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JOHN H. CHAFEE
RHODE ISLAND
CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
JOINT COMMITTEE
ON TAXATION
SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE
SENATE ARMS CONTROL
OBSERVER GROUP

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3902

WASHINGTON OFFICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
202-224-1921
TDD 202-224-1146
PROV. OFFICE
10 DORRANCE STREET
SUITE 221
PROVIDENCE, RI 02903
(401) 453-5294
TOLL FREE NUMBER
IN RHODE ISLAND
1-800-662-5188
INTERNET ADDRESS:
senator_chafee@chafee.senate.gov

September 21, 1998

'98 SEP 25 PM3:52

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I write to reiterate my view that David Macaulay should receive the National Medal of Arts. As you are aware, I nominated Mr. Macaulay in April because I believe he embodies the qualities this prestigious award seeks to recognize.

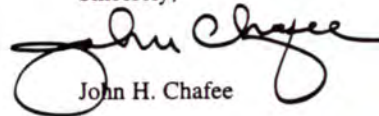
Throughout his career, Mr. Macaulay has taken countless young readers on a journey through history and imagination. His works such as Cathedral (1973), Pyramid (1975), Castle (1977), and The Way Things Work (1988), have won critical acclaim in the U.S. and abroad. In addition, Mr. Macaulay is the recipient of honorary degrees from several notable colleges and universities; his drawings are in the permanent collections of the Toledo Museum of Art, the Cooper Hewitt Museum in New York, and The Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design. He has continued to teach and assist with television productions of his books, while being active in his community.

As I've mentioned before, this year is the twenty-fifth anniversary of the book Cathedral. I hope you will agree that the National Medal of Arts award would be a fitting tribute to highlight this milestone in Mr. Macaulay's career. As you continue to review the many nominations for this award, I hope that Mr. Macaulay will be among the distinguished individuals to receive the National Medal of Arts.

As always, if I can provide any additional information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best regards.

Sincerely,


John H. Chafee

JHC/afm

9-23-98

Phil -
Should we send this to the
agency handling these awards?
Yes ☒
No ☐ To Melanne
Vencer
cc. Legislative Affairs
Yes ☒
No ☐

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date 9/25

To: Mlagen Moore, Larry Stein

From: The Staff Secretary

These are POTUS' notes
from CBL meeting. They're
very difficult to read

Phil

More
to more
probably buying
just mail
- urban rural
in growth

~~Schulden~~
~~Aktiva~~
~~Bilanz~~
~~Aktiva~~
• ~~Aktiva~~
• ~~Bilanz~~

(1) ALPS - 70-90 days
(2) Agreements
↳ Self-subsistence
(3) 20

Cap Formation - [BINT] idea
Akronym - put SBK & in hands of
new leaders
Mergers - common framework

SOCIAL SECURITY

BACKGROUND

Social Security is one of the government's most successful programs. Today, 44 million Americans depend on Social Security, and for two-thirds of seniors it's the main source of income. Nearly one in three of the beneficiaries are not retirees; Social Security is also a life insurance policy and a disability policy. Four decades ago, the elderly poverty rate was over 35 percent; today it is under 11 percent. And without Social Security, nearly half of the elderly would live in poverty. The system is sound today, but a demographic challenge is looming. There are 76 million of us baby boomers now looking ahead to retirement age and longer life expectancies. By 2030, there will be twice as many elderly as there are today, with only two people working for every one person drawing Social Security. After 2032, contributions from payroll taxes to the Social Security trust fund will be only enough to cover about 75 cents on the dollar of current benefits.

TALKING POINTS

- **Fiscal discipline has helped create strong economy and first budget surplus in a generation.** We're on the verge of achieving our first balanced budget and our first surplus in a generation. And our economy is the envy of the world. Fiscal responsibility has helped drive this economic expansion; a return to irresponsibility would put that prosperity at risk.
- **We must "Save Social Security First."** I believe that we must reserve every penny of any surplus until we "Save Social Security First." I do not intend to waver from my commitment to saving Social Security for our children and our grandchildren -- and I hope you will help me meet this commitment.
- **I will use five principles to evaluate comprehensive Social Security reform proposals:**
 1. Strengthen and Protect Social Security for the 21st Century.
 2. Maintain Universality and Fairness.
 3. Provide a Benefit People Can Count on.
 4. Preserve Financial Security for Low-Income and Disabled Beneficiaries
 5. Maintain Fiscal Discipline.
- **SOME PEOPLE HAVE ARGUED THAT AFRICAN AMERICANS GET A BAD DEAL FROM SOCIAL SECURITY. [IF RAISED]**

Average incomes for African Americans are lower than for whites. Thus African-Americans receive a higher than average rate of return on Social Security (because the benefit formula is progressive). This is somewhat offset by lower life-expectancies: life expectancy at age 65 is two years less for blacks than for whites.

