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MAY 1997

Divider Title: _____

THE TRIP
of
THE PRESIDENT
to
WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA
and
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

May 9, 1998

Staff Copy

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Democratic National Committee Dinner

- Event Memo
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Massachusetts Background

- Political Background (including Hot Issues)
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- CEQ Hot Issues
- Cabinet Affairs Hot Issues
- Accomplishments

Saturday, May 9, 1998

**SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT
FOR
SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1998**

Final Schedule

SCHEDULING DIRECTOR:

STEPHANIE STREETT

HOME: 202-332-5651
OFFICE: 202-456-2823
WHCA PAGER: 4824

EVENT COORDINATOR:

CECILY WILLIAMS

HOME: 202-726-0009
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PRESS DESK:

JULIA PAYNE

HOME: 703-522-5756
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**LEAD ADVANCE:
(VIRGINIA)**

JAMES DENBO

STAFF OFFICE: 39-220
CELL PHONE: 202-757-9309
WHCA PAGER: 5483

**LEAD ADVANCE:
(BOSTON)**

KARA MCGUIRE

STAFF OFFICE: 44-220
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WEATHER:

WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

Cloudy with morning fog and drizzle becoming mostly cloudy with the chance of rain showers and thunderstorms by evening. Winds east-northeast at 10 to 15 knots. Low 55 to 60. High 65 to 70.

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Cloudy and cool with morning fog and isolated rain showers. Winds east-southeast at 10 to 20 knots. Low 51 to 56. High 61 to 66.

May 8, 1998 (7:54pm)

Saturday, May 9, 1998

**Schedule of the President
for
Saturday, May 9, 1998
*Final Schedule***

8:30	am-	BRIEFING
8:45	am	DIPLOMATIC RECEPTION ROOM Staff Contact: Larry Stein
8:50	am	THE PRESIDENT proceeds to the South Lawn
8:55	am	THE PRESIDENT departs The White House via Marine One en route Andrews Air Force Base [flight time: 10 minutes]
9:05	am	THE PRESIDENT arrives Andrews Air Force Base
9:20	am	THE PRESIDENT departs Andrews Air Force Base via Air Force One en route Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport, Virginia [flight time: 40 minutes]
10:00	am	THE PRESIDENT arrives Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport, Virginia Greeters: State Delegate Alan Diamonstien State Delegate George Gracen Mrs. Carmen Gracen
10:15	am	THE PRESIDENT departs Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport, Virginia via motorcade en route Kingsmill Resort [drive time: 25 minutes]

May 8, 1998 (7:54pm)

Saturday, May 9, 1998

10:40 am **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Kingsmill Resort

Greeters: Terry Haack, Vice President, Kingsmill Resort
(Entrance) Dennis Noonan, Director of Sales, Kingsmill Resort
Patty Worth, National Sales Manager, Kingsmill Resort
Donna Harris, Conference Services, Kingsmill Resort
Ronald Bullock, Rooms Divisions Manager, Kingsmill Resort

Greeters: Senator Thomas Daschle
(Tazewell Room) Senator Harry Reid

10:45 am- **REMARKS TO SENATE DEMOCRATIC ISSUES CONFERENCE**
12:00 pm **TAZEWELL ROOM**

Kingsmill Resort Convention Center

Remarks: Michael Waldman

Staff Contact: Larry Stein

Event Coordinator: Cecily Williams

CLOSED PRESS

- Senator Max Baucus makes remarks and introduces **the President**.
- **The President** makes remarks.
- Senator Max Baucus opens discussion and serves as moderator.
- Upon conclusion of discussion, **the President** departs.

Note: Upon departure from the Tazewell Room, the President will take photographs with five Senators and their respective families.

12:00 pm- **POLICE AND DRIVER PHOTOGRAPHS**
12:05 pm **HALLWAY**
Kingsmill Resort Convention Center

12:05 pm- **HOLD/CHANGE**
12:10 pm

12:10 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs Kingsmill Resort Convention Center via motorcade en route Woods Golf Course
[drive time: 5 minutes]

May 8, 1998 (7:54pm)

Saturday, May 9, 1998

12:15 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Woods Golf Course

12:15 pm- **GOLF**

5:15 pm WOODS COURSE

Kingsmill Resort

Staff Contact: Larry Stein

Event Coordinator: Cecily Williams

5:15 pm- **PHOTO OPPORTUNITY**

5:20 pm WOODS COURSE

Kingsmill Resort

Note: The President will take photographs with Senator Chuck Robb, Ken Plum, Virginia State Chair, and Mrs. Jane Plum.

5:20 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs Kingsmill Resort via motorcade en route Newport News Airport
[drive time: 25 minutes]

5:45 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Newport News Airport

6:00 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs Newport News Airport via Air Force One en route Logan International Airport
[flight time: 1 hour 20 minutes]

7:20 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Logan International Airport

Greeters: Senator John Kerry
 Mayor Tom Menino
 Shannon O'Brein
 Jill Hayes

7:35 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs Logan International Airport via motorcade en route Private Residence
[drive time: 35 minutes]

May 8, 1998 (7:54pm)

Saturday, May 9, 1998

8:10 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Private Residence

Greeters: Gerald Schuster
Elaine Schuster

8:15 pm- **PHOTO RECEIVING LINE**

8:45 pm LIVING ROOM
Private Residence

Note: 100 guests (50 photos).

8:50 pm- **DINNER FOR DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

9:35 pm OUTDOOR TENT

Private Residence

Remarks: Laura Capps

Staff Contact: Craig Smith

Event Coordinator: Cecily Williams

PRINT REPORTER/AUDIO FEED (REMARKS ONLY)

Note: 100 guests in attendance.

-- Chairman Steve Grossman delivers brief remarks and introduces Elaine Schuster.

-- Elaine Schuster makes brief remarks and introduces **the President**.

-- **The President** makes remarks and proceeds to the Living Room.

9:40 pm- **DESSERT RECEPTION FOR DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL**
10:10 pm **COMMITTEE**

LIVING ROOM

Private Residence

Staff Contact: Craig Smith

Event Coordinator: Cecily Williams

CLOSED PRESS

Note: 26 guests in attendance.

10:15 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs Private Residence via motorcade en route Logan International Airport
[drive time: 35 minutes]

May 8, 1998 (7:54pm)

Saturday, May 9, 1998

10:50 pm	THE PRESIDENT arrives Logan International Airport
11:05 pm	THE PRESIDENT departs Logan International Airport via Air Force One en route Andrews Air Force Base [flight time: 1 hour, 15 minutes]
12:20 am	THE PRESIDENT arrives Andrews Air Force Base
12:30 am	THE PRESIDENT departs Andrews Air Force Base via Marine One en route The Reflecting Pool [flight time: 10 minutes]
12:40 am	THE PRESIDENT arrives The Reflecting Pool
12:45 am	THE PRESIDENT departs The Reflecting Pool via motorcade en route The White House [drive time: 5 minutes]
12:50 am	THE PRESIDENT arrives The White House
BC/HRC RON	THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON, D.C.

May 8, 1998 (7:54pm)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

'98 MAY 8 PM 12:22

May 8, 1998

SENATE DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEE ANNUAL RETREAT

DATE: Saturday, May 9
LOCATION: Kingsmill Resort - Williamsburg, Virginia
TIME: 10:45AM - 12:00PM
From: Larry Stein *JS*

I. PURPOSE

On Friday, May 8 the Senate Democratic Policy Committee will convene its annual Issues Conference in Williamsburg, VA. You are scheduled to address the Committee on Saturday, May 9. This memorandum highlights significant legislative issues that have either been considered or are likely to receive significant legislative attention prior to the 1998 elections.

II. BACKGROUND

NATO Enlargement - On Thursday, April 30 the Senate passed (80-19) the resolution of ratification of the NATO Enlargement Treaty. The measure, which allows Hungary, Poland, and the Czech Republic to join the existing alliance, strengthens NATO's military presence, bolsters Central European stability and democracy, and erases Cold War dividing lines. The Senate vote was preceded by a healthy debate on the viability of the expansion. It is clear that some Members, even supporters, have continuing concerns, especially about the Russian reaction and implementation costs. While we work with our NATO allies to complete ratification of the treaty, we will continue to seek solutions to these concerns.

IMF - The \$17.9 billion request for funding for the International Monetary Fund (IMF) passed the Senate both as a stand-alone bill and as an amendment to the emergency supplemental appropriations bill. (The amendment passed by a vote of 84-16. Two Democrats -- Senators Wellstone and Feingold -- voted against it.) The House Appropriations Committee reported two bills, one funding the emergencies and one funding IMF and also partial funding of UN arrears. On the House floor, Rep. Obey offered a motion to instruct House conferees on the emergency supplemental to include IMF funding, but this failed by a vote of 186-222, with 22 Republicans voting with 164 Democrats to support IMF funding. The final emergency supplemental conference report did not include the IMF funding. Speaker Gingrich has said he would bring the IMF-UN bill to the floor

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sometime this year after holding hearings in the Joint Economic Committee and attaching additional conditions on transparency and accountability. If the House passed the IMF-UN bill, the Senate would send the previously-passed Senate IMF appropriations bill to conference with the House bill.

UN Arrears - Authorization for \$926 million in UN arrears, to be paid over three years with extensive conditionality and certifications also required, is contained in the State Department Reorganization conference report. However, the conference report also contains objectionable Mexico City language on family planning which you have indicated you will veto. The measure passed both Houses (in the Senate every Democrat except Senators Breaux and Ford voted against the conference report) and has not been forwarded for your action. In our negotiations with Members we have emphasized the costs of not making good on our debts. These costs include: harming collective efforts to deal with emerging threats that cut across borders -- from terrorist to organized criminals, drug traffickers, and environmental damage; and blemishes on our international credibility by undermining our central message that nations should live up to their commitments.

Northern Ireland - The Peace Accords reached on April 10 presents Northern Ireland with the best chance for peace in a generation. There will be a nationwide referendum on the Accords on Friday, May 22 and general elections to the new Assembly on June 25. While we expect the Accords to be adopted by the people of Northern Ireland, they will need significant help to implement them. You should emphasize that while you are not visiting Northern Ireland on your upcoming trip to Birmingham and London, you have proposed several programs aimed at providing such assistance. These programs include: funding for a new university campus, technical assistance in establishing the new Assembly, and the trade mission to Northern Ireland later this year to be led by Secretary Daley.

Bankruptcy - Senator Durbin has been the primary Democratic proponent, along with Senator Grassley, of a bankruptcy reform bill in the Senate. This has been one of the most heavily lobbied issues in Congress this year, as primarily credit card companies have very strongly pushed for legislation. These companies and other creditors believe that Senator Durbin's bill does not go far enough. They prefer the approach of the House bill [sponsored by George Gekas (R-PA)] which imposes a strict income means test on those who would seek Chapter 7 bankruptcy protection--forgiveness of debt-- over the Durbin approach, which allows the judge to impose a balancing test of factors to determine the appropriateness of Chapter 7. After an interagency task force run by NEC, the Department of Justice has issued a letter favoring the Durbin approach.

Credit Unions - The Senate Banking Committee, with the support of all Democratic members, last week reported out the credit union bill, which overturns the effects of a Supreme Court decision earlier this year which found that credit unions with "multiple common bonds" had exceeded their statutory limits on formation. This bill passed with over 400 votes in the House last month. While the bill remains enormously popular, Senator Shelby offered an amendment in the Banking Committee that would have removed the application of the Community Reinvestment Act (imposing requirements for fair credit practices in disadvantaged communities) for small banks. That amendment failed with Senator D'Amato joining the Democrats against it. Senator Shelby has threatened to offer the amendment on the floor. Secretary Rubin is issuing a letter stating that the Administration strongly supports the Credit Union bill, but that he would recommend that you veto the bill if it contains the Shelby language.

Yucca Mountain - The Senate is expected to again consider the issue of interim storage of nuclear waste in Nevada. Senator Bingaman is the swing vote and is close to agreeing to support the bill. Senator Bingaman voted against the bill previously, but may have had many of his concerns addressed by the new Senate substitute. Senators Reid and Bryan are very concerned, and would like our help with Senator Bingaman, and with Senators such as Cleland, Harkin, Johnson and Wyden, each of whom supported the bill last time. We must also ensure that Senators Breaux, Dorgan, Landrieu and Durbin remain opposed.

Internet Tax - The Senate is expected to begin consideration of the Internet Tax Freedom Act on Tuesday, May 12 which coincides with the celebration of Technology Week. The bill, sponsored by Senator Ron Wyden, would establish a 6 year moratorium on any fees established as well as provide states that already levy fees an opportunity to vote on a 1 year grandfather clause. The Wyden proposal would also establish a 15 member commission to oversee the establishment and collection of fees. The commission would be made up of 5 members appointed by you, 3 members appointed by the Senate Majority Leader, 3 members appointed by the Speaker, 2 members appointed by the Senate Minority Leader, and 2 appointed by the House Minority Leader. The Secretaries of State, Treasury and Commerce would serve as ex officio members. Of the 15 voting members on the commission, at least 6 have to be CEOs and 6 must be Governors or other locally elected officials. Senator Lott, who had been out spoken in favor of the Governors' position, has agreed to let the bill come to the floor. We expect a number of amendments to be offered, including one which will reduce the moratorium period from 6 years to 3.

Woodrow Wilson Bridge - This week a breakthrough occurred with respect to funding a replacement facility for the heavily-used, federally-owned Woodrow Wilson Bridge. The Administration's NEXTEA proposal offered \$400 million in aid, the Senate bill contains \$900 million, and the House bill has zero. On Wednesday, May 6 Director Frank Raines and DOT Secretary Rodney Slater met with Governors Paris Glendening and James Gilmore as well as several members from the Maryland, Virginia, and D.C. Congressional delegation to address funding for the bridge. While complete assessment has not been reached on a new funding plan, participants were encouraged by the possibility of Administration support for the \$900 million funding level and additional options to help meet the cost of the \$1.6 billion facility.

ISTEA Funding - Negotiations over how to provide for higher ISTEA funding levels and acceptable offsets have intensified. On Tuesday, May 5 senior White House, OMB, and DOT officials started meeting with majority and minority leaders on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. Additional meetings with other key House and Senate leaders are continuing. The Administration has laid out four core principles: the projected budget surplus shall not be used to pay for the legislation; spending shall be offset fully, without lowering the cap on other discretionary spending; after a phase-in period, total budget resources spent each year should equal total receipts to the Highway Trust Fund; and spending levels in the legislation shall be sustainable after the end of the authorization period. Administration representatives have also stressed that any agreement on funding issues is contingent on agreement on policy issues as well. The Administration's plan guarantees spending by extending outlays over an additional year assuming \$13.5 million offsets from veterans' tobacco and guaranteed spending. Veterans groups are actively trying to kill the veterans tobacco offset. Also, there are a number of proposals on the Hill which increase overall spending and do not extend outlays to a seventh year.

Juvenile Justice - The Senate Judiciary Committee reported S. 10, comprehensive juvenile crime legislation, last fall and floor consideration of the measure may occur as early as mid-June. In anticipation of the floor debate, Senators attending the annual retreat will hear Boston Police Commissioner Paul Evans, and other crime experts, participate in a panel entitled, "Getting Tough and Smart on Juvenile Crime." The Commissioner will outline the success of Boston's juvenile crime program, which you praised during your visit to Boston and which served as a model for the Administration's juvenile crime proposal. The Administration's proposal provides for juvenile prevention, tough penalties and funding for juvenile courts and prosecutors. For its part, while S. 10 contains many Administration proposals, it falls short on prevention programs and contains onerous penalties and procedures for

juveniles who have committed crime. During Senate floor consideration of S.10 the Administration will need the help of Senate Democrats to improve S.10 to incorporate the juvenile crime strategies that have worked so well in Boston and other regions of the nation.

Tobacco - During the week of May 18th, the Senate is expected to consider the comprehensive tobacco legislation by Senator McCain. The measure, which was reported out of the Commerce Committee by a vote of 18-1, provides the FDA with full authority to regulate tobacco, raises the price of cigarettes by \$1.10 per pack over 5 years, provides for modest look back penalties, protects farmers and caps tobacco company liability at \$6.5 billion per year. During the next two weeks the Administration will need to coordinate very closely with Senate Democrats to improve those areas of concern, keep the measure from being weakened during floor consideration and to ultimately pass a measure that meets our principles through the Senate.

Judges - Earlier this week, press reports indicated that the White House had made a deal with Senator Gorton (R-WA) to nominate Judge Barbara Durham to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in exchange for Republicans confirming several of our nominees now before the Senate Judiciary Committee. Judge Durham is currently the Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court in Washington.

Over the past year, we have worked closely with Senator Murray (D-WA), who has worked with Senator Gorton (R-WA), to ensure that both the District Court vacancies in Washington and the numerous vacancies on the Ninth Circuit are filled expeditiously. The Senate has already confirmed Margaret McKeown for the Ninth Circuit and Edward Shea for the Eastern District of Washington. We are awaiting action by the Committee on several other nominees to that Circuit.

Earlier this week Chairman Orrin Hatch vowed that he would move the nomination of law professor William Fletcher through the Judiciary Committee at next week's business meeting in that Committee. Fletcher was also nominated for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and his nomination was held over this week by Senator Ashcroft.

III.

PARTICIPANTS

Pre-Brief
President
Larry Stein
Doug Sosnik

Meeting

Please see attached list

IV. PRESS PLAN

No Press

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

You will be introduced to the podium by Senator Max Baucus. Following your remarks you will join the Senators and spouses for lunch.

VI. REMARKS

To be provided by Speechwriting

VII. ATTACHMENTS

1. Agenda for the Democratic Policy Committee Issues Conference
2. List of Members who will attend
3. Senate Election Outlook to be provided by Political Affairs

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1998
SENATE DEMOCRATIC ISSUES CONFERENCE
Williamsburg, Virginia
May 8-10

Friday, May 8

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 9:00 a.m. | Depart Capitol by Bus |
| 11:30 a.m. | Arrive Kingsmill Conference Center
Conference Registration
Check-in |
| 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Buffet Luncheon |
| 1:30-3:30 p.m. | Session One - Juvenile Justice
"Getting Tough and Smart on Juvenile Crime"
Moderator: Senator Mary Landrieu
Speaker: Dr. Melissa Sickmund , National Center for Juvenile Justice
Mr. Harry Shorstein , State Attorney, Jacksonville, FL
Commissioner Paul Evans, Commissioner of Police, Boston, MA |
| 3:30-3:45 a.m. | Break |
| 3:45-4:45 a.m. | Session Two - Technology Demonstration
"The I.T. Revolution and the Emerging Digital Economy: Our Nation's Competitive Advantage"
Moderator: Senator Joseph Lieberman
Speakers: Dr. Robert D. Atkinson , Director. Technology and Innovation for New Economy Project, Progressive Policy Institute
Mr. John Gage , Chief Scientist and Director, Science Office, Sun Microsystems |
| 4:45-6:30 p.m. | Free Time |
| 6:30-7:30 p.m. | Reception |
| 7:30-9:00 p.m. | Dinner
"What Jefferson Means Today"
Introduction: Senator Kent Conrad
Speaker: Dr. Joseph Ellis , Profess of History, Mount Holyoke College, 1997 National Book Award, American Sphinx: The Character of Thomas Jefferson |

Saturday, May 9

7:30-9:30 a.m.

