democratic Whip

J.D. Hayworth, M.C.
Co-chairman
Congressional Native American Caucus

Dave Camp, M.C.
Member
Congressional Native American Caucus

2187 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2209
(202) 225-3611
TDD: (202) 225-0572
e-mail: dkildee@mail.house.gov
Website: www.house.gov/kildee

DISTRICT OFFICES:
432 NORTH SAGINAW, SUITE 410
FLINT, MI 48502
(810) 239-1437
TOLL FREE TO FLINT OFFICE
1-800-662-2685

1829 N. PERRY STREET
PONTIAC, MI 48340
(248) 373-9337

DALE E. KILDEE
9TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

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

EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE
EARLY CHILDHOOD, YOUTH & FAMILIES
EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

RESOURCES
FORESTS AND FOREST HEALTH
NATIONAL PARKS & PUBLIC LANDS

CO-CHAIR:
CONGRESSIONAL AUTOMOTIVE CAUCUS
CONGRESSIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN CAUCUS

FAX SHEET

CONGRESSMAN DALE E. KILDEE
2187 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-3611 Phone
(202) 225-6393 Fax

Date: 10/25/00

To: Mary Smith Lisa Kountoupe Courtney Marshall Rodgers

From:

___	DEK	___	Christopher Mansour
___	Callie Coffman	___	Michael Gorges
___	James Ananich	___	Melane Stanley
___	Greta Moore	✓	Kimberly Teehee
___	Judy Wright	___	Other ________

Number of Pages, Including This Page 3

Comments: FUTA Hr.

If you have problems with this transmission, please call (202) 225-3611.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 30, 2000

Dear Representative Camp:

Thank you for your letter concerning legislation that would provide for equitable treatment of tribal governments by treating Indian tribes in the same manner as State and local governments, as set forth in H.R. 4556, the "Tax Fairness for Tribal Governments Act of 2000."

As you know, my Administration has strongly supported tribal sovereignty, and, over the last eight years, has worked on a government-to-government basis with Indian tribes. In keeping with the federal government's commitment to promoting sovereignty, my Administration supports H.R. 4556 so that tribes will be treated in the same manner as other governmental entities. In addition, my Administration supports the transition rule which would eliminate the past federal unemployment tax liability of tribal governments where the State has not paid unemployment benefits to former tribal employees or the tribal government has fully reimbursed the state for any benefits paid.

I am heartened that a bipartisan group of over 27 Senators has signed letters supporting legislation with this provision. I firmly believe that this is not a partisan issue. This legislation is a matter of recognizing tribal sovereignty and will benefit each and every one of the over 500 federally recognized tribes across this country.

We must all work together, with the House and Senate leadership, to ensure that this important piece of legislation is enacted this year. I believe that this legislation will make a difference for some of the most impoverished tribes in the Nation.

Thank you for your important work in this area.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

The Honorable Dave Camp
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 30, 2000

Dear Representative Hayworth:

Thank you for your letter concerning legislation that would provide for equitable treatment of tribal governments by treating Indian tribes in the same manner as State and local governments, as set forth in H.R. 4556, the "Tax Fairness for Tribal Governments Act of 2000."

As you know, my Administration has strongly supported tribal sovereignty, and, over the last eight years, has worked on a government-to-government basis with Indian tribes. In keeping with the federal government's commitment to promoting sovereignty, my Administration supports H.R. 4556 so that tribes will be treated in the same manner as other governmental entities. In addition, my Administration supports the transition rule which would eliminate the past federal unemployment tax liability of tribal governments where the State has not paid unemployment benefits to former tribal employees or the tribal government has fully reimbursed the state for any benefits paid.

I am heartened that a bipartisan group of over 27 Senators has signed letters supporting legislation with this provision. I firmly believe that this is not a partisan issue. This legislation is a matter of recognizing tribal sovereignty and will benefit each and every one of the over 500 federally recognized tribes across this country.

We must all work together, with the House and Senate leadership, to ensure that this important piece of legislation is enacted this year. I believe that this legislation will make a difference for some of the most impoverished tribes in the Nation.

Thank you for your important work in this area.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

The Honorable J. D. Hayworth
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 30, 2000

Dear David:

Thank you for your letter concerning legislation that would provide for equitable treatment of tribal governments by treating Indian tribes in the same manner as State and local governments, as set forth in H.R. 4556, the "Tax Fairness for Tribal Governments Act of 2000."

As you know, my Administration has strongly supported tribal sovereignty, and, over the last eight years, has worked on a government-to-government basis with Indian tribes. In keeping with the federal government's commitment to promoting sovereignty, my Administration supports H.R. 4556 so that tribes will be treated in the same manner as other governmental entities. In addition, my Administration supports the transition rule which would eliminate the past federal unemployment tax liability of tribal governments where the State has not paid unemployment benefits to former tribal employees or the tribal government has fully reimbursed the state for any benefits paid.