However, a 1993 Treasury study shows that on net, African Americans have a slightly higher rate of return on Social Security than whites. African Americans also fare relatively better under the DI program than whites.

A recent Heritage Foundation study used a flawed methodology to conclude that African Americans do worse than whites. Among other errors, the study ignored disability insurance.

AFRICAN AMERICAN APPOINTEES

President Clinton has a long record of appointing African Americans to his administration. He has appointed more African Americans than any other President, including:

- **13% of all appointees, twice as many as any other administration.**
- **12% of all positions requiring Senate confirmation (PAS), including 3 Cabinet Positions:**
Alexis Herman, Secretary of Labor; Rodney Slater, Secretary of Transportation; and Togo West, Jr., Secretary of Veterans Affairs.
- **57 Federal judicial nominations, 16% of all of President Clinton's judicial nominations.**
- **13 African Americans have been nominated as US Attorneys.**
- **12 African Americans have been nominated as US Marshals.**
- **11% of all Presidential Appointment - without Senate confirmation - (PA) positions.**
- **13% of all non-career SES appointees.**
- **17% of Schedule C appointees.**
- **Over 40 African-American political appointees serve in the White House.**

Question and Answers Regarding Presidential Appointments

Q: Is the Clinton Administration continuing its commitment to diversity at the highest levels?

A: There currently 16 African-Americans in clearance for PAS positions. These individuals will be nominated soon, increasing the record number of African-American appointees in the Clinton Administration.

Q: There are very few African-Americans in senior level policy positions at the White House. Buddy James has been highly recommended for such a position, why has this not been acted upon?

A: There are currently no senior level policy vacancies available at the White House. We are continuing to work with Buddy James to find senior level slots within the DPC or NEC. In addition, while their jobs are not directly related to policy development, Bob Nash, Minyon Moore, Thurgood Marshall, Jr., Ben Johnson and Cheryl Mills all play an important role in policy development. You should also be aware that there are five African-Americans who currently work on policy issues in DPC and NEC.

Q: What percentage of the Administration is African-American?

A: African-American appointees represent 13% of the Administration. Our numbers are 133% greater than that of the previous administration.

- 12% (3) of the Cabinet is African-American: Alexis Herman, Rodney Slater, Togo West, Jr.
- 12% of all Senate confirmed positions.
- 57 Federal judicial nominations, 16% of President Clinton's total nominees.

- 13 US Marshals and 12 US Attorneys have been nominated.

Q: Who do you consider the most significant African-American appointees in your Administration?

A: Of course all of my Cabinet Secretaries; Rodney Slater, Alexis Herman and Togo West hold important positions. In addition, my three assistants at the White House; Bob Nash, Thurgood Marshall, Jr., and Minyon Moore also hold significant positions. I would also include the following appointees:

- Shirley Ann Jackson; Chair of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission
- Eric Holder; Deputy Attorney General at the Department of Justice
- James Johnson; Assistant Secretary of Enforcement at the Treasury Department
- Shirley Watkins; UnderSecretary for Food, Nutrition & Consumer Services at USDA
- William Kennard; Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission

Q: Do you plan to increase the percentage of African-American appointees in the Administration?

A: Yes. I think we will have more opportunities to do so because of vacancies that are being created due to natural attrition. We will continue to be aggressive in placing African-American candidates in the Administration.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

9-24-98

September 23, 1998

MEETING WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

DATE: Thursday, September 24, 1998

LOCATION: Yellow Oval, Residence

TIME: 9:30 am - 10:30 am

FROM: Larry Stein *LS*

Janet Murguia *JM*

I. PURPOSE

To meet with the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) to discuss legislative priorities during the remainder of the 105th Congress.

II. BACKGROUND

You will meet with the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), at their request, as you met with the Asian Pacific Caucus and Congressional Hispanic Caucus earlier this year. This meeting comes after last week's CBC legislative week. As you know, you addressed the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation at a dinner last Saturday, and the entire CBC was invited to the African American Religious Leaders event in honor of President Nelson Mandela on Tuesday evening.