Breakfast

9:30-10:45 a.m.

Session Three - The New Russia

“A Challenging Course: The Russian Role in the Geopolitical Order”

Moderator: **Senator Chuck Robb**

Speakers: **General George Lee Butler**, United States Air Force
Retired

Dr. Angela Stent, Professor, Georgetown University

10:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Session Four - President Bill Clinton

Introduction: **Senator Max Baucus**

12:00-2:00 p.m.

Buffet Luncheon

2:00-7:00 p.m.

Free Time

7:00-8:00 p.m.

Reception

8:00-10:00 p.m.

Outdoor Barbeque

Special guest: **Vice President Al Gore**

Sunday, May 10

9:00-10:30 a.m.

Breakfast (Members and spouses-only)

Moderator: **Senator Tom Daschle**

10:30 a.m.

Bus departs Kingsmill

1:00 p.m.

Bus arrives at Capitol

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
TALKING POINTS FOR DEMOCRATIC SENATE RETREAT
WILLIAMSBURG, VA
MAY 9, 1998**

This is a golden time for America. Think of where America was in 1993 --low job growth, stagnant wages, skyrocketing deficit. Uncertainty at home & abroad.

Today, American economic renaissance.

- deficit down from \$290B in 1993 to bal bud this year. 90% of def cuts before BBA.
- unemployment 4.3%, lowest in 28 yrs; 15.2M new jobs; wages up 2.9% over last year.
- inflation lowest in 30 yrs
- record homeownership
- consumer confidence at 30 yr high

Social fabric on the mend as well. Crime, welfare, teen pregnancy down.

And our leadership in the world unrivaled. Proud of Northern Ireland Peace Agreement --thanks Sen. Mitchell. NATO enlargement --thank you for strong support.

We Democrats have every reason to feel proud of this achievement --it was our policies that created the conditions for America's economic renaissance. And this economic and social success creates a platform on which Democrats can run and win. We have created a political climate that is strikingly favorable for Democrats. Usually, a party in the midterm of a second presidential term braces for big losses. We have a chance to make strong gains in the House and in the Senate as well. We have a good chance at open seats; and Senators like D'Amato and others are vulnerable.

Strong agenda for future. A united agenda for the future.

As a party we are united as we have ever been, committed to:

- Keep economy growing
 - fiscal discipline & saving Social Security First.
 - IMF
- Tobacco
- Education --class size, school modernization
- Medicare Buy In
- Patients Bill of Rights
- Childcare

I will work with you to elect a Democratic Senate. I have done a lot of events for many of you here (Mikulski, Graham, Hollings, Dorgan, Boxer, Moseley-Braun) and plan on doing as much as I can to support you. We will have a lot to take to the people in November. We should work now to pass what we can --then take our differences to the voters. If we offer the politics of hope and achievement, and they offer partisanship and division, we have a

unique and historic opportunity.

**DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE
BOSTON MAJOR SUPPORTERS DINNER & RECEPTION
HONORING PRESIDENT CLINTON**

Date: Saturday, May 9, 1998

Venue: Home of Elaine and Gerald Schuster

Time: 8:00 p.m.

From: Fran Katz, National Finance Director

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of the dinner is to raise funds for the Democratic National Committee (DNC).

II. BACKGROUND

The purpose of the event is to engage major supporters of the DNC. The guests represent leaders in the business community in the Boston area. Estimated attendance at the dinner is 90 guests. Estimated attendance at the reception is 25 guests.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Please see attached guest list.

IV. PRESS PLAN

This event is open to two print reporters and the pool press via audio-feed for remarks.

V. SEQUENCE

8:00 p.m.

- YOU arrive
- YOU are greeted by dinner hosts Elaine and Gerald Schuster and the Schuster children Audrey, Heidi, Laurie, Mark, Scott, and Todd.
- YOU proceed to greet guests in a photo receiving line.
- YOU proceed to dinner and are seated at a head table.
- PROGRAM:
 - DNC Chairman Steve Grossman delivers welcoming remarks and introduces dinner host Elaine Schuster.
 - Elaine Schuster delivers brief remarks and introduces YOU.
 - YOU deliver remarks.
- YOU proceed to the living room for the reception.
- YOU are seated for an informal discussion with guests.
- YOU depart.

VI. REMARKS

YOUR remarks will be provided by speechwriting.

Ack: Sen. Kennedy; Sen. Kerry; Mayor Menino; Joan Menard (Chair of State Party) in Barney Frank's district. Chairs: Elaine and Gerry Schuster; Co-chairs: Jim and Cathy Daley; Barbara and Steve Grossman; Sherry and Alan Leventhal; Alan and Susan Solomont; Lyle Howland and Jack Manning.

• **Just over 600 days to 21st Century, time to build America within reach, strengthen Nation for 21st Century: 15M new jobs; 1st quarter: Unemp 4.3% -- 28 yr low and growth 4.2%; inflat. lowest in 30 yrs; crime ↘ 5 yrs in a row, welfare rolls 27 yr low; fam. income ↗ \$2,200; real wages ↗; mid. class taxes lowest in 20 yrs; record homeownership.**

• **Much to do:**

- Bal Bud: Save SS first.
- Min Wage
- Educ: School Modernization; Avg. class size 18; 100k new teachers.
- Tobacco: "replacement smokers,"
- Families: Medicare buy-in; HMO BOR; childcare (good for business).
- Campaign Reform (Shays-Meehan)
- IMF

• **The future:** 21st Century Research Fund.

May 8, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Craig Smith and Chris Lavery

RE: Massachusetts Political Briefing

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS**1992**

Clinton/Gore	1,318,639	48%
Bush/Quayle	805,039	29%
Perot/Stockdale	630,731	22%

1996

Clinton/Gore	1,567,223	62%
Dole/Kemp	717,622	28%
Perot/Choate	225,594	9%

MOST RECENT PRINCIPAL TRAVEL

The First Lady was in Boston on May 1, 1998 to attend a fundraiser for Rep. Marty Meehan (D).

The First Lady was in Boston on January 30, 1998 to attend Rep. Joe Moakley's (D) Silver Jubilee.

The First Lady was in Boston on December 9, 1997, for a Team Harmony youth forum on racial issues.

YOU were in Boston on June 30, 1997, for a fundraiser.

The Vice President was in Boston on October 31, 1997, to attend an inaugural symposium at the Harvard University Belfer Center.

The Vice President was in Boston on November 1, 1996, for a campaign rally at Faneuil Hall.

TENATIVE UPCOMING PRINCIPAL TRAVEL

The First Lady will attend a fundraiser for Rep. John F. Tierney (D), a public event for Rep. Jim McGovern (D), and the Harvard Medical School commencement on June 4, 1998.

YOU will be the keynote speaker for the commencement ceremony at Massachusetts Institute of Technology on June 5, 1998.

Political Data

Governor:	Paul Cellucci (R)
U.S. Senate:	Edward Kennedy (D) (58% in 1994)
	John Kerry (D) (52% in 1996)
U.S. House:	10 Democrats
State House:	134 D/25 R/1 I
State Senate:	34 D/6 R

Electoral Votes: 12

State Constitutional Officers and Legislative Leaders

Governor:	Paul Cellucci (R)
Lt. Governor:	(Vacant until '98)
Attorney General:	Scott Harshbarger (D)
Secretary of State:	William Francis Galvin (D)
State Treasurer:	Joe Malone (R)
State Auditor:	A. Joseph DeNucci (D)
Speaker of the House:	Thomas Finneran (D)
President of the Senate:	Thomas Birmingham (D)

Congressional Delegation

Senator Edward Kennedy (D)	Senator John Kerry (D)
Rep. John Olver (D-01)	Rep. Richard Neal (D-02)
Rep. Jim McGovern (D-03)	Rep. Barney Frank (D-04)
Rep. Martin Meehan (D-05)	Rep. John Tierney (D-06)
Rep. Ed Markey (D-07)	Rep. Joseph Kennedy II (D-08)
Rep. Joe Moakley (D-09)	Rep. William Delahunt (D-10)

Massachusetts Facts

- In 1994, the estimated population of the state of Massachusetts was 6.04 million.
- 82.2% of Massachusetts residents are White; 14.5% are African American; 3.3% are Asian.
- The median age in Massachusetts is 33.6 years, and 13.5% of the population is 65 or older.
- The per capita income of Massachusetts is \$17,224 and the median income is \$36,952.
- 79.9% of Massachusetts residents have a high school degree or above and 42.9% have a college degree.
- 56% of the Voting Age Population (VAP) in Massachusetts voted in the 1996 elections, compared to 61% of the VAP in 1992.
- The unemployment rate in Massachusetts has declined from 7.5% to 3.3% since 1993.
- 367,900 new jobs have been created in Massachusetts since 1993-- an average of 72,374 jobs per year.
- Approximately 91,000 Massachusetts workers benefited from an increase in the minimum wage-- from \$4.25 to \$4.75-- on October 1, 1996.
- Since 1992, serious crime has fallen 21% in Boston and 22% statewide.
- YOUR 1994 Crime Bill has funded 2,409 new police officers to date in communities across Massachusetts.
- There are 137,643 fewer people on welfare in Massachusetts now than there were at the beginning of 1993-- a 41% decrease [through 9/97].
- Since 1993, Massachusetts has received \$4.18 billion in federal highway aid. These funds have helped generate over 176,000 jobs through Fiscal Year 1997.

City of Boston

- According to the 1990 census, the total population of the City of Boston is 574,283.
- 63% of Boston residents are White, 26% are African American, 9% are Hispanic American, and 6% Asian.
- The median age for the city is 27 years old.
- The per capita income is \$15,581.
- Clinton/Gore captured 72% of the city's vote in the 1996 election, compared to 19% for Dole/Kemp and 5% for Perot/Choate.

1998 GUBERNATORIAL RACE

Early in 1997, it appeared the Massachusetts governor's race would be a "clash of the titans" between Governor Weld (R) and Rep. Joseph P. Kennedy, II (D-08). However, the soap opera-like events have radically changed the makeup of this race.

The much-publicized, and often whimsical, melee surrounding Governor Weld's ambassadorial appointment to Mexico ultimately resulted in his departure from the Massachusetts Governor's mansion. In his departure, Weld left his longtime political ally, Lieutenant Governor Paul Cellucci (R) to complete the remainder of his term. This was a major coup for Cellucci, who is now running as a fairly popular incumbent.

With his State of the State speech and his budget presentation, Cellucci has commanded the spotlight as he outlined his priorities and put a clearer stamp on his own identity. During the annual address, his first statewide telecast, Cellucci called for initiatives in education reform and tied the state's economic future to better public schools. Specifically, he proposed the hiring of 4,000 new teachers this year, a "90-10" rule, mandating that 90 percent of new school funding go directly into the classroom to guarantee that education reforms aren't wasted on administration, and a \$1.2 billion cut in the state income tax.

In March, in an attempt to shore up his conservative base, Cellucci said that he "opposes so-called partial birth abortion except to save the life of the mother" maintaining that while he has always considered abortion a "private decision that the government should stay out of to the greatest extent possible" he feels that "this particular procedure goes too far." Cellucci had long been considered one of the GOP's leading champions of abortion rights and it remains to be seen how this may effect a general election race.

Despite his ascension to the governorship, Cellucci has faced some political and personal difficulties over the past year which may hinder his election. Last year, Cellucci was forced to sell his equity in his family business to pay \$70,000 in high-interest credit card debt and admitted to having loans totaling nearly \$700,000. Cellucci contends these loans stem from a mortgage on his home, but there have been rumors that he has amassed gambling debts.

Cellucci will be challenged in the Republican primary by State Treasurer Joe Malone, who announced his candidacy in late July. On March 8, Malone asked former radio talk show host Janet Jeghelian, who is pregnant and will give birth around the time of the election, to run as a Republican candidate for lieutenant governor. While running as a team for governor and

lieutenant governor, Malone and Jeghelian appear to have broken state campaign laws that prohibit one candidate from picking up the expenses of another candidate. A review of their campaign expense report shows that Malone paid nearly all of the \$100,000 tab for their joint operation at last month's state Republican Convention. Malone has also paid the entire costs of both campaign's staff salaries, headquarters rental, and other promotional items such as printing, postage, and bumper stickers. According to state campaign laws: No statewide candidate can give or loan another candidate money, that includes paying for mutual campaign related expenses.

In April, Cellucci called upon Malone, to explain why his family trust's three-acre Waltham, Massachusetts property did not pay \$91,000 in property taxes from 1993 to 1996, and why it still owes property taxes for 1997. Malone refused to answer questions about the unpaid taxes and instead blasted Cellucci for attacking his family in order to create negative press.

The defeat of the death penalty in the Massachusetts legislature late last year (see Hot Issues) has prompted Cellucci and Malone to trade barbs, each blaming the other for its defeat. Malone is blaming the lack of complete Republican support for the death penalty bill on Cellucci, charging that the Governor has not done enough to "build a healthy, vibrant Republican party." Cellucci countered Malone's assertions by accusing him of "sitting on the sidelines and doing nothing" while the issue was debated. The two also traded ethics accusations earlier this month.

Fortunately for Cellucci, the state's economy is humming along and its coffers are flush with cash. With the exception of the death penalty, divisive social and criminal justice issues have been either settled or placed on the back burner.

Cellucci won the endorsement of Massachusetts GOPers at the state convention, beating Malone by more than a 2-to-1 ratio. Cellucci is also leading in fundraising with \$3.4 million on-hand, while Malone has approximately \$1.5 million. Perhaps even more significant, Cellucci has out raised Malone in 1998 by a margin of 4-1. Keeping Malone confident about the race is having \$1.5 million and political consultant Arthur Finkelstein on his campaign staff.

Cellucci, with his apparent advantages, is considered by most political observers as the strong favorite in a Republican primary. A *Boston Herald* poll of 400 registered voters, conducted April 13-15, 1998, showed Cellucci well ahead of Malone.

Republican Primary

Cellucci	59%
Malone	21%
Undecided	19%

On the Democratic side, the maelstrom of negative publicity surrounding Rep. Joseph Kennedy's (D-08) personal life stopped his once seemingly unstoppable campaign. Kennedy's withdrawal has served to significantly boost the prospects of Attorney General Scott Harshbarger (D). Once fighting for credibility, Harshbarger has emerged as the frontrunner in a Kennedy-free race. However, his campaign has yet to catch on fire, and political observers note that Massachusetts

Democrats seem reluctant to support Harshbarger, who is not considered a Democratic party loyalist.

Harshbarger has received recent media attention by accusing gun manufacturers of placing children's lives at risk by suing to stop handgun regulations from taking effect. He has also sparred publicly with Gov. Cellucci for failing to keep track of the state's \$9 billion investment in education since the Education Reform Act was passed in 1993. Nevertheless, he has alienated many in the party. Specifically, he was blasted by some for a campaign letter where he called himself the "best choice for fans" of former Gov. William Weld (R).

Notably, late January's *Boston Globe* reported that only one of the state's 10 congressional representatives had endorsed Harshbarger. Privately, one Congressman has advised Harshbarger that he was "the most hated guy in Democratic politics" and lawmakers agreed that they were looking for someone other than Harshbarger to support for the Democratic nomination for governor.

This negative impression appears to stem from three things: his role as the state's top prosecutor investigating public corruption; his willingness, early on, to challenge Rep. Joe Kennedy for the nomination; and his hesitancy to help elect other Democrats to office.

Former state Senator Patricia McGovern (D) has also announced her candidacy for governor, and while she has picked up ground, she continues to be plagued by her inability to raise money. Nevertheless, she has recently hired veteran Democratic campaign strategist, Bill Carrick, to run the campaign. Alan Solomont has recently agreed to help the campaign. Solomont resigned as the DNC finance director in early January.

Former Rep. Brian Donnelly (D) announced on February 3 that he will run for governor. After serving seven terms in Congress, he decided not to seek re-election in 1992. He has returned to Massachusetts after spending 4 years as U.S. Ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago. Donnelly had \$117,000 left in the bank as of March. He still has more than \$400,000 legally available from his federal war chest.

In terms of fundraising, Harshbarger had approximately \$1.4 million on hand, while McGovern had a mere \$437,000. McGovern raised just \$157,000 in March, which was twice the dismal showing in December when she raised \$69,000. There is speculation that McGovern's inability to raise money is likely attributed to the hope of Democrats that a stronger, non-Harshbarger, candidate will enter the race. However, with Kennedy out of the picture, the prospects for such a candidate seem remote.

Additionally, a January University of Massachusetts poll revealed that there is very little support for Rep. Joseph Kennedy (D) reentering the race. The poll showed that only 13% thought he should reenter, 24% said he should run for reelection to the House, 16% said he should leave public office and 38% had no opinion.

A University of Massachusetts' McCormack Institute poll of Democrats and Independents,

conducted April 13-23, showed a wide open primary, with Harshbarger losing his strong lead of last fall.

Democratic Primary

	<u>Now</u>	<u>1/98</u>
Harshbarger	24%	21%
McGovern	18%	17%
Donnelly	3%	5%
Undecided	43%	----

The poll also tested possible general election matchups between Cellucci, Harshbarger, McGovern and Malone. It confirmed that Cellucci is the favorite in the general, but showed him well below 50% support.

General Election Matchups

	<u>Now</u>	<u>Jan '98</u>
Cellucci	37%	41%
Harshbarger	23%	27%
Cellucci	36%	41%
McGovern	24%	27%
Harshbarger	28%	----
Malone	26%	----

CONGRESSIONAL RACES

Eighth Congressional District

Rep. Joseph Kennedy II (D) announced in March that he will not run for re-election. Kennedy will return to the helm of Citizens Energy Corp., which had been run by his late brother Michael Kennedy. Democrats considering the race are state Senate President Thomas Birmingham, former state Senator George Bachrach, Boston city council member Thomas Keane, former state Rep. Marjorie Clapprood, Boston city council member Charles Yancey, Cambridge council member Katherine Triantafillou and millionaire activist John O'Connor. Businessman Robert Maginn (R) is the only GOP candidate considering the race.

On April 28, former state Rep. Susan Tracy announced her candidacy for the 8th congressional district. Tracy is the first candidate to officially enter the race. She is backed by advocates for senior citizens, children, workers, and gay and lesbians.