I am heartened that a bipartisan group of over 27 Senators has signed letters supporting legislation with this provision. I firmly believe that this is not a partisan issue. This legislation is a matter of recognizing tribal sovereignty and will benefit each and every one of the over 500 federally recognized tribes across this country.

We must all work together, with the House and Senate leadership, to ensure that this important piece of legislation is enacted this year. I believe that this legislation will make a difference for some of the most impoverished tribes in the Nation.

Thank you for your important work in this area.

Sincerely,

Bill

The Honorable David E. Bonior
Democratic Whip
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 30, 2000

Dear Dale:

Thank you for your letter concerning legislation that would provide for equitable treatment of tribal governments by treating Indian tribes in the same manner as State and local governments, as set forth in H.R. 4556, the "Tax Fairness for Tribal Governments Act of 2000."

As you know, my Administration has strongly supported tribal sovereignty, and, over the last eight years, has worked on a government-to-government basis with Indian tribes. In keeping with the federal government's commitment to promoting sovereignty, my Administration supports H.R. 4556 so that tribes will be treated in the same manner as other governmental entities. In addition, my Administration supports the transition rule which would eliminate the past federal unemployment tax liability of tribal governments where the State has not paid unemployment benefits to former tribal employees or the tribal government has fully reimbursed the state for any benefits paid.

I am heartened that a bipartisan group of over 27 Senators has signed letters supporting legislation with this provision. I firmly believe that this is not a partisan issue. This legislation is a matter of recognizing tribal sovereignty and will benefit each and every one of the over 500 federally recognized tribes across this country.

We must all work together, with the House and Senate leadership, to ensure that this important piece of legislation is enacted this year. I believe that this legislation will make a difference for some of the most impoverished tribes in the Nation.

Thank you for your important work in this area.

Sincerely,

Bill

The Honorable Dale E. Kildee
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

5220900

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

September 5, 2000

Dear Mr. President,

I'm sure you are accustomed to being the talk of the town wherever you go, but you certainly are that around central New Jersey. Your visit was a great hit, and it was a great help to me. The press coverage was very good and generally stayed on your educational message (except for the article that said you surpassed the physicist in the "science of schmooze"), and it continues to play. And you left the guests at the reception and the people on the street with such a good feeling it will last all year. I cannot thank you enough. You provided just the boost I need to win in November.

Sincerely, Rush

SEP 11 2000

TRENTON, NJ 080
PM
07 SEP
2000

DEFEAT
MUSCULAR DYST[...]
SUPPORT MD[...]

33 USA

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

SEP 11 2000

20500/0004

10-5-00

Gifts for Barak and Arafat given to the NSC for delivery.

C. Crowley

Meghan Johnson

P. O. Box 967 ~ Richmond, KY 40476 ~ USA
Email kjohnson@iclub.org

August 29, 2000

'00 OCT 5 PM4:41

President Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20502

Dear President Clinton,

While I was eating breakfast this morning, I heard that you were going to New York on September 6th to try again for peace in the Middle East. The report said that you were very somber about it. So, I took these cards with my favorite saying of Anne Frank to my friend, Tom Baker and he matted them for me. I thought the quote was just perfect for everyone who would be at the meeting.

This year I will be 16, the same age as Anne Frank when she died. I wonder how much longer kids just like me will have to wait for peace in the Middle East? Isn't it a shame that the kids there are still waiting? Have you ever noticed that it seems to only take a short time to go to war, but it takes an incredibly long time to make peace? To me that seems pretty backwards.

You have done so much to help find a real and lasting solution for the people of the Middle East. I will always believe that whenever peace does come to that area, your name will be the first acknowledged, as it should be.

So, here is what I had made for you and Mr. Arafat and Mr. Barak. The stand is for your picture because I hope you will keep it and always feel proud when you look at it. I know you probably can't keep all the stuff I send to you, but I want you to be sure this is a keeper! I sorta doubt that Mr. Arafat or Mr. Barak have pen pals. But if they did, I wonder if their pen pals would be as proud of them as yours is of you?

AND REMEMBER IF ALL ELSE FAILS WHAT YOUR DAD SAID: *"You never know how far a frog will jump till you poke it!"* Well, I think it's time to start poking!!!

Your good friend
and pen pal,

Meghan ☺

P.S. I'll write later and tell you all of my great news!!

8-29-00

Dear President Clinton,

I knew you would love this card! I'll be thinking of you on September 6th! Good luck with the peace talks!