The CBC has identified several legislative issues they wish to discuss with you, including: the AIDS epidemic and its impact on African Americans, black farmers legislation, education, Africa trade, drug prevention and needle exchange, capital formation, the 2000 census, social security, welfare to work, and affirmative action. Brief background materials and talking points on these and a few other pertinent issues are attached.

Additionally, as you know, the CBC has been supportive of your legislative policies throughout your Administration, and most recently has been very critical of the Office of the Independent Counsel and recent related political events. This will be an opportunity to express your appreciation for their steadfast support.

III.

PARTICIPANTS

Pre-Brief

President

Erskine Bowles

John Podesta

Maria Echaveste

Larry Stein

Gene Sperling

Minyon Moore

Bob Nash

Elena Kagan

Janet Murguia

Broderick Johnson

Dawn Chirwa

Event

President

Erskine Bowles

John Podesta

Maria Echaveste

Larry Stein

Minyon Moore

Bob Nash

Thurgood Marshall

Janet Murguia

Chuck Brain

Al Maldon

Broderick Johnson

Members of Congress

Sen. Carol Moseley-Braun (D-IL)

Rep. Sanford Bishop (D-GA)

Rep. Corrine Brown (D-FL)

Rep. Julia Carson (D-IN)

Rep. William Clay (D-MO)

Rep. Eva Clayton (D-NC)

Rep. James Clyburn (D-SC)

Rep. John Conyers (D-MI)

Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-MD)

Rep. Danny Davis (D-IL)

Rep. Julian Dixon (D-CA)

Rep. Harold Ford, Jr. (D-TN)

Rep. Earl Hilliard (D-AL)

Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX)

Rep. William Jefferson (D-LA)
Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)
Rep. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (D-MI)
Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA)
Rep. John Lewis (D-GA)
Rep. Cynthia McKinney (D-GA)
Rep. Carrie Meek (D-FL)
Rep. Juanita Millender McDonald (D-CA)
Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC)
Rep. Major Owens (D-NY)
Rep. Donald Payne (D-NJ)
Rep. Charles Rangel (D-NY)
Rep. Louis Stokes (D-OH)
Rep. Bennie Thompson (D-MS)
Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA)
Rep. Melvin Watt (D-NC)
Rep. Albert Wynn (D-MD)

Pending:

Rep. Gregory Meeks (D-NY)
Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA)
Rep. Bobby Rush (D-IL)

IV. PRESS PLAN

Closed Press.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

As usual.

VI. REMARKS

Talking points attached.

VII. ATTACHMENTS

- I. Background and Talking Points on Issues likely to be raised.
- II. Statistics and Q&A's on African American Appointees.

9-24-98

AIDS**BACKGROUND**

The Congressional Black Caucus recently requested that the Administration declare a public health emergency on AIDS in the African-American community. During its recent Washington conference, the AIDS crisis was declared one of the CBC's highest priorities. The situation is indeed severe. In 1997, 45% of new adult and adolescent (and 62% of pediatric) AIDS cases reported were African-Americans. Similarly, 56% of new adult and adolescent (and 69% of pediatric) HIV infections reported were African-Americans. AIDS is the leading cause of death for African-Americans between the ages of 25 and 44.

TALKING POINTS

- The Administration agrees that AIDS is a crisis in the African-American community and is committed to a long-term, sustained partnership with the CBC and others to address that crisis. A short-term, "band-aid" approach is inconsistent with the severity of the problem. HHS has adopted this issue as one of its highest priorities.
- Secretary Shalala and Surgeon General Satcher have given CBC's request high priority and have responded with a comprehensive package of HIV prevention, education and care, with funding specifically targeting African-Americans. Through discretionary reallocation, HHS is currently proposing approximately \$36 million in services for FY98, and has committed to sustaining or increasing that amount for FY99.
- ✓ •The Administration is seeking \$400 million in funding over five years for its Initiative to Eliminate Racial and Ethnic Disparities and Health; HIV/AIDS is one of six diseases receiving specific focus in this Initiative. The goal of the Initiative is to close the gaps between African-Americans and other racial and ethnic minorities and white Americans by the year 2010.