Former Boston Mayor and U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican Ray Flynn (D) joined the congressional race on April 29. Flynn must collect 2,000 signatures by May 5, in order to officially be put on the ballot. Since leaving City Hall in 1993 and the Vatican, Flynn has been battered politically. He was twice reprimanded by the State Department, his messy campaign finance scandal landed two aides in prison, and reports abound about his public drinking and

mediocre job performance as a diplomat. Flynn, who was the subject of an extensive *Boston Globe* special report, disputed on the April 14th edition of "60 Minutes". Flynn told CBS's Mike Wallace that he represents the working class and the *Globe*'s story demonstrates that the media are elitist and out of touch with the public. The *Boston Globe* article raised questions about Flynn's performance as US Ambassador to the Vatican and his drinking habits. The article quoted diplomatic colleagues, clerics and friends who said the former Boston mayor had often been absent and disinterested- and therefore ineffective- in his Vatican post. Flynn heads into the race only raising \$77,000 through April.

Other 1998 Races

At the Congressional level, Democrats will work to defend their 10-seat lock on the state's delegation. The vulnerable congressional districts in Massachusetts are held by Rep. John Tierney (D-01) and Rep. Jim McGovern (D-03). Former Rep. Peter Torkildsen (R) is already raising money for a rematch with Rep. Tierney in the North Shore 6th District. While no candidates have yet emerged to challenge freshmen Rep. Jim McGovern the Republicans are expected to recruit viable candidates to run competitive races for these seats.

All the state House and state Senate seats are contested in 1998, as well as other statewide constitutional offices, including the potentially open seats of Attorney General and State Treasurer.

Hot Issues

Central Artery (The Big Dig)

The Central Artery is an elevated, north-south freeway (I-93) through the heart of downtown Boston and is being replaced with tunnels under the existing facility. The overall project entails building or reconstructing about 7.5 miles of Interstate in the City of Boston, routing I-93 traffic through tunnels under Boston, replacing the I-93 bridge over the Charles River, and extending I-90 under Boston Harbor through the new Ted Williams Tunnel to Boston Logan Airport. Construction began in 1991 and is scheduled to be completed in 2004. The project has been controversial, due largely to concerns over the cost, project scheduling, State financing ability, and project oversight.

At a cost of over \$1 billion per mile, it is the nation's largest and most expensive highway project. Approximately \$9.6 billion of Federal and State funds have been authorized for the project. Once Congress completes ISTEA reauthorization, Massachusetts will decide the mix of federal and state funding for the remaining \$1.2 billion. There is no special funding in any of the ISTEA reauthorization bills for the Central Artery, so Massachusetts needs to decide how much of its regularly apportioned federal aid highway funds it wants to commit to the project.

Among the Massachusetts' Congressional delegation, members with close ties to Boston (such as Senator Ted Kennedy) are strong supporters. Members from western Massachusetts at times express concern that the Central Artery diverts funds from other important transportation needs, though they tend "to understand the need" for the Central Artery.

Meehan praises Cellucci

On May 1, 1998 the First Lady attended a public event for Rep. Marty Meehan (D) in Lowell, Massachusetts. At the event Meehan introduced Governor Paul Cellucci (R) to a packed auditorium at a University of Massachusetts forum on women's issues. Meehan called Cellucci "a friend" and praised the governor for his leadership in a plan to widen Route 3, which Meehan said was a necessity for bringing more business to the area. Meehan's introduction caused a stir in political circles, with Democrats wondering why a Democrat would publicly embrace a Republican candidate for governor.

Guard Commander suspended over fundraising

On May 7, Governor Paul Cellucci (R) suspended the state National Guard's top commander for 30 days without pay after a campaign finance probe found guard members violated election laws by soliciting colleagues for political donations to the governor. Cellucci said that Adjutant General Raymond Vezina must take responsibility for the violations, although the Office of Campaign and Political Finance inquiry concluded the general himself made no solicitations, and collected none of the \$18,000 contributed. The agency also found that it had no evidence Cellucci knew of the solicitations, which took place between 1995 and 1997.

2000 Convention

The DNC site selection committee voted that Boston, home of DNC Chairman Steve Grossman, has made the final cut for the Democratic 2000 convention. The city has been told to reserve hotel rooms for the specific dates.

Death of Michael Kennedy

Receiving substantial national attention is the tragic death of Michael Kennedy, brother of Rep. Joseph Kennedy (D-08) and Lt. Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend (D-MD), and son of the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Michael Kennedy died on December 31 from injuries he suffered slamming into a tree while skiing on the slopes of Aspen, Colorado. He was buried on January 3 in Brookline, Massachusetts.

Kennedy had been running the nonprofit energy company, Citizens Energy Corp., founded by his brother Joe nearly two decades ago. Citizens Energy supplies heating oil to the poor. Rep. Joe Kennedy has decided to return to the helm of Citizens Energy, "hoping to continue the work" of his brother. Michael Kennedy also ran the 1994 reelection campaigns of his brother, Rep. Joe Kennedy, and uncle, Sen. Edward Kennedy.

South Boston Waterfront

Plans are currently underway to develop one of Boston's last undeveloped waterfront properties. Observers contend that development of this nearly 1,000 acre stretch will help revitalize South Boston, and change the face of the city. [Cabinet Affairs will provide a more detailed briefing on this subject.]

1996 State Election Results

Even in a state known for its powerful Democrats, 1996 was an exceptionally good year for the party. Clinton/Gore easily carried this state with 62% of the vote. The state's highest profile race was the U.S. Senatorial contest between incumbent Senator John Kerry (D) and Governor Bill Weld (R). This often-bitter race was fought tooth and nail and remained a dead heat throughout most of 1996. When the dust settled, Kerry emerged the victor with over 52% of the vote. In aggregate, more money was spent in the Kerry-Weld bout than in any other '96 Senate race.

At the Congressional level, Massachusetts Democrats swept all 10 U.S. House seats, unseating the state's only two incumbent Republicans and retaining the seat vacated by retiring Rep. Gerry Studds (D-10). Jim McGovern's (D) defeat of Rep. Peter Blute (R) 53% to 46%, in the 3rd District, a region that includes Worcester and Falls River, provided the biggest upset of the House races. John Tierney (D) defeated Rep. Peter Torkildsen (R) by a much closer margin in the North Shore 6th District, winning 48.3% to 48.1%. Democrat William Delahunt carried the open 10th District (55% to 42%), which includes Cape Cod and the South Shore.

Democrats increased their significant majorities in both chambers of the State Legislature, gaining three seats in the State House and two in the State Senate.

ECONOMIC PROGRESS IN MASSACHUSETTS UNDER PRESIDENT CLINTON

President Clinton's strategy to strengthen the economy is based on reducing the federal budget deficit, lowering trade barriers, and empowering workers, families, businesses and communities to succeed. Here are some of the results for Massachusetts after the first 62 months of the Clinton Administration:

Improved Economic Conditions in Massachusetts during the Clinton Administration:

- The unemployment rate has dropped from 7.5% to 3.7%.
- Massachusetts has added 372,000 new jobs, or 72,000 **per year** -- after **LOSING** 81,775 **per year** during the previous administration.
- Massachusetts has added 347,600 new private-sector jobs, or 67,277 **per year** -- after **LOSING** 74,200 **per year** during the previous administration.
- Massachusetts has added 30,700 new construction jobs, or 5,942 **per year** -- after **LOSING** 14,175 **per year** during the previous administration.
- New business incorporations have increased 0.7% **per year** -- after **DECREASING** 7.2% **per year** during the previous administration.
- Average personal income has increased by 3.3% **per year** -- after **DECREASING** by 1.8% **per year** during the previous administration.
- Bankruptcy filings have dropped 6.8% **per year** -- after **INCREASING** by 49.7% **per year** during the previous administration.
- Bank lending has increased by 8% **per year** -- after **DECREASING** by 11.5% **per year** during the previous administration.
- The New Help Wanted Index has increased 42.4%.

What President Clinton's Accomplishments Have Achieved for the People of Massachusetts:

\$15,000 OF REDUCED FEDERAL DEBT FOR EVERY FAMILY OF FOUR IN MASSACHUSETTS: The national debt will be **more than \$1 trillion** lower over 7 years than was projected before the passage of the President's economic plan. That's about \$15,000 of reduced federal debt for each family of four in Massachusetts.

4 TIMES MORE MASSACHUSETTS FAMILIES RECEIVE A TAX CUT THAN A TAX INCREASE: As a result of the expanded Earned Income Tax Credit, 184,491 working families in Massachusetts will receive a tax cut. This compares to an increase in the income tax rate for only the 43,496 wealthiest taxpayers in Massachusetts.

TAX CUT FOR 33,048 SMALL BUSINESSES IN MASSACHUSETTS: The President helped entrepreneurs, proprietors, and other small businessmen and women by expanding the annual expensing allowance from \$10,000 to \$17,500. About 33,048 small businesses in Massachusetts are likely to benefit from the expansion of the expensing allowance this year alone *and many more will benefit over the coming years.*

1,248,000 MASSACHUSETTS WORKERS PROTECTED BY FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT: The Family and Medical Leave Act allows workers to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave for the birth of a child, to care for a sick family member, or if they become too sick to work. This law covers about 1,248,337 workers in Massachusetts, and protects the jobs of 74,993 workers in Massachusetts who are likely to use unpaid leave this year alone.

841,400 STUDENTS AND FORMER STUDENTS IN MASSACHUSETTS WILL BE ABLE TO BENEFIT FROM STUDENT LOAN REFORMS: Approximately 841,400 Massachusetts borrowers -- 589,000 current borrowers and 252,400 new borrowers in the next few years -- can take advantage of the new direct student loan program by participating directly in the program or by consolidating guaranteed loans into direct loans. Some will benefit from lower interest rates, and all will benefit from more repayment options, including income contingent repayment.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

98 MAY 8 PM3:46

May 8, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: KATHLEEN A. McGINTY *now for KAM*

SUBJECT: MASSACHUSETTS ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

American Heritage Rivers

Nine Massachusetts rivers were nominated as American Heritage Rivers: the Acushnet, Blackstone-Woonasquatucket, Connecticut, Merrimack, Mystic, South, Taunton, Westfield and Winnepesaukee. Senators Kennedy and Kerry support all but the South River. We have also received letters of support for individual nominations from Congressmen Frank, Markey, Meehan, Moakley, Olver and Tierney. Governor Cellucci supports the Connecticut and Merrimack nominations, both of which also have strong support from local elected officials and state legislators.

This Monday, May 11, and Tuesday, May 12, the American Heritage Rivers Initiative Advisory Committee will convene in Washington, D.C. to review the nominations and recommend up to 20 rivers for your designation. You will designate the 10 American Heritage Rivers shortly thereafter.

NOx Standards

On April 29, EPA announced a supplemental notice to its proposed rule to reduce nitrogen-oxide (NOx) emissions for the purpose of getting public comment on issues related to implementation. The proposed standards -- announced last fall -- would require 22 states in the Eastern and Midwestern U.S. to design plans to cut NOx emissions to reduce smog. Northern states, including Massachusetts, strongly support the tougher standards because air pollution transported from the Midwest prevents them from meeting their own clean air requirements. The final rule is expected to be issued this fall.

If asked about the issue, you should point out that the rulemaking is open to public input and that no final decision will be made until all of the comments have been reviewed.

98 MAY 8 PM 2:18

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 8, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: THURGOOD MARSHALL, JR. *JPS for TM*
JON P. JENNINGS *JPS*

SUBJECT: HOT ISSUES -- BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

RICO: A Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) indictment is pending in Boston, charging La Cosa Nostra (LCN) boss Frank Salemme and five other defendants who are high-ranking members or associates of the New England LCN crime family. This highly significant prosecution has captured widespread attention in the media. During a public hearing into allegations that two of the defendants, who had been FBI informants through much of the period charged in the indictment, committed serious crimes with the knowledge and endorsement of their handling FBI agents, an FBI agent has testified about serious misconduct by himself and another agent. (DOJ)

Water Resources Authority: On December 9, 1997, EPA announced that it would seek a federal court order to require the MA Water Resources Authority (MWRA) to construct a drinking water filtration plant and continue watershed protection efforts. EPA formally requested DOJ file a case in U.S. District Court in order to bring the MWRA in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. MWRA's current treatment of drinking water only kills 8 percent of the common disease-causing parasite Giardia rather than the required 99.9 percent. Administrator Browner met with Governor Cellucci, DOJ, and the U.S. Attorney's Office on January 29 to discuss the issue. On February 12, DOJ filed suit to force MA to build a filtration plant for Greater Boston's drinking water system. The court denied the State's response motion to dismiss the case, and stated that it will hold a hearing in January, 1999 to decide whether or not to require filtration. The court also ordered that MWRA should continue to prepare for possible filtration and enable EPA to monitor its progress. (EPA)

ISTEA Funding: Secretary Slater met with the entire MA Congressional delegation in February to discuss funding for the state in ISTEA reauthorization. MA has fared well in past highway authorization legislation, especially in securing funding for the Central Artery project. However, in the bills currently under consideration in Congress, the funding levels for the state are well below the needs articulated by MA transportation officials. The state has been strongly urging the Congressional delegation to seek more funding. The purpose of the meeting with Secretary Slater was to request the Administration's assistance. (DOT)

Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area (BHINRA): Boston Harbor Islands is one of the newest national park units signed into law by you in 1996. The BHINRA includes 30 islands, ranging in size from less than one to over 200 acres. The 30 islands are managed by a unique 13 member partnership that includes the NPS and public and private organizations. This is an exciting new management concept for a national park and a model of public/private partnerships. (DOI)

Labor Shortage: MA unemployment in March 1998 was at 3.3 percent (3 percent in the Greater Boston Area). The shortage of skilled labor now influences virtually every sector: high technology to services to manufacturing. The scarcity of employable workers has made training/retraining programs, including public/private partnerships, a necessity. Among the most dire predictions is that MA GDP growth will slow to 3.4 percent from 1997's 4.4 percent, as companies abandon the state in favor of locations where there is a larger pool of available workers. (DOC)

Brownfields: Lowell, MA, has been designated one of 10 Brownfields sites to receive federal funds. Lowell has recently received funds through two DOT programs for the redevelopment of abandoned industrial properties. MA has approximately 7,000 Brownfield sites. (DOT)

One-Stop Career Centers: A DOL lawsuit contesting MI Governor Engler's unilateral reorganization of his state's employment security system may have repercussions for MA's one-stop career centers, five of seven of which are privately run. The DOL claims the MI effort violates Wagner-Peyser Act restrictions on handling of federal funds by non-civil servants and places more emphasis on the state's electronic job bank than on person-to-person service. While that case is pending in federal court, the DOL has prohibited MA from expanding its existing one-stop network. (DOL)

PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE PRESIDENT GORE'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS: MASSACHUSETTS

EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

- **Unemployment Down to 3.3%:** The unemployment rate in Massachusetts has declined from 7.5% to 3.3% since 1993.
- **367,900 New Jobs:** 367,900 new jobs have been created in Massachusetts since 1993 -- an average of 72,374 jobs per year. In contrast, an average of 81,775 jobs were lost each year during the previous administration.
- **341,200 New Private Sector Jobs:** Since 1993, 341,200 new private sector jobs have been created -- an average of 67,121 jobs per year, compared to an average loss of 74,200 private sector jobs per year in the previous administration.
- **31,700 New Construction Jobs:** 31,700 construction jobs have been created in Massachusetts since 1993 -- an average of 6,236 jobs per year. In contrast, an average of 14,175 construction jobs were lost each year during the previous administration.
- **91,000 Have Received a Raise:** Approximately 91,000 Massachusetts workers benefited from an increase in the minimum wage -- from \$4.25 to \$4.75 -- on October 1, 1996.
- **Home Sales Up 9.9%:** Existing home sales in Massachusetts have increased by 9.9% per year since 1993, after decreasing by nearly 7% each year during the previous four years.
- **A \$500 Child Tax Credit to Help Families Raising Children:** To help make it easier for families to raise their children, the balanced budget Includes a \$500 per-child tax credit for children under 17. **Thanks to President Clinton, the Balanced Budget delivers a child tax credit to 580,000 families in Massachusetts.**
- **Business Failures Down 11.3%:** Business failures have dropped 11.3% per year since 1993, after increasing nearly 53% per year during the previous four years.
- **Highest Home Ownership Ever:** Home Ownership in Massachusetts has increased from 61.8 to 64.6 since 1992 and it is now the highest on record.
- **Home Building Up 1.2%:** Home building has increased by an average of 1.2% per year since 1993, after falling over 14.3% per year during the previous administration.
- **Over 40,00 of Reduced Federal Debt for Every Family of Four:** The national debt will be more than \$2.5 trillion lower in 2002 than was projected before passage of President Clinton's economic plan. That's over \$40,000 of reduced federal debt for each family of four in Illinois.

EXPANDING ACCESS TO EDUCATION

- **\$74.4 Million in Head Start Funding:** In FY97, Massachusetts received \$68.9 million in Head Start funding benefitting 11,500 children. This year, Massachusetts will receive \$74.4 million, an increase of \$5.5 million over 1997. President Clinton's FY99 budget proposal will increase Head Start funding for Massachusetts's children by an additional \$4.5 million.
- **\$9.1 Million in Goals 2000 Funding:** This year [FY98], Massachusetts receives \$9.1 million in Goals 2000 funding. President Clinton's FY99 budget proposes to increase Goals 2000 funding by an additional \$270,000. This money is used to raise academic achievement by raising academic standards, increasing parental and community involvement in education, expanding the use of computers and technology in classrooms, and supporting high-quality teacher professional development.
- **\$8.1 Million for Technology Literacy:** This year [FY98], Massachusetts receives \$8.1 million for the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund which helps communities and the private sector ensure that every student is equipped with the computer literacy skills needed for the 21st century. President Clinton's FY99 budget proposal will raise funding for technology literacy by nearly \$1 million over FY98.
- **\$145.8 Million for Students Most in Need:** Massachusetts receives \$145.8 million in Title I Grants (to Local Education Agencies) providing extra help in the basics for students most in need, particularly communities and schools with high concentrations of children in low-income families [FY98]. President Clinton's FY99 budget proposes to increase funding for Title I Grants by nearly \$16 million to aid Massachusetts's students.
- **\$145.4 Million in Pell Grants:** This year [FY98], Massachusetts will receive \$145.4 million in Pell Grants for low-income students going to college, an additional \$28.3 million over last year. With this increase, a total of 78,900 Massachusetts students will benefit, 4,500 more than the previous year. And President Clinton's FY99 budget proposal increases Pell Grant funding to \$150.3 million.