Your good friend,
Meghan

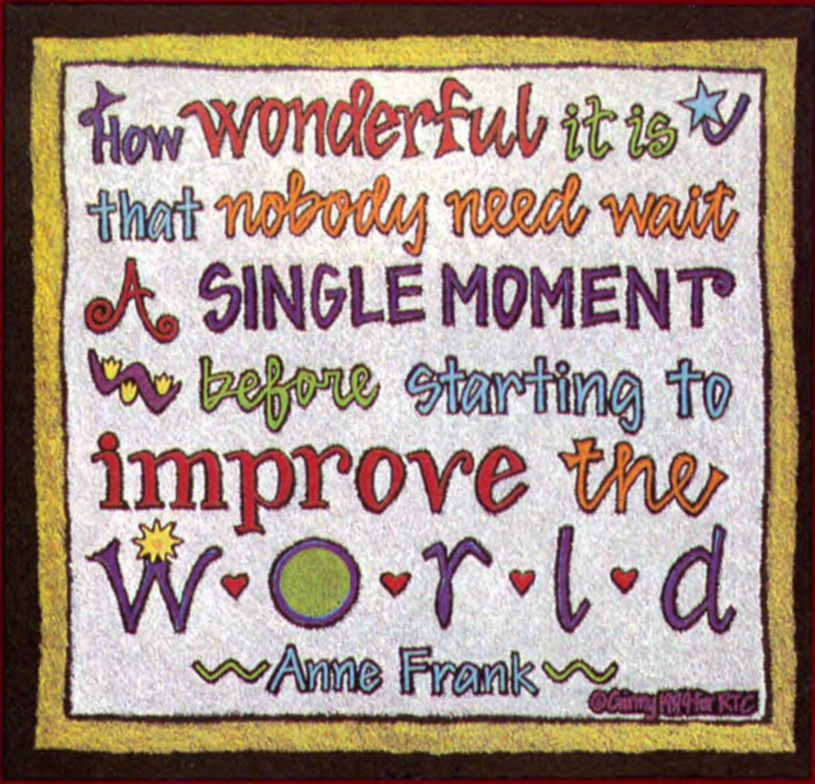
Hallmark

warm wishes

www.hallmark.com

0 70000 10647 7 07703

U.S.A. .99
Canada .99
WCF 770-3


How wonderful it is
that nobody need wait
A SINGLE MOMENT
before starting to
improve the
w·o·r·l·d
Anne Frank
©Ginny 1999 for RTC

9-6-2000

Dear President Clinton,

History will always remember how hard you worked for peace in the Middle East. And the people will forever be grateful to you! Your friend,

Meghan

8-29-00

Meghan Johnson

Dear Mary,

I'm sending this special delivery because I wanted to be extra extra sure President Clinton would get it for his meeting on September 6 with Mr. Arafat and Mr. Barak. I found some pictures with a great saying and had 3 made, one for President Clinton and one each for Mr. Arafat and Mr. Barak. The saying is: "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." (Anne Frank). Isn't that perfect for the peace talks? The stand is for President Clinton's desk. I hope everyone likes the saying. When I heard on the news that President Clinton was really somber, I wanted to do something to help.

Now that school has started it is getting really hot. Hope you had a great summer. Dad said you had fun in L.A. I sure do hope Mr. Gore wins! CKYO starts on September 6th. It will be fun being 1st chair.

C-Ya!

Your pal,

Meghan

ME.

431294

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 29, 2000

Meghan Johnson
Post Office Box 967
Richmond, Kentucky 40476

Dear Meghan:

Thanks for the card with the frog playing the saxophone. I can't believe you found it! It will be great in the music room.

Congratulations on making first chair at CKYO! That's fabulous news, and you should be very proud. Have fun at the James Galway concert. That will be a nice reward for all your hard work.

To answer your lunch table questions...I think I learned to drive when I was about 15, and my mother was the main person who taught me how. Since my stepfather and uncle owned a Buick dealership, I got to use one of their cars, a nice black one. My parents worked a lot, so I really had to drive often, including to school, extracurricular activities, and longer trips, like to band camp in Fayetteville. I even ran a bit of a car pool, driving some of my friends to school and collecting gas money from them weekly. I don't think I paid any insurance out of my own money, though, because my family considered it a help to them that I was able to drive so much. I never had a serious accident, but once I did doze off and hit a curb. I guess that was a "wake-up call!"

Stay in touch -- I know you will.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

COPY

Meghan Johnson

P. O. Box 967 ~ Richmond, KY 40476 ~ USA
Email mkmjohnson@microsith.com

September 20, 2000

WJ

President Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20502

Dear President Clinton,

Every time I've seen you on t.v. lately, you seem busier than when you were first President. Dad doesn't know how you do it. He poops out by 10 o'clock. Maybe my letters will help you to slow down a little bit and catch your breath! Did you get the little sayings that I sent to you and Mr. Arafat and Mr. Barak for the Peace Talks? I hope so, and I hope everyone liked them. I saw some of Mrs. Clinton's debate. She is really smart and so pretty, too. For the next debate I'd get a bottle of **BUG SPRAY** and if "Mr. In-Your-Face" got in hers again, I'd **spray** him, and tell him to, **"BUG OFF!!"** -- get it? Now you can see why I could never be in politics!!