BLACK FARMERS LEGISLATION

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

9-24-98

BACKGROUND

Currently, there are individuals who have suffered discrimination by the Department of Agriculture in its administration of programs and who are not able to receive appropriate relief because of the application of a statute of limitations. The Administration has worked with the CBC to incorporate language in the Agriculture Appropriations bill. This would allow the Department to establish an informal system to investigate and, where appropriate, provide the relief that would have been available but for the application of the statute of limitations. Until recently, the Department of Agriculture lacked an effective system for investigating and resolving discrimination complaints.

TALKING POINTS

- The Departments of Justice and Agriculture are engaged in productive discussions with the plaintiffs attorneys, with a serious view to settling the case. Indeed, in the latest discussions, the Departments presented a settlement proposal to the plaintiffs that appears to genuinely interest them.
- The Pigford lawsuit now contains about 600 named plaintiffs. The Departments are discussing settlement with the plaintiffs attorneys. On another front, the court overseeing the case has yet to decide two issues central to the case -- certification of the class and application of the statute of limitations. In the meantime, the plaintiffs attorneys in Pigford have filed another lawsuit naming about 130 or so plaintiffs whose underlying complaints of discrimination are similar to the Pigford plaintiffs, but who filed complaints with USDA during a different time period. USDA and DOJ intend to approach this case in a similar fashion to Pigford.
- ✓ • The legislative language waiving the statute of limitations for farmers who have filed complaints of discrimination with USDA is still in the Agriculture appropriations bill that is in conference. Likewise, language that ameliorates the provision of the '96 Farm Bill preventing farmers from applying for loans if they have previous debt forgiveness is in the appropriations bill.
- The Agriculture appropriations bill is currently in conference. Both the House and the Senate versions contain black farmers language. The Administration, however, prefers the Senate version, which not only allows for relief for farmers, but also relief for those discriminated against in housing. (An additional \$2 million.)

EDUCATION

BACKGROUND

The CBC has strongly opposed efforts by the Republicans to eliminate the Department of Education, enact publicly financed school vouchers, and convert Federal education funding into block grants. The CBC's unyielding support for public education thus far has withstood growing frustration in some urban communities with the condition of public schools; conditions that have motivated Black parents in cities like Milwaukee and Cleveland to enroll their children in voucher programs. CBC Members support reforms like school modernization, reduced class size, enhanced teacher training, education opportunity zones, and Internet wiring. However, the CBC remains opposed to national testing, skeptical that the results of the tests will further stigmatize low-performing students and that resources necessary to prepare minority students for the tests will not exist.

The CBC appreciates the Administration's commitment to expand higher education opportunities through increased Pell Grants, and initiatives such as Hope Scholarships, and AmeriCorps. As the Higher Education Reauthorization bill winds its way through conference, CBC Members are ensuring that the Administration's High Hopes and lower student loan interest rate proposals are part of the final product. The Administration also has strongly supported HBCUs through increased funding and establishment of the President's Advisory Board on HBCUs.

TALKING POINTS

- The Administration enacted the largest investment in education in 30 years through passage of the 1997 Balanced Budget Agreement. Building on that record, I have proposed additional investments in education that would further the Administration's goal of enrolling one million children in Head Start, and increased investments in other education programs. CBC support for public education has been indispensable in the fight against those who would weaken public schools.
- The Administration is committed to expanding access to higher education through such measures as increased Pell grants, Hope Scholarships, AmeriCorps, and Education IRAs. The Administration is also proud of its record supporting HBCUs. This year's Higher Education Reauthorization Act is nearing completion, and I appreciate the work done by CBC Members to make sure that the final product will contain the Administration's lower student loan interest rates and High Hopes proposals.
- Through this year's passage of the GI bill and the Administration's steadfast opposition to efforts by House Republicans to eliminate the Summer Jobs program, we are demonstrating our conviction that sound education and training opportunities lead to meaningful employment, especially for African American youth and young adults.
- As the 105th Congress nears adjournment, the Administration will fight hard for its education budget and its new initiatives like class size, school modernization, and Internet wiring. I am grateful to have the CBC joined with us in the battle.

CAPITAL FORMATION

BACKGROUND

One of the Administration's priorities over the past six years has been enhancing access to capital for minorities, women and residents of less affluent areas, who traditionally have not had sufficient access to the dollars needed to start, maintain and expand businesses.