- **Nearly 3,800 Have Served in Massachusetts through AmeriCorps:** Since the National Service program began in 1993, nearly 3,800 AmeriCorps participants, working in 297 different programs, have earned money for college while working in Massachusetts's schools, hospitals, neighborhoods or parks [through 3/98].
- **Tuition Tax Credits in Balanced Budget Open the Doors of College and Promote Lifelong Learning:** The balanced budget includes both President Clinton's \$1,500 HOPE Scholarship to help make the first two years of college as universal as a high school diploma and a Lifetime Learning Tax Credit for college juniors, seniors, graduate students and working Americans pursuing lifelong learning to upgrade their skills. This 20% tax credit will be applied to the first \$5,000 of tuition and fees through 2002 and to the first \$10,000 thereafter. **176,000 students in Massachusetts will receive a HOPE Scholarship tax credit of up to \$1,500. 217,000 students in Massachusetts will receive the Lifetime Learning Tax Credit.**

FIGHTING CRIME AND VIOLENCE

- **Crime Falls 22% in Mass.:** Since 1992, serious crime has fallen 21% in Boston and **22% statewide**. [1996 data].
- **2,409 More Police:** The President's 1994 Crime Bill has funded 2,409 new police officers to date in communities across Massachusetts [through 4/98].
- **Nearly \$3 Million to Combat Domestic Violence:** Through the Violence Against Women Act, Massachusetts receives \$2,951,000 in federal funds this year [FY98] to establish more women's shelters and bolster law enforcement, prosecution, and victims' services.
- **Over \$1.3 Million in Grants for Battered Women and Children:** This year [FY98], Massachusetts will receive \$1,301,573 million in HHS's Family Violence Prevention Program grants to assist women and children fleeing domestic abuse, an additional \$225,500 increase over last year. President Clinton's FY99 budget proposal increases HHS's Family Violence Prevention Program grants to \$1,332,000.
- **\$10.2 Million to Keep Drugs & Violence Out of Massachusetts' Schools:** Massachusetts receives approximately \$10.2 million in FY98 for the Safe & Drug Free Schools Program, which invests in school security and drug prevention programs.

MOVING MASSACHUSETTS RESIDENTS FROM WELFARE TO WORK

- **137,643 Fewer People on Welfare:** There are 137,643 fewer people on welfare in Massachusetts now than there were at the beginning of 1993 -- a 41% decrease [through 9/97].
- **Child Support Collections Up 35%:** Child support collections have increased by \$64 million -- or 35% -- in Massachusetts since FY92 [through FY96].
- **Massachusetts Receives \$20.6 Million in Welfare-to-Work Grants:** In FY98, Massachusetts will receive \$20.6 million in welfare-to-work state formula grants, helping Massachusetts prepare welfare recipients for work and to place them in jobs. Part of the President's comprehensive efforts to move recipients from welfare to work, this funding is included in the \$3 billion Welfare-to-Work Jobs Challenge Fund signed into law in the 1997 balanced budget.

INVESTING IN MASSACHUSETTS' HEALTH

- **Health Care for Uninsured Children:** The balanced budget includes the largest single investment in health care for children since the passage of Medicaid in 1965 -- an unprecedented \$24 billion over five years to cover as many as five million children throughout the nation. This investment guarantees the full range of benefits -- from checkups to surgery -- that children need to grow up strong and healthy. It ensures that prescription drugs, vision, hearing, and mental health coverage now offered at the state level are extended to millions of uninsured children. To expand health coverage to more uninsured children in Massachusetts the Balanced Budget provides \$43 million in 1998. This compares to the 1995 Republican plan vetoed by President Clinton that would have denied health coverage to 104,700 children in Massachusetts.
- **Helping Massachusetts Women and Children with WIC:** The Clinton Administration is committed to full funding in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). Last year in Massachusetts, 15,018 more women and children in need received health and food assistance than in 1994.

- **More Toddlers Are Being Immunized:** As a result of the President's 1993 Childhood Immunization Initiative, childhood immunization rates have reached an historic high. According to the CDC, 90% or more of America's toddlers in 1996 received the most critical doses of each of the routinely recommended vaccines -- surpassing the President's 1993 goal. In Massachusetts in 1996, 98% of two-year olds received the vaccines for diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis; 94% received the vaccine for polio; 96% received the vaccine for measles, and 96% received the vaccine for *Haemophilus influenzae B*, the bacteria causing a form of meningitis.
- **Over \$9 Million in Ryan White Funds:** Since President Clinton took office, funding for the Ryan White CARE Act has increased by 159% nationwide. In FY97, Boston received a \$4 million Ryan White formula award and a \$5.1 million supplemental grant to care for people living with AIDS and HIV.
- **President's Tobacco Plan Will Cut Smoking and Premature Deaths by 35% in Massachusetts:** If the Clinton Administration's tobacco proposal on youth smoking is enacted, by 2003, Massachusetts will see a 35% cut in youth smoking and resulting premature deaths. Over the next five years, 49,000 youth of Massachusetts will be kept from smoking and 16,000 will be spared a premature tobacco-related death. [Treasury Dept., 3/23/98]

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

- **Superfund Site Cleaned Up in Lanesboro:** The Superfund toxic waste site in Lanesboro, MA was cleaned up by the EPA in September of 1994.
- **Revitalizing 10 Brownfields in Massachusetts:** Part of the Clinton-Gore Administration's efforts to clean up Brownfields, the EPA has designated ten communities in Massachusetts -- Chicopee, Greenfield, Lawrence, Lowell, Worcester, Boston, Westfield, Somerville, New Bedford, and Lynn -- for environmental clean-up and economic revitalization. These projects are intended to jump-start local clean-up efforts by providing funds to return unproductive, abandoned, contaminated urban properties to productive use.

SPEARHEADING URBAN RENEWAL EFFORTS

- **\$28 Million to Boston:** In December 1994, Boston was designated an Enterprise Community, and was awarded \$3 million to create jobs, housing, and economic opportunity for its residents. It was later declared an Enhanced Enterprise Community, and was awarded an additional \$25 million. **\$6 Million to Other Massachusetts Cities:** Lowell and Springfield were designated Enterprise Communities and were awarded \$3 million each for similar efforts.
- **Expanding the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Will Help Develop 4,900 To 5,800 New Affordable Housing Units in Massachusetts Over the Next 5 years:** In January, the Vice-President announced the Clinton-Gore Administration's proposed 40-percent expansion of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit. If enacted, it will mean an additional 4,900 - 5,800 quality rental housing units for low-income American families in Massachusetts during the next five years.

EXPANDING FUNDS FOR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT

- **Over \$4 Billion in Federal Highway Aid:** Since 1993, Massachusetts has received \$4.18 billion in federal highway aid. These funds have helped generate over 176,000 jobs (through FY97).
- **Nearly \$140 Million in Aviation Funds:** From FY93-FY97 Massachusetts received \$139,780,000 in AIP funds to help build and renovate airports, and, when necessary, to provide funds for noise abatement to improve the quality of life for residents who live near airports.
- **Over \$945 Million in Transit Funds:** Massachusetts has received a total of \$945.4 million in FTA funds since 1993.
- **\$1.5 Million in Scenic Byway Funds:** There was \$1.5 million in discretionary scenic byway funds included in the overall highway aid.

**THE TRIP OF
THE PRESIDENT
TO
BRIDGEPORT, WEST VIRGINIA**

May 22, 1997

Staff Copy

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Thursday, May 22, 1997

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SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT

FOR

THURSDAY, MAY 22, 1997

SCHEDULING DIRECTOR:

STEPHANIE STREETT

HOME: 202-332-5651

OFFICE: 202-456-2823

WHCA PAGER: 4033

TRIP COORDINATOR:

AVIVA STEINBERG

HOME: 202-237-2529

OFFICE: 202-456-2920

WHCA PAGER: 4022

PRESS COORDINATOR:

JEREMY GAINES

HOME: 202-362-5475

OFFICE: 202-456-5771

WHCA PAGER: 4194

WEATHER:

Washington, DC

Partly cloudy. Wind northwest at 12 to 18 knots.

Low 46 to 51. High 70 to 75.

Clarksburg, West Virginia

Partly cloudy. Wind northwest at 8 to 12 knots.

Low 40 to 45. High 64 to 69.

**SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT
FOR
THURSDAY, MAY 22, 1997**

NOTE: Staff vans depart at 9:30 am from the West Basement.

9:00 am-
9:15 am

MEETING
OVAL OFFICE
Staff Contact: Erskine Bowles

9:15 am-
9:45 am

**BRIEFING AND PHONE CALL TO CHANCELLOR
HELMUT KOHL OF GERMANY**
OVAL OFFICE
Staff Contact: Sandy Berger
CLOSED PRESS

9:45 am-
9:55 am

MEETING
OVAL OFFICE
Staff Contact: Stephanie Streett

10:00 am-
10:30 am

BRIEFING FOR THE EDUCATION TOWN HALL
OVAL OFFICE
Staff Contact: Bruce Reed
Rahm Emanuel

10:30 am

THE PRESIDENT proceeds to the South Lawn

Note: This departure is closed to staff and guests.

10:35 am

THE PRESIDENT departs the White House via Marine One en route
Andrews Air Force Base
[flight time: 10 minutes]

10:45 am

THE PRESIDENT arrives Andrews Air Force Base

11:00 am

THE PRESIDENT departs Andrews Air Force Base via Air Force
One en route Benedum Airport, Bridgeport, West Virginia
[flight time: 1 hour, 10 minutes]

12:10 pm

THE PRESIDENT arrives Benedum Airport, Bridgeport, West Virginia

OPEN PRESS

CLOSED PUBLIC

Greeters: Governor Cecil H. Underwood
Hovah Underwood
Senate President Earl Ray Tomblin
Speaker of the House Robert Kiss
Secretary of State Ken Hechler
Attorney General Darrell McGraw, Jr.
State Treasurer John Perdue
State Auditor Glen Gainer III
Mayor Carl Furbee, Bridgeport
Mayor Robert Flynn, Clarksburg

12:25 pm

THE PRESIDENT departs Benedum Airport via motorcade en route Robert C. Byrd High School
[drive time: 15 minutes]

12:40 pm

THE PRESIDENT arrives Robert C. Byrd High School

Greeters: Lewis Iquinto, Clarksburg City Council
Dan Thompson, Clarksburg City Council
Kathy Folio, Clarksburg City Council
Jim Hunt, Clarksburg City Council
Herman Kesling, Clarksburg City Council
Percy Ashcraft, Clarksburg City Council
Hank Marocki
Leon Pilewski, Principal, Robert C. Byrd High School
Lexanna Pilewski
Bob Kittle, County School Superintendent
Garrett Snyder, Harrison County School Board
Wilson Carrey, Harrison County School Board
Bud Pritchard, Harrison County School Board
Doug Gray, Harrison County School Board
Lloyd Jackson, Harrison County School Board

12:45 pm-

1:00 pm

HOLD/BRIEFING

GREEN ROOM

Robert C. Byrd High School

1:00 pm-
2:15 pm

EDUCATION TOWN HALL
GYMNASIUM
Robert C. Byrd High School
Remarks: Terry Edmonds
Staff Contact: Bruce Reed
Event Coordinator: Aviva Steinberg
OPEN PRESS

- Bob Kittle, County School Superintendent, opens the program and introduces Mary Helen Shields, student, Robert C. Byrd High School.
- Mary Helen Shields introduces **the President**.
- **The President** makes remarks.
- Questions are taken from the audience.

2:30 pm-
2:50 pm

GREET STUDENTS OF ROBERT C. BYRD
HIGH SCHOOL
THEATER
Robert C. Byrd High School
Staff Contact: Bruce Reed
Event Coordinator: Aviva Steinberg
POOL PRESS

- Dan Phares, Student Body President, Robert C. Byrd High School, makes remarks and introduces **the President**.
- **The President** makes remarks.
- Upon conclusion of remarks, **the President** works a ropeline and departs.

3:00 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs Robert C. Byrd High School via motorcade en route Benedum Airport
[drive time: 15 minutes]

3:15 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Benedum Airport

3:20 pm-
4:10 pm **REMARKS TO THE PEOPLE OF CLARKSBURG**
TARMAC
Benedum Airport
Remarks:
Staff Contact: Bruce Reed
Event Coordinator: Aviva Steinberg
OPEN PRESS

-- Mayor Carl Furbee makes brief remarks and introduces Mayor Robert Flynn.

-- Mayor Robert Flynn makes brief remarks and introduces Governor Underwood.

-- Governor Underwood makes brief remarks and introduces **the President**.

-- **The President** makes remarks.

-- Upon conclusion of remarks, **the President** works a ropeline and departs.

4:15 pm **THE PRESIDENT** proceeds to the departure area

4:30 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs Benedum Airport, Bridgeport, West Virginia via Air Force One en route Andrews Air Force Base
[flight time: 55 minutes]

5:20 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Andrews Air Force Base

5:30 pm	THE PRESIDENT departs Andrews Air Force Base via Marine One en route the White House [flight time: 10 minutes]
5:40 pm	THE PRESIDENT arrives the White House
6:00 pm- 7:15 pm	DOWN TIME RESIDENCE
7:15 pm	THE PRESIDENT and First Lady depart the White House via motorcade en route family event [drive time: 5 minutes]
7:20 pm	THE PRESIDENT and First Lady arrive family event
	HOLD FOR FAMILY TIME
BC AND HRC RON	THE WHITE HOUSE

MAY 21 1997

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 21, 1997

EDUCATION TOWN HALL

DATE:	May 22, 1997
LOCATION:	Robert C. Byrd High School Clarksburg, West Virginia
EVENT TIME:	1:00 pm - 2:15 pm
FROM:	Bruce Reed

I. PURPOSE

To highlight what national standards are and why they are important. You will announce that West Virginia and Massachusetts have agreed to participate in your national standards and testing initiative, and that the National Alliance of Business has endorsed it.

II. BACKGROUND

You will be holding a town hall meeting at the Robert C. Byrd High School attended by 160 students, parents, teachers, principals, school administrators, and other individuals interested in education from throughout the state. Bob Kittle, the Superintendent of Harrison County Schools, will serve as the moderator, and he will call on individuals to ask you questions. You should feel free to pose questions to the audience and call on individuals yourself at anytime. (You should also know that Bob Kittle's mother passed away two days ago, and he will be attending her funeral following this event.)

You will conclude your opening remarks by viewing slides with the audience and walking through a fourth grade reading and an eight grade math standards question. The rest of the program will be a question and answer session between you and members of the audience.

The Robert C. Byrd School is an excellent school which provides many advanced courses and extensive extra-curricular activities. The school is technologically advanced and has a satellite down link site that offers distance learning. Robert C. Byrd is developing a Community Environmental Learning Center which has an outdoor lab that is available to all students and teachers in the County.

The Harrison County School District is one of the 19 partners benefitting from a Department of Education "Education Technology Challenge Grant," which was awarded in October, 1996 for \$4.1 million over five years. The purpose of the grant is to increase

computer skills of students, teachers, and community members, and it will fund the creation of Technology Opportunity Centers in each district. These Centers are computer labs where people can go to learn basic computer skills. The Bridgeport High School is the first school in Harrison County to house a Technology Opportunity Center.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Bob Kittle, Superintendent of Harrison County Schools
Mary Helen Shields, Robert C. Byrd High School Senior Student
Hannah Galey, Fourth Grade Student, Nutter Fort Intermediate School
Jeremy Thompson, Student at Bridgeport High School and National Merit Finalist
Danny Phares, Robert C. Byrd Student Body President (*will introduce you to overflow audience in theater following the event.)

IV. PRESS PLAN

Open Press.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Outline of Event attached.
(*Following the Town Hall Meeting, you will make brief remarks to overflow audience.)

VI. REMARKS

To be provided by speech writing.

VII. ATTACHMENTS

TOWN MEETING PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

1

Name	Position/Student/Grade
Sharon Diaz	Coord. Reading Lang. Arts Soc.Stud. HCBE
Libby Bucy	Title I Coord. Of Instruction
Karen Morgan	English Teacher Lincoln High School
Renee Wyatt	Music Teacher West Milford Elem.
Jim Eschenmann	Technology Coordinator HCBE
Frank Devono	Principal Bridgeport Middle
Georgette Griffith	Art Teacher RCB High
Ronald Fragale	House of Delegates
Carole Kniceley	Parent/Teacher
Tina Canon	Parent of students at Liberty High School
Scott Thorne Holcombe	Minister/Parent
Thomas Mellott, Jr.	Parent Bridgeport High School
James Archer	Production Manager Northrop Gruman
Robert J. Caplan	Executive Director Harrison Co. Chamber
Matthew Kittle	Parent/Administrator Buckhannon Upshur Mid.
Dennis Bone	President/CEO Bell Atlantic WV
Louis Nardelli	School Counselor
Felix Veltri	Secondary Teacher Baseball Coach
Anthony Barberio	Secondary Teacher
Christine Fragale	Secondary Teacher

Name	Position/Student/Grade
Peter J. Conley	President Harrison Co. Board of Education
Miriam Jane Conley (Mimi)	5th Grade Student Bridgeport Middle
Joan Smith	Director United Technical Center
Barbara Warner	House of Delegates
Samuel J. Cann	House of Delegates
Larry Lynch	House of Delegates
William Douglas Robbins	Elementary Principal
Jerry M. Toth	Secondary Principal Lincoln High School
Wilson W. Currey	Harrison County Board of Education
Kimberly Clark Nuzum	Parent/Kindergarten Teacher Big Elm Elem.
Lexsana Pilewski	Adult Instruction Lost Creek Family Connection
Philip Beede Brown	Principal Norwood Elem.
Alice Mae-Ann Hines Rowe	Journalism/Photography Bridgeport High
Robert Thomas Flynn	Mayor of Clarksburg
Anita Karol Byrd	Anat./Physiology Bridgeport High
Connie L. Bowers	Parent Simpson and Bridgeport Middle
Walter Pritchard	Member, Harrison County Board of Education
Patricia M. Schaeffer- Dresler	Parent Association Council of Schools
Rebecca White	Senator and School Librarian
Garrett Snyder	Vice President Harrison Co. Board of Education
Doug Gray	Member Harrison County Board of Education

TOWN MEETING PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

(2)

Name	Position/Student/Grade
John Myers	Superintendent Logan County Schools
Judge John Marks	Judge of Harrison County Circuit Court
David Hardesty	President WVU
Chuck Archer	Assistant Director in Charge FBI
Larry Milov	President & CEO West Va. High Tech Cons.
Jennifer Brown	5th Grade Student Simpson Elem.
Joel Francis Williams	5th Grade Student Harden Grade School
Karah Cottrill	5th Grade Student Adamston
Mary Beth Mazzie	5th Grade Student North View Elem.
Carol McDonald	4th Grade Student Lost Creek Elem.
Joshua Bakrer	12th Grade Student Liberty High
Kristen House	8th Grade Student Gore Middle
Christopher Greaver	12th Grade Student Lincoln High
Jared Scott Bryant	8th Grade Student Lumbert Middle
Justin Michael Lawrence	11th Grade Student South Harrison High
Olivia Rebecca Hill	8th Grade Student Washington Irving Middle
Hannah Scott	5th Grade Student Lumberport Grade
Dr. Mary Marockie	Dir. Programs & Research RESA VII
Kristen Nicole Moore	10th Grade Student Bridgeport High
Christopher Kitzmiller	5th Grade Student Norwood Elementary
Jared Novotny	8th Grade Student South Harrison Middle