My good news that I couldn't wait any longer to tell you is: I made **1st chair** in concert orchestra at CKYO!! The symphony didn't have any openings but they will next year. And guess what date I auditioned on? **AUGUST 19TH!!** That just has to be ***Karma.*** Pretty cool, huh? And guess what else? James Galway is coming on Nov. 18th to Cincinnati for a concert and I get to go!! I am counting the days, hours, minutes, and seconds till then. We have tickets for the 1st balcony, 2nd row. My flute teacher, Mrs. Copland (who says, "hello") is going too. If I can figure a way to get backstage and shake his hand, I'll probably FAINT! So far I haven't figured out how to get back there, but I have 58 days to work on it. Would you like me to get an autograph for you if I get to meet him? Let me know, just in case. I am ***SO EXCITED!!***

And guess what else? The Vice Presidential debates in October are in Danville, Kentucky which is only 30 miles from my house! Dad sometimes helps the director of the Norton Center there when they run out of lights. They are both lighting designers, only at different colleges. I'd love to see Sen. Lieberman, but tickets are almost impossible to get. Dad said he'd try, but not to get my hopes too high. He is so cool. I saw him on the news when he sang on, Conan. Danville is pretty republican and I want to go to cheer really loud just in case there are too many, "Bushwhackers" there. (that's what grandma calls them.) So, if you see Sen. Lieberman would you please tell him I'm trying to get there? I think that Vice President Gore should have shirts for sale at all of the rallies that say, "Be a Pal for Al" on them. I mean, what could Mr. Bushs' say, "Be a Bushwhacker" ?? See what I mean?

Well, **please** try and write back soon. But before I go, I was wondering if you'd mind answering some questions that my lunch table had? 1. How old were you when you learned to drive? 2. Who taught you? 3. What kind of car did you learn in? 4. Did you ever wreck it? 5. Did you have to pay for your insurance out of your own money? Number 5 is really important. I mean, if the future President didn't have to pay for his insurance, my friends don't think they should either. I'd like to know if you have to make your bed every morning before you leave for work. But mom would rupture if you wrote me back that answer. So, I guess I'm stuck making mine (for now) ha-ha!!

Your good friend
C-Ya,

Meghan ☺

CC: SStreet

10-24-00

copied
Podesta
Ricchetti

JP/Struck
recommendation?
Let's discuss - Reb

Deborah R. Jospin
16 Primrose Street
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
(301) 718-1864

October 19, 2000

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President :

I want to tell you about something really wonderful that we have created to honor the memory of my late husband, Dan Dutko. The eight partners of the Dutko Group Companies and I have established the Dan Dutko Memorial Foundation, Inc., a 501©(3) nonprofit organization. The Foundation will sponsor the Dan Dutko Fellowship Program – a graduate education program in public policy management. Those of us who knew Dan so well knew that he enjoyed nothing more than mentoring young people as they navigated Washington's sometimes choppy waters. By supporting graduate and post-graduate level students who have demonstrated an interest in gaining a more intimate understanding of, and involvement with, the legislative and political processes, the Dutko Fellowship Program will honor and continue Dan's pursuit of helping others achieve excellence. The Fellowship program will be operated in partnership with the Tufts University College of Citizenship and Public Service.

On November 27, 2000, we are kicking off the Foundation. Our Co-hosts for the event are Kathleen Kennedy Townsend and Jeanne Shaheen, two women who sought Dan's advice early and often, and about whose lives and careers Dan cared deeply. At that time, we will introduce the members of the Advisory Board, friends and colleagues of Dan who have agreed to give or raise $10,000 for the Foundation. Many of your friends, including Alan Solomont, Garry Mauro, Lukin Gilliland, Eli Segal, and Carol Pensky, were quick to sign on. Many others will be signing on in weeks to come.

The Dutko Group partners and I would be so honored if you would agree to Chair the Foundation's Advisory Board for the first two years of its start-up phase. We also hope that your schedule will allow you to attend the large evening event on the 27th and then a dinner for the Advisory Board immediately following. If that evening does not work for you, then perhaps you could join the members of the Advisory Board for lunch that day or any other day that works. I will follow up with your staff.

Thanks so much for considering this request.

Best,

Deb Jospin

Deborah Jospin

Cc: Minyon Moore

Jospin
16 Primrose Street
Chevy Chase, Md.
20815

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Delivery By Hand