Name	Position/Student/Grade
William R. Sharpe	Senator, President Protemp of WV Senate
Kelly Raphael Nelson	Medical Director Medbrook Medical Center
Geneveve McCutcheon	Past PTA President Parent Volunteer
Fred Radabaugh	Ex. Dir. WV Assoc of School Admin.
Dr. Janet Elizabeth Dudley-Esbhbach	President Fairmont State College
Hannah Galey	4th Grade Student
Irene M. Keeley	Federal Judge
Jeremy Thompson	12th Grade Student Bridgeport High
Joann Harman	1996 Teacher of the Year
Ann Wilson	State Social Studies Fair
Brittany Audia	4th Grade Student
Raymond Alvarez	VP Fairmont General Hospital
Marjorie Wolfe	Parent Volunteer and Reading Tutor Ohio Co. Schools
Carol Frear	Harrison Co. Schools PTA President
Marianna Kittle	School Counselor Tri-County High School
Tom Lange	VP WVEA
Mary Helen Shields	12th Grade Student Robert C. Byrd High
Sharon K. Brisbin	History Teacher Lincoln High School
Ron Adams	President CNG Transmission Corporation
Sara Fernandez	5th Grade Student Johnson Elementary

TOWN MEETING PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

(3)

Name	Position/Student/Grade
Andrea R. Pritchard	Student Nutter Fort Primary
Amy Compton Shaffer	Student
Thomas Alan Bedell	Circuit Judge 15th Judicial Circuit
Tami A. Mayle.	
James E. Griffin	Chief of United Way
Diane Furman	President Elect WV Science Teachers
Denise Reese	National School Nurse of the Year
Dolores Gribble	Retired UCAR
Cathy Faltis	WV Board of Education
Mike Queen	
Jessica Keegan	
Rebecca Snider	
Lloyd Jackson	Chairman Senate Education Committee
Jerry Mezzatesta	Chairman House Education Committee
Speaker Robert Kiss	Speaker of the House of Delegates
President Earl Ray Tomblin	President of the Senate
Bob Ashley	Minority Leader House of Delegates
Richard Browning	
Clifford Trump	Chancellor
Charles Manning	
David Ice	
Nick Renzelli	
Joseph Momem	

Name	Position/Student/Grade
Heather Kirby	
Kris P. Cecil-Crihfield	1997 Achievement Scholar. For Black Americans
Katie Joyce Cook	1997 Presidential Scholars Semifinalist
Amanda Boyce Walker	1997 Presidential Scholar
Ray James Nestor	1997 Presidential Scholars Semifinalist
Derek Courtney	1997 Presidential Scholar
Eric Claussel	1997 Achievement Scholar. For Black Americans
Deizunne Mosby	1997 Achievement Scholarship for Black Amer.
Jubin Ryu	1997 Presidential Scholars Semi-Finalist
Keisha Riley	1997 Achievement Scholarship for Black Amer.
Anne Yujin Lee	1997 Presidential Scholars Semifinalist
Elizabeth Skidmore	
Rosalyn Queen	
Dr. Henry Marockie	State Superintendent of Schools
Sheila Hamilton	VP West Virginia Board of Education
Raymond Franklin Mace	President WV Reading Association
Bane McCracken	National PE Teacher of the Year
Judy Hale	President WV Federation of Teachers AFL-CIO
Ernest Page	Executive Director, WV Professional Educators
Ann Bailey	Teacher
Morton William Adler	Consultant
Shawn Williams	Housewife
Joe Minard	Restaurant Owner

(4)

TOWN MEETING PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

Name	Position/Student/Grade
Dr. Ron Ohl	President Salem Teikyo
Esther Lauderman	Kindergarten Teacher
Susan Stafford	Head of WV Head Start
Gary Phillips	
Robert Antonuchi	
Gaston Caperton	Former Governor of WV
Pina Price	Self-Employed
Phyllis Barnhart	Head of Science Education for West Virginia
James J. McCallum	Secretary, WV Board of Education
Robert Upton	
John Perdue	Treasurer, State of West Virginia
Kennedy Perdue	Secretary-Treasurer WV AFL-CIO
Thomas Patrick Maroney	Co-Chair, WV Democratic Executive Committee
Steven White	Co-Chair WV Democratic Executive Committee
Jayne Armstrong	District Manager, Small Business Administration
George Carenbauer	Partner, Steptoe & Johnson, Charleston, WV
Bernard Gotlieb	
Jimmy LaRosa, Jr.	President Pete Dye Golf Club
Robert Steptoe, Jr.	Managing. Partner, Steptoe & Johnson
Linda Annens	President of CWA Local 2011
Earl Ray Tomblin	President WV State Senate
Allison Deem	Pres. Clarksburg Harrison Liberty Bd. Of Education

Name	Position/Student/Grade
Gary A. Nicholas	VP of Operations & GM of Hope Gas
Benjamin A. Hardesty	President, Dominion Appalachian Development
Martin Shaffer	President, WV Vending
Stanley N. Pickens	Chairman, Dominion Appalachian Development
Angelo Basile	Market Analyst, CNG
Katie Folio	Student
Benjamin Ashby Hardesty, Jr.	Student
Rocky Alan Cianfrocca	Student
Russell Bonasso	
Louis Ortenzio	Family Practice Dr. Founder of Health Access

OUTLINE OF EVENT -- EDUCATION TOWN HALL

MAY 22, 1997

1:00-1:05 MODERATOR BOB KITTLE, Superintendent of Harrison County Schools, will welcome audience and introduce Mary Helen Shields, senior at the Robert C. Byrd High School.

STUDENT MARY HELEN SHIELDS, will introduce the President.

1:05-1:15 **THE PRESIDENT MAKES OPENING REMARKS: EXPLANATION OF STANDARDS/POLICY ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

THE PRESIDENT will make remarks about education standards and announce new support for national standards and testing initiative.

THE PRESIDENT will present and walk-through a sample 4th grade reading question which will be displayed for the audience on an overhead projector. THE PRESIDENT will invite 4th grade student Hannah Galey to read a passage from Charlotte's Web.

THE PRESIDENT will present a sample 8th grade math question, which will be displayed by overhead projector. THE PRESIDENT will then bring this section of the program to a close.

1:15 - 1:35pm MODERATOR WILL CONVENE THE TOWN HALL MEETING: The Moderator will call on each participant in the town hall.

THE PRESIDENT responds to questions/asks questions.

1:35-1:40 MODERATOR HIGHLIGHTS TEACHER
Moderator calls on Donna Rose, Reading teacher at the Lost Creek Elementary School, who speaks about Title I reading programs at her school and asks the President if there are other programs that would help her school.

1:45-2:00 **THE PRESIDENT** responds to questions/asks questions.

2:00-2:05 THE MODERATOR HIGHLIGHTS STUDENT
Moderator calls on Jeremy Thompson, National Merit Finalist from the Bridgeport High School, who talks about how high standards/good education has helped him.

2:05-2:15 **THE PRESIDENT** responds/asks questions. (*Moderator calls last question.)

THE PRESIDENT CLOSES PROGRAM by reviewing again the sample math question -- this time giving the answer, and explaining how U.S. students compared to students in other countries.

57 MAY 2004

**NATIONAL EDUCATION STANDARDS:
FOURTH-GRADE READING**

BASIC:

- CAN RECOGNIZE MOST WORDS, IDENTIFY MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION

PROFICIENT:

- CAN SUMMARIZE PASSAGE, FIND SPECIFIC INFORMATION, DESCRIBE THE WAY AUTHOR PRESENTS INFORMATION

ADVANCED:

- CAN PROVIDE A MORE DETAILED AND THOUGHTFUL EXPLANATION

SAMPLE PASSAGE FROM E.B. WHITE'S *CHARLOTTE'S WEB*:

HAVING PROMISED WILBUR THAT SHE WOULD SAVE HIS LIFE, SHE WAS DETERMINED TO KEEP HER PROMISE. CHARLOTTE WAS NATURALLY PATIENT. SHE KNEW FROM EXPERIENCE THAT IF SHE WAITED LONG ENOUGH, A FLY WOULD COME TO HER WEB; AND SHE FELT SURE THAT IF SHE THOUGHT LONG ENOUGH ABOUT WILBUR'S PROBLEM, AN IDEA WOULD COME TO HER MIND. FINALLY, ONE MORNING TOWARD THE MIDDLE OF JULY, THE IDEA CAME. "WHY HOW PERFECTLY SIMPLE!" SHE SAID TO HERSELF. "THE WAY TO SAVE WILBUR'S LIFE IS TO PLAY A TRICK ON ZUCKERMAN. IF I CAN FOOL A BUG," THOUGHT CHARLOTTE, "I CAN SURELY FOOL A MAN. PEOPLE ARE NOT AS SMART AS BUGS."

UNDERSTANDING *CHARLOTTE'S WEB*:

Q: BASED ON THE ABOVE PASSAGE, HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE CHARLOTTE TO A FRIEND?

BASIC

- CHARLOTTE KEEPS HER PROMISE

PROFICIENT

- CHARLOTTE WORKS HARD TO KEEP HER PROMISE

ADVANCED

- CHARLOTTE PLANS TO KEEP HER PROMISE TO SAVE WILBUR'S LIFE BY TRICKING ZUCKERMAN

**MEETING NATIONAL STANDARDS IN FOURTH GRADE READING:
HOW AMERICA IS DOING**

<u>BELOW BASIC:</u>	40%
BASIC:	30%
PROFICIENT:	23%
ADVANCED:	7%

**NATIONAL EDUCATION STANDARDS:
EIGHTH-GRADE MATH**

A CAR HAS A FUEL TANK THAT HOLDS 15 GALLONS OF FUEL. THE CAR CONSUMES 5 GALLONS OF FUEL FOR EVERY 100 MILES DRIVEN. A TRIP OF 250 MILES WAS STARTED WITH A FULL TANK OF FUEL. HOW MUCH FUEL REMAINED IN THE TANK AT THE END OF THE TRIP?

- A. 2.5 GALLONS
- B. 12.5 GALLONS
- C. 17.5 GALLONS
- D. 5.0 GALLONS

**NATIONAL EDUCATION STANDARDS:
EIGHTH-GRADE MATH**

A CAR HAS A FUEL TANK THAT HOLDS 15 GALLONS OF FUEL. THE CAR CONSUMES 5 GALLONS OF FUEL FOR EVERY 100 MILES DRIVEN. A TRIP OF 250 MILES WAS STARTED WITH A FULL TANK OF FUEL. HOW MUCH FUEL REMAINED IN THE TANK AT THE END OF THE TRIP?

- A. 2.5 GALLONS
- B. 12.5 GALLONS
- C. 17.5 GALLONS
- D. 5.0 GALLONS

THE CORRECT ANSWER IS A

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ANSWERING SIMILAR QUESTION CORRECTLY:

UNITED STATES: 34%

KOREA: 50%

SINGAPORE: 70%

BACKGROUND ON EDUCATION IN WEST VIRGINIA

SCHOOL REFORM EFFORTS

West Virginia's reform efforts have been piecemeal rather than comprehensive, but nevertheless have received high marks from outside observers. As both one of the nation's poorest states and one of its most rural, West Virginia faces some unusual challenges in education. Efforts to overcome these challenges in the past fifteen years have included a substantial investment in information technology for the classroom; raising teacher salaries to near the national average (when adjusted for cost of living); a statewide effort to replace and renovate decaying schools; and, most recently, a restructuring of the high school curriculum to focus on job skills and vocational training as well as academics. If the 1996 National Assessment of Educational Progress in Mathematics results are any guide, West Virginia's schools are improving. The state tied for third in improvement over 1992 in both 8th grade and 4th grade scores.

Standards and Testing

West Virginia has not made a substantial investment in development of its own standards. This year, students will be taking the nationally normed Stanford Achievement Test. State Superintendent Henry Marockie suggests that with adequate norm-referenced tests available, state education funds can be better spent in other areas. He says West Virginia has spent less than \$100,000 on its standards program, whereas its neighbor, Kentucky, has spent nearly \$29 million.

Rather than establishing academic standards and then developing tests aligned to the standards, West Virginia started with the test first. Once selected the Stanford Achievement Test, the state developed specific instructional objectives for each subject area, based on the content of the test.

School Finance

In April 1997, a West Virginia judge held that the state has not complied with a 1982 decision ordering higher quality and greater statewide equity in schools. The original decision, which included unusually detailed specifications for curriculum, personnel, materials, equipment and facilities in 16 academic areas as well as in guidance, health services and transportation, served as a catalyst for many of the reforms that have been enacted in the past 15 years. However, although the state attempted to equalize funding among districts by guaranteeing a minimum per-pupil allocation to every district, substantial inequities remain because districts may impose excess levies on their residents to generate higher per-pupil spending.

Technology

Both Gov. Caperton and now Gov. Underwood have made technology a major priority in education. As a result, West Virginia is a national leader in the use of technology in classrooms. In 1989, the legislature launched the computer-assisted basic skills program, a ten-year effort to place computers in every elementary school classroom. Since then, the state has purchased

19,500 computers for local districts and expects to meet its ten-year goal. The state's 11-to-1 student-computer ratio in elementary schools is one of the lowest in the nation, and in 1996 the legislature appropriated \$8.8 million to increase technology in middle and high schools. To date, 14,000 educators have been trained to use computers for basic skills instruction.

Forty percent of West Virginia's schools are now connected to the Internet, and state officials plan to reach 85% in 1997. Bell Atlantic has been a major partner in this effort, called WORLD SCHOOL. The state has 320 distance learning downlink sites across the state. Students may take a number of courses through the system, including advanced placement and foreign language classes.

In February 1997, West Virginia received a Technology Innovation Challenge Grant from the U.S. Department of Education, which will help 152 schools in eight county school districts (including Harrison County, in which Clarksburg is located), the West Virginia High Technology Consortium Foundation, and several other partners increase the use of computers in the classroom. Part of the grant will also support Technology Opportunity Centers, at which students, parents and displaced workers can receive computer training and use computers for job searches.

Teachers

West Virginia teacher salaries in 1990 were among the lowest in the country, but are now 17th in the nation when adjusted for cost of living. The state's student-teacher ratio, at about 15-to-1, is one of the lowest anywhere. Last year the West Virginia Education Fund, a statewide fund established by business leaders in 1983 to foster innovation and excellence in the public schools, helped overhaul West Virginia University's teacher education program. Students now will study for five years and will earn a bachelor's degree in a subject area and a master's degree in education. Students also will receive three years of internship experience through "professional development schools" run by colleges and universities.

School Construction

A 1989 law created the statewide School Building Authority (SBA) to fund the construction and renovation of schools. The SBA has funded the construction of 61 new schools and renovations or additions to 780 schools.

Full-day Kindergarten

In 1993, the state legislature required all districts to offer full-day kindergarten classes to all eligible students by 1996. A 1996 law allowed the state superintendent to grant extensions to systems with significant school building projects or sizable enrollment growth.

Jobs Through Education Act

A 1996 law requires teachers and counselors to work with eighth grade students to establish five-year job skills plans. High schools must offer students choices of career clusters, each incorporating both academic and vocational skills. The state's Certificate of Proficiency will be replaced by a CD-ROM electronic portfolio containing students' academic records, awards, test scores and exemplary work. Some groups oppose the reform due to its emphasis on early career preparation, and a bill has been introduced in the legislature to repeal the law.

1997 Legislative Session

There were no new initiatives proposed or enacted in the last legislative session. The Governor's major education priority was continued support for technology implementation.

One controversial issue that arose during the legislative session pertained to funding for 4yr olds in kindergarten. The state's school finance formula provides addition funds for 4yr olds who participate in kindergarten programs. During the legislative session it became apparent that a number of local superintendents were using this financial incentive to aggressively recruit 4yr olds in order to boost state funding. Several legislators threatened to cut off this program because they viewed the local behavior as an abuse of the funding mechanism. As a compromise, the legislature delayed the termination of this component of the formula until school year 98-99, since student placement and teacher hiring decisions had already been made for the coming school year.

There was also an unsuccessful move in the legislature to end the state's participation in the federal School-to-Work program, which has come under attack by far right groups. Supporters of School-to-Work were able to turn this effort back.

WEST VIRGINIA SCHOOLS STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

SIZE

Enrollment: 310,511 (95% White, 4% Black, less than 1% all other groups)

School Districts: 55

Public Schools: 848

STATE DEMOGRAPHICS

Population: 1.8 million

Children in Poverty: 29%

Single Parent Families: 24%

SCHOOL SPENDING

State Spending: \$1.783 billion

Per Pupil: \$5,713 (1993-94 school year)

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

MATH:

West Virginia's 4th and 8th graders have improved their performance in mathematics during the 1990's.

1996 4th Grade NAEP Math

Proficient or Advanced -- 19% (Nation: 20%)

At or above basic -- 63% (62%)

Below basic -- 37% (38%)

Average public school 4th grade math scores increased significantly from 1992 to 1996; in 1996 students performed near the national average. The percentage at or above proficient increased from 12% to 19%.

1996 8th Grade NAEP Math

Proficient or Advanced -- 14% (Nation: 23%)

At or above basic -- 54% (Nation: 61%)

Below Basic -- 46% (Nation: 39%)

Average public school 8th grade math scores increased significantly from 1990 to 1996, and from 1992 to 1996, although average student performance remained below the national average. In addition, the percentage of students at or above proficient increased from 1990 to 1992, and from 1992 to 1996.

READING:

On reading, West Virginia performed about the same in 1992 and 1994. Students performed near the national average.

1994 4th Grade NAEP Reading

Proficient or advanced -- 26% (Nation: 28%)

At or above basic -- 58% (Nation: 59%)

Below Basic -- 42% (Nation 41%)

SCIENCE:

1996 8th Grade NAEP Science

Students performed near national average (Test is not yet nationally normed)

DROPOUTS AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

16-19-Year-Old Dropout Rate: 10.6% (National: 11.2%)

College Attendance Rate: 49.5% (National: 57.5%) (Estimates)

QUESTIONS FROM PRESIDENT TO AUDIENCE:

Student Expectations and Parent/Teacher Support

West Virginia recently adopted new instructional goals in core subject areas (its own effort at standards); education is improving steadily. In 1996, the state tied for 3rd in improvement over 1992 in both 8th grade and 4th grade math – very impressive, since it is 49th in per capita income.

Q: A recent survey of high school students by Public Agenda showed that more than 70% felt students would pay more attention to school and learn more if standards were raised and enforced. Do you think we are challenging our students enough, or expecting too little?

Q: [To students:] Do your teachers and parents push you to work as hard as you can? Is schoolwork more interesting when the teachers demand more, or just harder? Could most of your classmates learn more if they worked harder?

Q: [To teachers:] How can parents help teachers achieve higher standards for students? What can teachers do to help parents be more supportive?

Q: What are some of the ways that parents are involved in schools here -- and do you think that role needs to increase?

Q: [To parents:] How do you find the time to know what your child is doing in school, and to help them? How do you let them know that they must work hard and do well? What could the schools do to help you do a better job? Will it be useful for you to have the kinds of individual test results for your child that our standards plan will provide?

Teaching

West Virginia has one of the lowest student-teacher ratios anywhere (15 to 1). Teacher salaries, among the lowest in the nation in 1990, have been raised to 17th in the nation – the biggest 3-year salary increase in the country.

Q: What do you do in this community to attract the best teachers and reward excellence in teaching?

Q: What do you do about the few teachers who aren't effective in the classroom?

Q: [To teachers:] Were you adequately prepared by your teacher training programs for the challenges you face in the classroom? Do you get the kind of support you need to stay current, grow professionally, and become more effective?

Q: [To students:] Tell me about your best teachers. What makes them so good?

Accountability

Q: How can we reward schools that are doing a good job?

Q: What do you do here in Clarksburg, and throughout West Virginia, if there is a school that is not meeting standards? How do you give a school the help it needs to improve?

Technology

West Virginia is a national leader in the use of technology in schools – well on its way to your goal of a computer in every elementary classroom by 1999. By the end of this year, 85% of all schools will be connected to the Internet. So far, 14,000 teachers have been trained to use computers to teach basic skills.

Q: How do computers in the classroom help prepare students? What do they enable teachers and students to do?

Q: How are classrooms making use of the Internet? What kinds of resources and Web sites are useful for students and teachers?

Q: Can new technology play a role in teaching the basic subjects, such as reading and math?

Q: Does it make a difference to have that background in technology for life after school?

Q: What kind of special training do teachers need to use technology in the classroom? Who provides it, and how can more teachers get involved?

Community Support

Examples: Last year, a new statewide fund (the West Virginia Education Fund) established by business leaders overhauled the state's teacher education program to make it more rigorous. A partnership between Bell-Atlantic and the state's Department of Education is giving all public schools access to the Internet. West Virginia is one of the top 10 states in offering service learning opportunities to students.

Q: What is the larger community doing to improve education here?

Q: What do higher standards and better education in the basics mean to West Virginia's businesses? What can the business community do to help raise standards?

Q: I've been asking America's colleges to encourage their students to work as reading tutors, to help 8-year-olds learn to read. Are there other ways in which colleges and universities can play a role in K-12 education in West Virginia?

EDUCATION TOWN HALL MEETING
Thursday, May 22, 1997

Education Q & A's for the President

National Standards/National Tests

Question: **Standards:** Why is the development of national standards so important *now*?

Answer: Student achievement is not improving fast enough. Today's economy demands higher and higher levels of skill and education to succeed in all types of jobs and far too many children are not meeting the standards that will prepare them for tomorrow. High standards pull young people up and encourage them to work harder and create high expectations for themselves. They also provide a benchmark for parents and teachers for what children should know and whether they are learning it. Places that have set high standards have made progress in student achievement. I want that improvement for *all* our children.

Question: **Standards/National vs. Federal.** You say these are "national, not federal" standards and tests. What exactly does that mean, especially since the U.S. Department of Education is going to develop them?

Answer: It means that while the federal government will fund the development of the tests, it is not in charge of what the tests measure, when they are administered, or how they are used in schools and communities around the country.

The tests will be based on the existing National Assessment of Education Progress, which is already used in more than 40 states. The content for these tests -- the reading and math skills they measure -- has already been determined by outside groups of teachers, curriculum specialists and others, and by agreement of state education officials. These content frameworks for reading and math are widely accepted and are based on widespread input, and strong state involvement. They truly are national standards, built from the bottom up. And they are challenging for our youngsters. The new tests I have proposed will measure the same math and reading skills that NAEP already measures.

The federal government will pay for the development of these tests, just as it helps pay for other research and development in

education and other policy areas, and just as it has paid for the National Assessment of Education Progress for almost 30 years. Providing good information and good tools to improve our schools has long been part of the federal government's role in education, and should remain so.

Question: **Standards/Other National Standards.** What about other national standards that have been developed in subjects like science and history? Do you support those? Why do you focus so much on reading and math?

Answer: There have been excellent voluntary national standards produced in several subjects, such as math, geography, and civics, that many states and districts are finding useful as they develop their own state and local standards. Other proposed standards, such as the controversial history standards, have not been as successful. At the national level we are focusing on reading and math because they are the first basics, and there is a grassroots, national consensus that every student needs to master these two core subjects.

Question: **Standards:** How are you going to ensure that all children can meet these high standards?

Answer: First, these tests, together with state and local tests, will help teachers and parents know which children need help and what help they need.

Second, these tests are about lifting our students up, not putting them down. We must make sure that our students have safe and orderly classrooms, well prepared teachers, access to good textbooks, computers and other technology that will connect them to the information superhighway.

I'm doing my part to help by making sure that the federal government makes a substantial investment in education. And Secretary Riley and the Education Department will continue to provide information on the best practices in each area. But the primary responsibility lies here with those of you in this room -- parents, teachers and principals, school board members, others in the community and state and local officials. You have the responsibility to come together and provide our students with the preparation they need, for these standards and for the

future.

Question: **National Tests/High Stakes.** Do you believe students should be required to pass these tests in order to be promoted to the next grade level?

No state that participates will be required to use the math and reading tests for this purpose. However, I believe that if we set standards for students, they should be required to meet the standards in order to be promoted from elementary to middle school, from middle school to high school, and before graduating from high school. When I was Governor, we required students to pass an 8th grade test before moving into high school. While some students had difficulty passing the test the first time, almost everyone did ultimately. We gave extra help to students who needed it, including summer school. And over time, the percentage of students who passed the test on the first time increased, as students, teachers and parents came to understand how well the did mattered.

I believe every state should require students to meet standards before they move on. Every state gives their own tests, in addition to these national tests. Each state will need to decide what the best combination of tests would be.

Question: **National Test/Students with Disabilities.** What are you doing to support participation of students with disabilities in the 4th and 8th grade assessments you are developing?

Answer: We must expect more of all our children, including those with disabilities. The Department of Education, which is working with education experts to help develop the tests, will make the 4th grade reading and 8th grade math tests available to states and schools in formats accessible to students with disabilities. In addition, schools will be able to get technical assistance and other support to help ensure that students with disabilities are appropriately included.

Question: **National Test/Grade Levels.** Why 4th grade reading and 8th grade math?

Answer: Reading and math are two of the most basic skills. Children can't

move ahead in school in any subject if they can't read English by the 4th grade. And 8th grade math is a pivotal point in terms of making sure that a student has mastered the mathematics she needs to move forward in high school and go to college or into the work place.

Children go to school for the first three years of grade school to learn how to read, so they can spend the rest of their years reading to learn. There is a strong link between low reading skills, falling behind in school, disruptive behavior, and dropping out. Yet, about 40% of our children are not learning how to read well and independently by the end of third grade, decreasing their chances of succeeding in school and in life. We need to change this.

8th grade math is also a critical turning point for students. At that point, students need to have mastered the basics of math -- including the foundations of algebra and geometry -- so they are prepared to go on and take the harder math and science courses they need for college preparation or jobs right out of high school. In our high technology, international economy, our students will need to know more mathematics than most of us adults learned. And, having good math skills is increasingly a prerequisite for getting a good job, students who don't take algebra and geometry are much less likely to go to college than students who do.

Unfortunately, right now, the United States is below the international average in math at 8th grade. We can do better. Many more young people should be taking algebra by the end of the 8th grade so they can take more advanced course in high school. That is what most 13 year olds are doing around the world. Only 25% of our 8th graders have learned algebra -- as opposed to almost 100% of students in other industrialized nations. Having a national benchmark in math at 8th grade will show whether our students are where they should be.

Question: ***National Test/Too Late?*** Isn't 4th grade too late for a reading test?

Answer: No. Children are expected to have made the transition from learning to read to reading to learn by the 4th grade. This is the critical turning point -- and the point we should measure to see that all our students are making it.

Of course, a short national test in reading does not replace what

teachers and parents have always done -- paying attention to children's progress in learning to read all through the critical early childhood years.

Question: ***National Test/Why Needed?*** How will these tests differ from existing tests? What will they tell us that we don't already know?

Answer: These tests will provide information to parents and teachers about individual student scores and how close a child is to reaching high national standards. Currently, there is no way of knowing whether your child's progress or your child's school is measuring up to national and international standards. Now, each state sets its own standards, and some are more difficult than others, so it is difficult for parents to tell how well their child is actually doing compared with tough, meaningful national and international benchmarks--the kind they will be judged against in the real world. These tests will give parents and teachers, wherever they live, an opportunity to know how their children are doing.

Question: ***National Test/Content.*** Who decides what is on the tests?

Answer: The tests will be based on the widely accepted frameworks of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). These frameworks are developed by nationally recognized teachers and other educators and community leaders, with input from thousands of interested parents, teachers and others interested in education.

At present 43 states -- including West Virginia -- participate in the NAEP and have agreed that the NAEP frameworks in reading and math are good standards for what students should know in these critical subjects.

Question: ***National Test/Privacy.*** Will the federal government have my child's test score? Will it be private?

Answer: The federal government will not be collecting individual student scores. It will be up to states and communities to do that, if they choose to and they will have to keep individual student scores confidential.

Question: **National Test/Cost.** How much will it cost to give the tests?

Answer: The total cost of developing the new tests will be between \$10 - 12 million per year in 1997 and 1998. The cost of administering the new tests is estimated to be \$10 - \$12 per student, and I've proposed that the Department of Education reimburse these costs for the first year. This investment is more than worth it to make sure we are doing all we can to help students master the basics.

Question: **National Test/LEP Students.** Will children with limited English proficiency be included in these tests?

Answer: Yes. We want to make sure that students with limited English will be able to take the test whenever possible. This means that we will provide the math test in Spanish. It also means that when the test is administered, schools would provide accommodations that students need such as access to an English dictionary.

Question: **National Test/English and Spanish.** Why is the math test being given in English and Spanish but the reading test is only being given in English?

Answer: Developing the ability to read in English is a basic skill that every child must have to succeed in American schools and society. However, there are many recent immigrants at the 8th grade level who may not speak English well but who can do advanced math and should be asked to show what math they know. We are providing a bilingual math test in Spanish and English because Spanish is the most common language other than English among students.

Question: **National Test/Calculators.** Will you allow kids to use calculators on the new tests? Shouldn't kids know their multiplication tables on their own and not rely on calculators?

Answer: Kids should learn the basics. They should know how to add, subtract, multiply and divide without using a calculator. However, after a child has mastered the basics of arithmetic, calculators can be useful for solving complicated math problems. As part of the test development process, an advisory committee of outstanding

math teachers and other experts will be considering this issue.

Question: **National Test/Teachers.** How will you ensure that teachers are prepared to help students meet these high standards?

Answer: Making sure that our teachers are prepared to teach to these high standards is a shared responsibility, primarily among school systems, colleges and universities, states, and the teachers themselves.

We must do a better job of preparing teachers before they get to the classroom, and helping them in their first several years. And we have to help teachers keep learning while they are on the job.

We also need standards of excellence for teachers and we've got to reward excellence. That's why I support the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, which has developed tough teacher standards. Today they are only about 500 nationally board certified teachers in the country, and none in West Virginia. I think we need at least one master teacher in every school. I hope West Virginia will take steps to do this and I have put money in my budget to help.

Question: **National Test/Home Schooling.** How will these tests affect students who participate in home schooling?

Answer: In a legal sense, it will not affect those students at all. No student in a home school will be required to take these tests, though they will be able to if they want to. Every parent will have access to the tests on the Internet each year, so if they want to see for themselves how well their students are measuring up against these standards, they can find out.

Budget-Related Questions

Question: **School Construction.** Why doesn't the budget plan include help for school construction?

Answer: This is a critical need, and I have proposed a plan for jump-starting State and local school construction and renovation efforts. Unfortunately, there was considerable resistance in the budget negotiations to including it in the agreement. I am disappointed

that it could not be included.

- We should remember that if we failed to reach agreement on a balanced budget plan, that would have made local school construction efforts more difficult, by raising interest rates.
- On balance, the agreement was a tremendous success on education overall.
- Within the context of the agreement, I will continue to look for opportunities to address this problem.

Question: **HOPE/Tuition Increases.** Won't Your HOPE Scholarship plan cause college tuitions to go up even more than they already have been?

Answer: Actually, Federal aid does not seem to have much of an effect on tuition costs. When Federal college aid was rising in the 1970s, real college tuitions remained fairly steady. But when real Federal aid dropped slightly during the 1980s, that is when tuitions rose most sharply. One study suggests that is partly because colleges are trying to provide aid to the lowest-income students, and to do that they increase tuition for everyone else. By restoring the Federal government's commitment to financial aid -- for both low-income and middle-income families -- we are helping to reduce one of the pressures that increases tuition and fees.

Question: **HOPE/IRS.** Will the IRS be looking at my grades to see if I'm eligible for the HOPE Scholarship?

[NOTE: On Sunday, Frank Raines told CNN that "we think that having the IRS trying to enforce grades may be going a little too far, and we're going to try to find a way to simplify the program."]

Answer: The IRS would not be looking at student transcripts. But I do want to make sure that we are not only helping people pay for college, but also that they have an incentive to work hard once they are there. A new study from Georgia State University suggests that the grade requirement in Georgia's HOPE Scholarship plan has helped some of the borderline students, those who started out very close to the B average, to perform better in college.

I have gotten some feedback about the grade requirement in my

HOPE Scholarship plan, and Secretary Riley and Secretary Rubin will be working closely with Congress to make sure that we encourage students to work hard, but that we do it in a simple way, without imposing any undue burdens on taxpayers or colleges.

Question: **Student Loans.** Does the budget agreement cut student loans?

Answer: No, it will not affect student loan borrowers in any way. There are some savings to taxpayers that we can achieve by making government more efficient and reducing subsidies to middlemen -- something that I proposed in my Budget in January -- and the negotiators agreed to some of those changes to help bring the deficit down by \$1.7 billion. But the agreement makes it clear that there can be no cuts in benefits or availability of loans. (And colleges may continue to choose to participate in the Direct Loan program or the guarantee system).

Question: **Education Investments.** With the tax cuts, will there be any money left for education programs?

Answer: The budget agreement includes ***the largest increase in our investment in education in 30 years, and the largest single boost in college aid since the G.I. Bill.*** It includes:

- **Roughly \$35 billion in tax cuts for higher education,** consistent with the HOPE Scholarship and \$10,000 tax deduction.
- **Pell Grant Expansion.** The largest increase in two decades -- a funding boost of 25%. The maximum award will reach \$3,000, an increase of \$300. In the 1998 budget alone, an additional 348,000 students will receive grants: 130,000 young people from moderate-income families, and 218,000 low income students over the age of 24.
- **Technology Literacy.** Double funding to help ensure that computers are in every classroom, every classroom is connected to the Internet, all teachers are trained, and that high quality software and on-line resources are available to help schools integrate technology into the curriculum so that students can become technologically literate.

- **Head Start.** Continued expansion toward my goal of 1 million kids in 2002.
- **America Reads.** A child literacy initiative consistent with the America Reads Challenge, to mobilize volunteers to help every child learn to read well and independently by the end of third grade.
- **Job Corps and other Job Training.** A 12% increase for job training programs, including continued expansion of Job Corps.

Question: **Reading.** What is the reading program that was including in the budget deal?

Answer: The agreement includes my plan to help make sure that every child learns to read well and independently by the end of third grade. Secretary Riley and Harris Wofford, the CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service, will be working with Congress on some of the details. What I have proposed includes:

- **America's Reading Corps:** 25,000 reading specialists and 11,000 AmeriCorps members serving as recruiters and coordinators, to enlist an army of one million volunteer tutors.
- **Parents as First Teachers:** Grants to foster effective programs that help parents help their children to become successful readers (e.g. HIPPOY).
- **Head Start expansion.**

General Topics and Issues

Question: **College Costs.** Why has college tuition been going up?

Answer: Between the 1990-91 academic year and the 1995-96 academic year, overall price inflation was only 17 percent, but the average tuition and fees at public colleges increased by 31 percent and at private colleges increased by 33 percent. Some of the increase is the result of research and staffing costs that increased faster than inflation. At the public colleges, funding from State legislatures did not grow as fast as costs did. And at private colleges, while

tuition went up, so did financial aid that the college was providing (in other words, not everyone was actually paying the full tuition and fees).

Question: **Goals 2000 Controversies.** Aren't these tests just another version of your Goals 2000 program, in which the federal government promotes outcomes-based education, politically-correct history, and a federal takeover of our schools?

Answer: These tests are not a part of Goals 2000, but let me say that I'm very proud of Goals 2000. Goals 2000 provides federal support for state and local efforts to raise academic standards in the basic skills and core academic subjects, and for local, bottom up efforts to improve teaching and learning. There are no federal standards or curriculum, and no requirement for outcomes-based education or any other particular approach.

With regard to a "federal takeover" of local schools, that simply isn't accurate. Goals 2000 supports local control, not federal control. You don't have to take my word for this. Harrison County and some 40 other school systems in West Virginia have received Goals 2000 funds. You should ask teachers, principals, school board members or parents in those communities if Secretary Riley and the U.S. Department of Education have come in and set their curriculum or otherwise tried to tell them what to do.

The national tests we are discussing today are focused on basic reading and math skills that all students should master. They are not part of Goals 2000 in any way, and you don't have to give the tests in order to keep receiving Goals 2000 funds. However, I believe every states should participate in Goals 2000 and in these tests. They are both ways of helping our students reach for the highest possible standards.

Question: **School-to-Work Controversies** The School-to-Work program has been somewhat controversial in West Virginia. Is it true that School-to-Work tracks kids into inferior programs of study with low academic standards and requires them to make job decisions in elementary and middle schools?

Answer: No. The School-to-Work Program is designed to give students the academic and on-the-job training to prepare them for high skill jobs and further education. School-to-Work does not in any way track students into certain career paths, nor limit their options. It

gives students and parents information and opportunities to explore a wide range of career options, and it helps make sure that students learn basic and advanced academic skills that will prepare them either for work or for college.

Question: **IDEA and Discipline.** I am concerned about keeping our schools safe and disciplined. I understand that the new special education law (IDEA) just passed by Congress still makes it difficult to discipline disruptive students who are disabled. How can the other students learn if teachers can't maintain order?

Answer: First, let me point out that the federal special education law, first passed in the 1970's, has been essential for providing education opportunities for children with disabilities. Before that law was passed, many children with disabilities were denied an education. Since the law was passed, educational opportunities for children with disabilities have increased dramatically, because the law guarantees an education to these children. This is a good thing, because the education of every child is important, because education is the way for all of our people to become productive and independent citizens. I am proud to be able to sign, next month, the bill continuing this law in effect.

Second, I agree that it is very important for all children that classrooms be orderly places where children can learn and teachers can teach. While maintaining the responsibility to provide children with disabilities with a free and appropriate education, this new bill strengthens the ability of teachers and principals to deal with disruptive or dangerous students, including those with disabilities. It does this by:

- making it easier for principals to remove from the classroom children with disabilities who bring a gun, weapon or drugs to school, or who pose a danger to themselves, their teachers or their classmates, while continuing to provide them with an education in another setting.
- making it easier to address a child's behavior problems early on -- before they get out of hand -- by requiring that these be considered in the development of an Individual Education Plan, and by making the regular classroom teacher a part of the team that develops the plan.

Finding the right balance between the protection of individual

students and the needs of a larger group is often difficult. I am pleased that the Congress, with an overwhelming bipartisan majority, has found a way to strike that balance.

Question: **Safe Schools:** There are stories all the time about people walking into schools and shooting kids, fights, drugs, etc. What is the government doing to stop it?

Answer: I have challenged all schools to put in place high standards of discipline and behavior along with tough measures to keep guns and drugs out of schools. Last year I protected the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities program that supports school security, and drug and violence prevention programs in 97 percent of our country's school districts. I also support school uniforms as one way to deter school violence, and have encouraged communities to enforce truancy laws.

Question: **Teacher Salaries:** I'd like to become a teacher and I think I'd be a good one. But I can't afford it. Is there anything the government can do to make teacher salaries greater?

Answer: You set the salary for teachers here in West Virginia, just as states and local school districts do across America. In this state you have made substantial progress on teachers' salaries during the 1990s. Through income-contingent student loans, I have worked to make it easier for college graduates to enter teaching or pursue other service-related professions where starting salaries are relatively low.

Question: **Vouchers.** I think voucher programs provide an opportunity to some parents they otherwise would not have -- to send their child to a private or parochial school. What is your position on school vouchers?

Answer: I believe there are better ways to provide greater school choice to students and their families. One very good way is to have every state pass a charter school law that allows parents and teachers to start new public charter schools that stay open only as long they do a good job. In fact, I have proposed nearly doubling the charter school start-up program (to \$100 million next year) to help start 3,000 charter schools over the next several years.

While I support public school choice, I oppose federally funded tuition vouchers for private elementary and secondary schools. I also oppose state funded and locally funded vouchers. Vouchers take money away from public schools, and controversy over vouchers distracts communities from the hard work of improving our schools.

Family and Community Involvement

Question: ***Parental Responsibility:*** What can you do to make sure parents understand what they need to do to make sure their children are ready to start school, and how they can help their children as they go through?

Answer: Over thirty years of research shows that family involvement in children's learning is critical to their child's success. There are lots of things parents can do to help their children start school ready to learn. I strongly urge parents to read to their children starting in their earliest years. Schools can provide a welcoming atmosphere for parents, while local employers can help by giving paid leave for employees to be involved in their children's schools, or provide other means for employees to attend parent-teacher conferences or volunteer as tutors or mentors. Some of the best employers do it.

Question: ***Parental Responsibility:*** What about parents who can't read and write, or have other limitations? How can they help their children get ready for and successfully proceed through school?

Answer: Every parent can help, from the first days of a child's life--by talking and singing to them, paying attention to them, and helping them learn their colors and shapes. All parents can help their kids in other ways by showing up at school events, asking kids if they need help and getting it for them, being active in school activities, and giving them a place to do homework and making sure they do it. Through programs like Adult Education and Even Start family literacy we support local initiatives that assist parents to gain the skills they need to help their children and build a better life for themselves and their families.

Question: ***Business Community Partnerships:*** More and more, we are finding the need for employees with higher levels of training than we are seeing coming into the workplace. How can employers like

me help ensure that more highly qualified candidates will enter the workforce?

Answer: The business community knows as well as any how important high standards are in educating our youth. All over the country, businesses have successfully forged partnerships with their local school communities to provide resources like apprenticeship and mentoring programs, after school programs, etc. Last month, over 200 high-tech industry leaders who hire graduates from across the country endorsed my standards and testing initiative because they know first hand how important it is to have highly skilled graduates entering their workforces. You can help by partnering with your local school community.

Question: **School to Work.** How do I open my business up to the school to work program?

Answer: Business supports school-to-work partnerships because they represent an investment in people which yields access to highly trained, versatile workers who are certified and knowledgeable in all aspects of an industry. I would urge any employer interested in getting more involved to talk with their local school system and community colleges about how to participate.

Question: **Local School Systems.** What can local school systems do to help implement the goals set by the education summits and your national initiatives?

Answer: There are lots of things that local schools can do:

- Use the national tests and set high standards.
- Help prepare teachers to become national board-certified and reward them when they do.
- Develop and enforce fair standards of conduct for all students.
- Get the whole community involved in helping young children learn to read. Pediatricians should prescribe reading to parents of infants and preschoolers. College students and others should volunteer to tutor.

- Keep working, as you are in West Virginia, to make sure every 12 year old can log onto the Internet.
- Start early in letting students and families know that they will need at least 2 years of postsecondary education.

Question: ***After-School Programs:*** Both of my parents work. Will there be any money to have after-school programs at schools like mine?

Answer: My budget includes a new initiative to provide safe havens and to extend learning opportunities for children and their families at schools across the country. The initiative will help after-school, summer and weekend programs get started as Community Learning Centers and foster community involvement.

America Reads

Question: ***Reading.*** How can we become a nation of readers?

Answer: My America Reads Challenge is pursuing several essential strategies to help our children learn to read: creating more learning opportunities to supplement classroom reading instruction; encouraging parent involvement to help children develop readiness skills for reading beginning at birth, as well as involvement throughout the school years; and bringing best teaching practices into classrooms.

Question: ***Reading/Tutoring.*** Does Tutoring make a difference? Aren't teachers most important?

Answer: Even the best teachers will tell you that some children need extra help outside the classroom hours in order to catch up. And the research shows that tutoring programs that provide consistent help, with trained tutors, can make a big difference. For example:

--In Simpson County, Kentucky, 25 AmeriCorps members helped second graders jump 3 reading levels in one year

--At Hands on Atlanta, in the first three years of AmeriCorps

involvement, the schools have seen an 11 percent increase in performance on national standardized tests in reading and in math, and 25 percent fewer discipline problems.

--At Reading One-to-One in Texas, with just a semester of tutoring, children improve one full reading level.

The America Reads Challenge legislative proposal specifically would build on groundwork laid by classroom teachers, librarians, and reading specialists by drawing upon the invigorating spirit of community volunteers in tutoring. The proposal encourages family and community involvement in the education of America's children by linking AmeriCorps members, trained and qualified reading professionals, and volunteer tutors to community and school-based literacy efforts.

America Reads also calls for the expansion of Head Start to reach one million 3- and 4-year-olds; the strengthening and expansion of Title I and Even Start Programs to enhance teaching and learning during the school day, as well as family literacy efforts; and finally, challenging the private sector and community groups to work with schools and libraries.

Right now, each of us can do our part and get involved in the America Reads Challenge:

- 1) Instill a love of reading in your child. Parents are their child's first teachers and learning begins at home. By reading aloud to their children regularly and using TV wisely, parents can empower their children with the lifelong habit of reading and learning.
- 2) Call a local school or literacy program and volunteer as a reading tutor. Many community and civic groups already sponsor tutoring programs and always welcome volunteers.
- 3) Call 1-800-USA-LEARN and ask to get involved in READ*WRITE*NOW, a summer reading component of the America Reads Challenge.
- 4) Call the college or university nearest you, or your alma mater, to see if it has joined the America Reads Challenge. The best office to begin with may be the Financial Aid Offices.

Technology

Question: **Internet Access.** With the emphasis on connecting classrooms to the Internet, how can our public school children be protected from the harmful aspects of the Internet?

Answer: I am committed to ensuring that our children do not get exposed to indecent material and will take all constitutional measures to make sure that they don't. I signed the Communications Decency Act and we are currently defending that law in court. If the Act is invalidated, I will carefully consider alternative routes to the same goal. I also support industry efforts to develop and market technology, including Internet screening software--a V-chip for the Internet--that will give parents and teachers the ultimate control over what material is available to children.

Question: **E-rate.** E-rate funds for communications and Internet connection schools and libraries are being made on a first-come, first serve basis. Will the funds be available again and how will you ensure equity in distribution of funds?

Answer: Over the next several months, the Federal Communication Commission will work with the Department of Education and the education community to develop an easy application process for schools and libraries to follow. I have asked Secretary Riley and FCC Chairman Reed Hundt to work with local educators, communities and parents on how to help them understand the E-rate and upgrade their schools to take advantage of it. The level of the discount will be higher for the schools in disadvantaged neighborhoods and in rural schools with higher costs of connecting to the Internet.

Question: **Technology.** What can the business community do to help the educational community to stay up to date with the major technological advances that are occurring today?

Answer: The business community has been one of the biggest supporters of our education technology initiative and West Virginia is a national leader in the use of technology in the classrooms. Some 85% of West Virginia's schools will be connected to the Internet by the end of this year and 14,000 educators have been trained to use computers for basic skills instruction. I applaud Bell Atlantic-West

Virginia for its commitment to wiring schools, IBM for its support of technology innovation, and Ashland Oil and others for their work on behalf of education reform here in the state.

Q&A on Late-Term Abortion

Question: Will you sign the Partial Birth Abortion Act now that it has passed both the House and Senate with overwhelming majorities?

Answer: No, because I am still not convinced that this bill adequately protects women from grievous harm. I have said over and over that if Congress were to add a narrow exception covering the few cases where this procedure is needed to prevent women in dire circumstances from suffering serious injury, then I would gladly sign the bill. But until Congress does add that narrow exception, I will veto the bill -- no matter how many votes there are in favor it -- to protect the health of women.

Question: Why didn't the AMA's endorsement of the Partial Birth Abortion Act -- and its statement that the partial-birth procedure is not good medicine -- change your view of this legislation?

Answer: I looked at the AMA's letter, and it did not persuade me that this bill fully protects women from grievous injury. Let me remind you that the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, which is the organization of doctors that knows the most about this issue, opposes this bill for the same reason I do -- because it prevents doctors from using a procedure that in a small group of cases best protects women from serious physical injury. The AMA endorsed this bill after bargaining for a change that protects doctors. I've implored Congress to make a narrow change in the bill to protect women -- to ensure that they don't suffer grievous injury because Congress has tied the hands of their doctors -- and I will not sign the bill until I get it.

Question: Didn't you base your prior veto of the bill on false information -- i.e., that this procedure is performed only a few hundred times each year and only when women are in great danger?

Answer: I vetoed the bill because there are a small group of women in desperate circumstances who need this procedure in order to save their lives or prevent serious injury to their health. Let's be clear: I've never said that these are the only circumstances in which the procedure is used; I've just said that these few women need to be protected. If Congress does so, I will gladly sign the bill, because I think this kind of procedure should be banned except when necessary to save the life of a woman or prevent serious harm to her health.

Q: WHY DID YOU OPPOSE THE HATCH-KENNEDY AMENDMENT TO EXPAND HEALTH CARE COVERAGE TO MORE CHILDREN?

I do not oppose the tobacco tax to be used as a financing mechanism for more health coverage, nor do I oppose the goals of the Hatch-Kennedy legislation. In fact, I am committed to building on the \$16 billion we have achieved in the balanced budget agreement. I look forward to working with Senator Hatch, Senator Kennedy, and other members in this regard.

My primary concern with the budget amendment offered yesterday was that I feared that it would severely undermine the possibility of a balanced budget agreement, including the \$16 billion investment for children. My commitment to health care coverage is well known, and I will fight this year and beyond to expand health care coverage.

Q: REP. GEPHARDT CRITICIZED THE BUDGET AGREEMENT BECAUSE AT THE SAME TIME YOU STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF INVESTING IN CHILDREN'S COVERAGE YOU CUT MEDICAID SPENDING, WHICH HELPS HOSPITALS THAT SERVE UNINSURED CHILDREN. HOW DO YOU RESPOND TO THIS CRITICISM?

A: Studies have shown strong evidence that our Medicaid disproportionate share spending is not being appropriately allocated to hospitals that serve a greater portion of low-income and uninsured populations (e.g. Urban Institute). It is for this reason that even the public hospitals have said that we can get more savings from DSH if we better target this funding to these types of hospitals. We are currently working with the public hospitals to push the Congress to do just that.

Moreover, since we are investing \$16 billion to cover millions of uninsured children, these hospitals will treat more children who have health care coverage, thereby reducing their need for DSH funding to help offset uncompensated care.

Q: DOESN'T YOUR CHALLENGE TO DEVELOP AN AIDS VACCINE IN TEN YEARS RING HOLLOW SINCE YOU ARE NOT INVESTING ANY ADDITIONAL FUNDING IN THIS EFFORT?

A: According to National Institutes of Health Director, Dr. Varmus, and Director of the Office of AIDS Research at NIH, Dr. Paul, challenging the scientific community greatly enhances the likelihood that we will develop an AIDS vaccine. Moreover, we have backed this challenge with a series of investments and initiatives to increase the likelihood that we will reach our goal. In the last two years, I have increased funding for the AIDS vaccine by 33 percent, and my FY 1998 budget increases spending for AIDS vaccine research by \$17 million.

Moreover, I have announced that there will be a new AIDS Vaccine Center at NIH. Our medical and scientific leaders believe that uniting scientists in immunology, virology, and vaccinology will create a highly collaborative effort to help develop an AIDS vaccine. I am also asking the leaders of the eight major industrialized nations meeting at the Denver summit in June to support a worldwide AIDS vaccine research initiative. To fully commit ourselves to developing an AIDS vaccine, we need to make sure that the best minds throughout the world are working together towards this goal.

Q: FOLLOW: WHY ARE YOU ISSUING THIS CHALLENGE NOW? AND WHY ARE YOU FOCUSING ON AN AIDS VACCINE RATHER THAN OTHER DISEASES?

A: In the last twelve months we have made tremendous progress in our understanding of the AIDS virus. The leaders at NIH have told me that we are moving forward on developing a vaccine for AIDS and that we have an opportunity now to focus our efforts on developing an AIDS vaccine. They believe that by issuing a challenge to the scientific community, bolstered by our new investments and initiatives, will greatly increase the likelihood that we will be able to develop a vaccine in the next decade.

Scientific leaders have also told me that we have made progress in our understanding of immunology. They believe that bringing together all of this new knowledge will not only increase the likelihood that we will develop an AIDS vaccine but also could provide a new paradigm for vaccines that will help develop effective vaccines for other diseases.

While developing an AIDS vaccine is an important priority, it in no way undermines our commitment to biomedical research in other areas. Since I took office, we have increased overall spending at the National Institutes of Health by 16 percent, including a 76 percent increase in breast cancer research. My FY 1998 budget allocates \$13.1 billion for NIH.

It is also important to note that this commitment in no way undermines our investments in AIDS treatment and prevention, both of which have consistently received increased funding since I have been in office. We recognize that millions of people around the world already have AIDS, and we must continue to develop treatments and provide them to as many people as possible, while at the same time stressing prevention. I will continue to bolster our efforts in those areas.

Q: REPORTS HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THE ORIGINAL MEDICARE PREMIUM ESTIMATES WERE TOO LOW AND THE ACTUAL INCREASE WILL BE TWICE AS HIGH AS PREVIOUSLY PROJECTED (ABOUT A DOLLAR A MONTH). IS THIS TRUE?

A: While original preliminary CBO projections may have been slightly off, we still estimate that the Part B premium will be only about \$1 more in 1998 than under current law. In subsequent years within the 5-year Budget Agreement, the annual increase should be no more than about \$2 more per month. As a result, by 2002, we project the premium being approximately \$8 more than it otherwise would have been without the home health reallocation.

Regardless of the final projection, the Part B premium will be almost \$20 per month less than it would have been if it was set at the same 31.5 percent level that I vetoed. The monthly premium under the 1997 Budget Agreement will be about \$69 in 2002. If the policy were a 31.5 percent premium instead of 25 percent, the premium would be about \$87. In 2002 alone, this would equate to about \$215 a year more for a single beneficiary, \$430 for a couple.

Low-income beneficiary protections are expanded. Unlike the 1995 Budget Agreement that I vetoed, which eroded current-law low-income protections, the 1997 Balanced Budget Agreement invests \$1.5 billion to expand premium assistance to low-income beneficiaries. We believe this commitment will help many of the estimated 2.5 million Medicare beneficiaries who have incomes between 125 and 150 percent of poverty-- just above the current eligibility level for Medicare premium protection.

Savings from the new premium are offset by investments in beneficiary improvements. The \$9 billion in savings that comes from gradually including home health in the 25 percent premium is virtually identical to the amount of money dedicated to the investment in new benefits. Specifically, the 1997 Balanced Budget Agreement invests \$3-4 billion in new preventive benefits (which will, for example, detect breast and colon cancer, and cover the management of diabetes), \$4 billion to limit excessive hospital outpatient coinsurance to beneficiaries, and \$1.5 billion in premium protections for low-income Medicare beneficiaries. (This contrasts with the vetoed 1995 balanced budget agreement, which reinvested virtually none of its much greater beneficiary savings for benefit enhancements.)

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
OPENING REMARKS
EDUCATION TOWN HALL MEETING
CLARKSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA
MAY 22, 1997**

Acknowledgments: Mary Helen Shields, student; Bob Kittle, Superintendent of Harrison County School System; Leon Pilewski, Principal, Robert C. Byrd High School; Gov. Underwood; Sen. Rockefeller; Sen Byrd; Rep. Mollohan; and State Superintendent of Education, Hank Marockie; Cleo Mathews (Sylvia's mom), President of State Board of Education.

We are here today to talk about what we must do together to set high standards that will ensure that all our children have the knowledge and skills to meet the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century. Standards are the key to making sure every 8-year-old can read, every 12-year old can log on to the Internet, and every 18-year-old can go to college.

I came to Clarksburg because of the great strides you are making in the national movement for standards. And because I know that this challenge can not be met in Washington alone. We have much to learn from you. In 1996, West Virginia tied for third in improvement since 1992 in 4th grade and 8th grade math. I want to thank our host, Gov. Underwood, for his leadership in building on this accomplishment with his focus on raising standards and achievement even higher in this state.

Education is my top priority. It has always been the heart of opportunity in America. It is the embodiment of everything we must do to prepare for the jobs and careers of the 21st century. If we all have the tools to succeed, we can build a strong, united community and move forward as one America.

The balanced budget agreement we reached with Congress funds the largest investment in education in a generation; the largest increase in higher education since the G.I. Bill in 1945, more than 50 years ago; expands Head Start; funds America Reads; \$35 billion in tax relief for higher education, including HOPE Scholarship and \$10,000 tax deduction and will help us wire every classroom by the year 2000.

I want to thank former Gov. Caperton for his pioneering efforts to make West Virginia a national leader in the use of technology in schools. This state is now well on its way to putting a computer in every elementary school by 1999. You are making innovative use of "distance learning." This town meeting is being broadcast live on the Internet here in West Virginia and across the country.

But nothing we do matters as much as what our children learn each day. Our success depends upon holding our students to the highest standards -- making sure they learn the basics that will be the foundation of success in the next century.

We must have high standards of excellence that all states -- from West Virginia to Nevada -- can agree on. That is why in my State of the Union address, I called for national standards of excellence in the basics -- not federal government standards, but national standards for 4th grade reading and 8th grade math, representing what all our students must know to succeed in the 21st century.

I have proposed national tests, based on widely used National Assessment of Educational Progress test. Today, I am pleased to announce that Gov. Underwood, along with the state board of ed. and state superintendent has agreed that West Virginia should participate in this test. In addition, Massachusetts and the National Alliance of Business are endorsing our call for national tests. We welcome West Virginia and these new partners to the growing national consensus for standards.

This is great news, but we must do even more. We all talk about standards, but today I want to walk through with you just what we mean when we talk about standards. [GO TO CHARTS]

CHART ONE: describes fourth grade reading standards -- what it means to meet basic, proficient and advanced standards.

CHART TWO: ask a student [Hannah Galey, a 4th grader from Nutter Fort Intermediate] to read passage from *Charlotte's Web*.

CHART THREE: Based on the above passage, how would you describe Charlotte to a friend? Three descriptions match three standard levels.

CHART FOUR: Shows how America's fourth graders are doing.

CHART FIVE: Shows a sample 8th grade math question. We will come back to this later.

Reading and math are the keys to everything we are trying to do to prepare our children for the next century -- from opening up a new world of knowledge on the Internet to opening the doors of college to getting our young people ready for the high-tech jobs of the future. We know we have a lot to do to lift the reading and math levels of our students up, but we know from the progress you have made here in West Virginia, that our students can do better. We know our children can meet high standards if they are challenged to do so.

That is why this meeting is so important. Standards are a way of making sure our children can learn and compete with students anywhere in the country and anywhere in the world. Now I want to hear from you...

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS TO THE OVERFLOW ROOM
ROBERT C. BYRD HIGH SCHOOL
May 22, 1997**

Acknowledgments: Gov. Underwood; Sen. Byrd, Sen. Jay Rockefeller; Rep. Mollohan; School Superintendent Bob Kittle; Robert C. Byrd principal Leon Pilewski; Robert C. Byrd High School Student Mary Helen Shields; Byrd Student Body President Dan Phares. Sylvia Mathews, my Deputy Chief of Staff, who went to high school not far from here in Hinton, West Virginia, not too long ago.

Since you have been excused from class this morning, I'm here to give you the town hall quiz. I hope you learned a lot from our discussion this morning.

I came to Robert C. Byrd High School because of the great strides your school has made. You have so many things to help you get a well rounded education: school-wide Internet access, the Eagle Battalion, Advanced Placement courses, the partnership with Josten's Learning Corporation, the instrumental music and theatre program, and the Community Environmental Learning Center. Robert C. Byrd High School is truly a high school for the 21st Century. I hope you all are proud to be here.

As you heard in the town hall, education is my top priority. We are doing all we can to make sure you have the skills and the knowledge to go to college, get good jobs, become good citizens and lead *all of us* into the next century.

Thanks for having me at your school today.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 21, 1997

1997 MAY 21 14:31:24

REMARKS TO THE PEOPLE OF CLARKSBURG

Date: Thursday, May 22, 1997
Location: Clarksburg Airport Tarmac
Time: 3:20-4:10 p.m.
From: Michael Cohen and Linda Moore

I. PURPOSE and BACKGROUND

To address the people of Clarksburg. You are the first sitting President to visit Clarksburg since Harry Truman.

II. PARTICIPANTS

Approximately 6,000 people are expected to attend. On the program with you will be Bridgeport Mayor Carl Furbee, Clarksburg Mayor Tom Flynn and Governor Underwood. On stage with you will be statewide elected officials: Sec. of State Ken Hechler, Attorney General Darrell McGraw, Jr., State Treasurer John Perdue and State Auditor Glen Gainer, all Democrats.

III. PRESS PLAN

Open press.

IV. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- You will be announced on to the stage accompanied by Governor Underwood, the two local mayors and the statewide elected officials.
- Mayor Furbee will make brief remarks and introduce Mayor Flynn.
- Mayor Flynn will make brief remarks and introduce Gov. Underwood.
- Gov. Underwood will make brief remarks and introduce you.
- You will make brief remarks and depart, working the ropeline as you go.

V. REMARKS

Provided by Speechwriting.

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS TO THE PEOPLE OF CLARKSBURG
WEST VIRGINIA
May 22, 1997

Acknowledgments: Governor Cecil Underwood, Sen. Jay Rockefeller, Sen. Robert C. Byrd, Rep. Alan Mollohan, Mayor of Bridgeport Carl Furbee, Mayor of Clarksburg Tom Flynn, Sylvia Mathews from Hinton West Virginia.

As the first sitting President to visit here since Harry Truman in 1952, I'm happy to report that I've had a great day in Clarksburg.

At Robert C. Byrd High School I talked with parents, teachers, and students about what we can do to give our children the tools they need to reach their God-given potential. It's vital that we work together to make sure every 8-year-old can read, every 12-year-old can log on to the Internet, and every 18-year-old can go to college. I am encouraged by what I learned today.

I came to Clarksburg because of the tremendous progress you are making in the national movement for standards. I'm pleased to work hand in hand with Governor Underwood who has agreed that West Virginia should participate in the widely used National Assessment of Educational Progress test. Governor Caperton led the way to high tech education, with his innovative use of "distance learning." Year after year, West Virginia is giving its students better classes, stronger programs, and more access to the information they will need to guide them into the next century.

Education is my top priority. The balanced budget agreement we reached with Congress funds the largest investment in education in a generation: the largest increase in higher education since the G.I. Bill in 1945, more than 50 years ago: expands Head Start; funds America Reads; 35 billion in tax relief for higher education, including HOPE Scholarship and 10,000 tax deduction and will help us wire every classroom --- just like Robert C. Byrd High School.

As Truman remarked from the rear platform of his departing train, West Virginia has a way of making one feel at home. Thank you for having me here.

ECONOMIC PROGRESS IN WEST VIRGINIA UNDER PRESIDENT CLINTON

President Clinton's strategy to strengthen the economy is based on reducing the federal budget deficit, lowering trade barriers, and empowering workers, families, businesses and communities to succeed. Here are some of the results for West Virginia after the first 50 months of the Clinton Administration:

Improved Economic Conditions in West Virginia:

- The unemployment rate has dropped from 11.1% to 7.0%.
- West Virginia has added 60,600 new jobs, or 14,544 per year, compared to 8,250 per year during the previous 4 years.
- West Virginia has added 52,800 new private sector jobs or 12,672 per year, compared to 6,775 per year during the previous 4 years.
- West Virginia has added 7,200 new construction jobs or 1,728 per year, compared to 1,300 per year during the previous 4 years.
- New business incorporations have increased 2.2% per year, after declining 4.5% per year during the previous 4 years.
- Home building has increased 12.9% per year, after falling 3.2% per year during the previous 12 years.
- Bank lending has grown at 6.5% per year, compared to less than 1% per year during the previous 4 years.
- Bankruptcy filings have dropped 19.9% per year, after increasing 9.3% per year during the previous 12 years.
- Business failures have dropped 6.6% per year, after increasing 22.3% per year during the previous 12 years.

What President Clinton's Accomplishments Have Achieved for the People of West Virginia:

\$15,000 OF REDUCED FEDERAL DEBT FOR EVERY FAMILY OF FOUR IN WEST VIRGINIA: The national debt will be more than \$1 trillion lower over 7 years than was projected before the passage of the President's economic plan. That's \$15,000 of reduced federal debt for each family of four in West Virginia.

24 TIMES MORE WEST VIRGINIA FAMILIES RECEIVE A TAX CUT THAN A TAX INCREASE: As a result of the expanded Earned Income Tax Credit, 105,017 working families in West Virginia will receive a tax cut. This compares to an increase in the income tax rate for only the 4,442 wealthiest taxpayers in West Virginia.

TAX CUT FOR 7,326 SMALL BUSINESSES IN WEST VIRGINIA: The President helped entrepreneurs, proprietors, and other small businessmen and women by expanding the annual expensing allowance from \$10,000 to \$17,500. About 7,326 small businesses in West Virginia are likely to benefit from the expansion of the expensing allowance this year alone and many more will benefit over the coming years.

210,000 WEST VIRGINIA WORKERS PROTECTED BY FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT: The Family and Medical Leave Act allows workers to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave for the birth of a child, to care for a sick family member, or if they become too sick to work. This law covers about 210,312 workers in West Virginia, and protects the jobs of 12,635 workers in West Virginia who are likely to use unpaid leave this year alone.

106,500 STUDENTS AND FORMER STUDENTS IN WEST VIRGINIA WILL BE ABLE TO BENEFIT FROM STUDENT LOAN REFORMS: Approximately 106,500 West Virginia borrowers -- 74,600 current borrowers and 31,900 new borrowers in the next few years -- can take advantage of the new direct student loan program by participating directly in the program or by consolidating guaranteed loans into direct loans. Some will benefit from lower interest rates, and all will benefit from more repayment options, including income contingent repayment.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 21, 1997

'97 MAY 21 PM4:26

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Ann Walker

RE: West Virginia Local Issue Briefing

CRIME

The Republican dominated House of Representatives has approved legislation that allows courts to prosecute juveniles 15 years and younger as adults. West Virginia's three Democratic congressman heavily criticized the bill.

AIRPORT

There is a debate over building a new airport in West Virginia. The market for the airport is roughly 1 million people. The plans are caught up in a huge debate over cost, funding methods, and location. There are five possible sites under consideration. Some critics feel that there is not a large enough market to warrant the construction of the airport.

DEVELOPMENT

A group of residents has moved to sue the Kroger Company of Kanawha City in an effort to stop them from closing their warehouse. The resident's argued that the company has an obligation to keep the jobs in West Virginia because they had received tax incentives to build their stores. Last week, a local court has ruled that the company has the right to relocate. The relocation will leave 5,000 residents unemployed.

EDUCATION

Unions

The president of the teacher's union plans to present a petition to Putnam County School Board Monday. The union is seeking an across the board \$1,000 salary hike. The salary increase would effect all education professionals and service personnel--- everyone except administrators. About 600 instructional and 390 service employees would be effected. The proposal would cost \$1 million.

Graduates

West Virginia high school graduation rates have increased. About 87% of West Virginians between 18 and 24 have finished high school, eclipsing the national rate of 85%.

Test Scores

Low test score on a state academic test will keep 13 Kanawha County schools from getting state accreditation.

Taxes

Lawmakers approved several bills last month providing tax breaks to companies in an effort to create jobs and boost tax revenue. Many fear the bill will actually decrease tax revenue and affect school funding.

Kanawha County School Board will let voters decide the fate of a \$98 million bond plan in November. If the bond passes, the taxpayers will pay for it's interest through higher taxes. The money would be used to renovate the county's nine high schools and two vocational schools.

EMPLOYMENT

In 1980 the average West Virginia worker wage was higher than the national average. In 1997, the state average wage is running 15.6% below the national mean. The state ranks 38th among the 50 states. The drop in wages is attributed to the weakening coal industry.

ENVIRONMENT

Charleston will soon be accepting bids for a multi-million dollar composting facility to be constructed at Copenhaver Park. The main problem the composting facility would address, is the disposal of yard waste. The facility has become a necessity since the county has prohibited taking yard waste to landfills.

VOLUNTEERISM

A volunteer summit is scheduled in Charleston July 1st. The goal of the summit will be to help 2,000 children in the Kanawha Valley by the year 2000. The project is aimed at providing volunteer services to at-risk children. The gathering will be modeled after the President's Summit for America's Future held last month in Philadelphia.

WELFARE

The US Department of Agriculture rejected West Virginia's request to help residents in nine counties avoid losing food stamps. The state's high unemployment rate qualifies more than 80% of the state's counties for the federal welfare rule exemptions. Forty-six counties have been waived from the requirements. West Virginia represents one of the highest proportions of exemption in the United States.

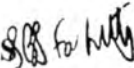
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 20, 1997

'97 MAY 20 PM 4:52

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

KITTY HIGGINS 

SUBJECT:

HOT ISSUES -- WEST VIRGINIA

EDA Industrial Facility Grant: Sen. Jay Rockefeller will be attending the May 29 announcement of a \$1.5 million Commerce/Economic Development Administration grant to the city of Huntington for a multi-tenant industrial facility. This grant will provide for the acquisition and renovation of three buildings on the former site of this Owens-Illinois glass factory. It is anticipated that this will create 250 permanent jobs over the next five years. (Commerce)

"Project Europe": The Charleston and Wheeling Export Assistance Centers are working with Rep. Bob Wise on Wise's "Project Europe" initiative to increase West Virginia trade with France, Germany and the United Kingdom. On May 29, there will be a World Trade Day event in Charleston with representatives from the three European embassies and Commerce European trade experts. (Commerce)

Procurement Practices Lawsuit: TMC Technologies, a West Virginia firm, filed suit May 1 against the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration alleging inappropriate procurement actions as part of a cooperative agreement signed with the West Virginia High Technology Consortium Foundation. The Consortium, organized at the initiative of Rep. Alan Mollohan, is a group of over 100 high-tech companies, primarily software developers, mostly located in the Morgantown to Clarksburg Interstate 79 corridor. TMC alleges that the Consortium was biased against them and as a result they were unable to compete for Commerce funds. Commerce and Justice are working together to represent the U.S. at a preliminary injunction hearing to be held May 30. (Commerce)

School Finance Ruling: On April 3, a West Virginia judge held that the state has not complied with a 1982 decision ordering higher quality and greater statewide equity in schools. The judge, who was appointed by the State Supreme Court to review the school finance system, gave the state one year to develop a spending formula to equalize spending between poor and wealthy school districts. Although the original decision served as a catalyst for statewide education reforms, substantial inequities remain because districts may impose excess levies on their residents to generate higher per-pupil spending. (Education)

Apple Grove Pulp and Paper Mill: This proposed billion dollar, 600-job conventional pulp and paper mill in Mason County has generated significant controversy over expected dioxin discharges to air and water. Proponents of the mill are being led by former Governor Caperton. Local environmentalists and a large affiliation of construction unions are opposed to the mill. The state is currently reviewing a second application for a water permit. The air permit issued in June 1996 is currently under appeal with hearings scheduled for June 1997. EPA Region III has been involved in this issue because of its obligation to review all state permits for major air and water sources. The Region will have an opportunity to review the surface water discharge permit again when the state proposes a new permit application. At that time, the Region will review the permit for its consistency with the Clean Water Act and other regulations. (EPA)

Appalachian Corridor H: Corridor H is a proposed billion dollar, 113-mile four-lane highway linking Elkins and the Virginia border. This project has been rejected by some state legislators and is under intense criticism from West Virginia environmental groups. The route has been altered and realigned several times and will impact high quality wilderness areas under any scenario. Interior supports the "no build" alternative. EPA had objections to the environmental impact statement because it contained insufficient information. The Division of Highways continues to coordinate with state and federal resources agencies to complete construction plans and finalization and implementation of an environmental impact mitigation plan. (EPA)



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

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March 21, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

From: Kathleen A. McGinty *KAM*
Subject: West Virginia Environmental Issues

Global Climate Change

Coal miners are strongly concerned about the Administration's position in favor of more serious efforts to reduce the rising greenhouse gases that contribute to global climate change. In particular, they are upset that the Administration supports "binding commitments" for developed nations while not proposing binding obligations for developing countries. The U.S. is the world's largest greenhouse gas emitter, responsible for 23% of global emissions. The majority of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions come from carbon dioxide, much of which comes from burning coal -- a major industry in West Virginia. The international negotiations will reach conclusion in early December in Kyoto, Japan, and the Administration is working hard to achieve adequate flexibility (reasonable levels, timing and international emissions trading) to mitigate impacts on regions like West Virginia.

EPA Clean Air Rules for Ozone and Particulate Matter

The final rules that would establish more stringent Clean Air Act standards for ozone and particulate matter are now under consideration by EPA. Depending on the outcome, the new rules could have an effect on West Virginia's ability to meet its obligations under the Clean Air Act. The entire West Virginia delegation has written to the Administration expressing their concern over the rulemaking. Since this is a pending rulemaking you should not give any indication of the outcome on the substance of the final rules, but rather state that you understand the seriousness of this issue and that we will give it careful consideration. EPA is under a court order to issue the final rule by July 19. We expect to meet that deadline.

WTI Incinerator in East Liverpool, Ohio

EPA has recently issued the final risk assessment on the Waste Technologies Industries (WTI) incinerator in East Liverpool, Ohio, and the state of Ohio is expected to issue a final permit by the end of the year. West Virginians have been actively engaged in the ongoing controversy over the public health and environmental risks of the incinerator. As a Senator, the Vice President asked the General Accounting Office (GAO) to investigate questions and concerns about the legality and safety of the WTI incinerator, located near Ohio's border with Pennsylvania and

West Virginia. During the 1992 campaign, the Vice President pledged that the Clinton Administration would not issue a burn permit until those questions had been answered.

The pledge was flouted by a Bush Administration decision to issue a permit to the facility, beginning a regulatory process that has led -- after litigation and appeals -- to the operation of the incinerator and consequent outrage by local environmental groups. The complaints of these groups frequently cite the campaign pledge, the close proximity of the incinerator to an elementary school and residences, and high dioxin emissions in the initial test burn. The GAO's final report concluded that the permitting process was lawful and that EPA has taken a number of steps beyond those required by law to ensure that the facility will not adversely affect the health or the environment of surrounding area. Subsequent testing has shown that the incinerator emissions are now well below permit limits.

In November 1995, EPA completed a draft risk assessment as part of the process of reviewing the final permit for the facility. The 3,000 page, seven-volume study was then forwarded to a panel of 21 outside experts for scientific peer review. The peer review process was completed in May 1995 and confirmed the following major conclusions of the assessment:

- The WTI plant presents most of the population, including students attending the nearby elementary school, with cancer risks of less than one in a million from stack emissions and fugitive emissions (primarily dioxins and furans).
- The WTI plant presents no risk of non-cancer health effects.
- The WTI plant presents very low to negligible ecological risk.
- The probability of on-site and off-site transportation accidents of any severity varies from unlikely to very unlikely. Potentially catastrophic accidents are found to be very unlikely.

The final risk assessment detailing the conclusions listed above was released on May 8. On this basis the state is expected to issue a final permit for the facility by the end of the year.