To that end, the Administration has:

- Streamlined and strengthened enforcement of the Community Reinvestment Act, so that banks and thrifts serve the low and moderate-income neighborhoods in the areas in which they operate.
- Created and strongly supported the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI), which helps build the capacity of entities that focus their lending and investment on areas not adequately served by traditional financial institutions.
- Urged the Federal Reserve to allow banks to collect data on the race, gender and national origin of applicants for small business and other non-mortgage loans. Collection of this data for home mortgage loans has proven invaluable in assessing the extent of discrimination and encouraging institutions to boost mortgage lending to minorities.
- Proposed a number of other initiatives, including empowerment zones, brownfields redevelopment and HUD's Community Empowerment Fund, that make capital available to businesses located in less affluent areas, to enable these firms to create jobs and generate wealth. The House VA-HUD bill provides only \$50 million of the \$400 million the President requested for the Economic Development Initiative/Community Empowerment Fund; the Senate bill provides only \$85 million, with over 75 percent earmarked.

TALKING POINTS

- We will continue to examine CRA data and keep in contact with community groups and other interested parties to determine the extent to which our efforts to strengthen and enforce the CRA are succeeding, and we are anxious to hear from the fullest possible range of sources on this question.
- The Administration requested \$125 million for CDFI in FY 1999, which would permit the Fund to enhance its support for community development banks and venture capital funds, microenterprise funds and other like-minded institutions. The House VA-HUD bill provides \$80 million for the CDFI Fund in FY 1999, the Senate bill just \$55 million. I will urge the conferees to come closer to our budget request.
- The Congressional majority to date has also failed to provide the flexible grant funding essential to the success of the second-round empowerment zones and also has not fully funded EPA and HUD brownfields remediation and redevelopment programs.

CENSUS

BACKGROUND

The 1990 Census was the first census in history to be less accurate than its predecessor. The 2000 plan was drafted after Congress directed the Bureau to come up with a plan that corrected the significant problem of inaccuracy. The Census Bureau's plan to supplement the count with scientific methods (sampling) has been endorsed by the nation's leading statistical associations including, the National Academy of Sciences, the American Statistical Association and the American Sociological Association. Sampling is a proven method -- scientists and mathematicians utilize sampling for a wide variety of purposes, including medical studies, industrial quality control, and social research. The National Research Council recommended that after a good-faith effort to count everyone, sampling should be used to estimate the number and characteristics of the remaining non-respondents in the 2000 Census. The Administration agrees that this is the way to achieve fairness and accuracy.

TALKING POINTS

- Our goal is the most accurate and fair census. Because the census is so important, we must do everything we can to ensure that everyone is included in the count. We know that previous censuses overlooked millions of Americans, especially children and minorities. That's not fair, it's not accurate, and it's not acceptable. We are determined to do better.
- Any prohibition on the best method to count all Americans -- a method that has the support of the vast majority of the experts in the field -- is unacceptable.
- In 1990, about 4.5 percent of African Americans were not counted. In Los Angeles County alone, nearly 40,000 African American children were left out. This has enormous consequences for how we distribute the bounty of America, for how we draw our political distinctions, for the policies that we follow. This is a fundamental issue. This is a civil rights issue.

AFRICA TRADE

BACKGROUND

The African Growth and Opportunity Act, H.R. 1432 was introduced in the House of Representatives on April 24, 1997, and was referred to the House Committees on International Relations, Ways and Means and Banking and Financial Services. This legislation authorizes a new trade and investment policy for sub-Saharan Africa and is designed to encourage increased trade and economic cooperation between the United States and the sub-Saharan Africa countries as a way to help those countries that are committed to accountable government and economic reform. The Committees on International Relations and Ways and Means each reported the bill on March 2, 1998. The Banking and Financial Services Committee was discharged of the bill on March 2, 1998. The bill was passed by the House on March 11, 1998, by a vote of 233-186.

The Senate Finance Committee held a hearing on U.S. - African trade relations generally, and H.R. 1432 specifically, on June 17, 1998. Subsequent to this hearing, the Senate Finance Committee considered its version (S 778) of the Africa Trade Bill on Tuesday, July 21. The bill passed the Senate by a vote of 11-1. Under an agreement reached between Majority Leader Lott (R-MS), Finance Chair William Roth (R-DE), and Foreign Relations Committee Chair Jesse Helms (R-NC), the Senate Foreign Relations Committee had to consider the bill within 30 days or the bill would automatically be discharged. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee discharged the bill without action.

Senators Lott, Roth, Breaux and Moynihan expressed concerns about "CBI parity", i.e., that textiles are not treated in the same manner in this bill as with the Caribbean Based Initiatives (CBI). Because the textiles provisions of the bill could not be satisfactorily resolved by the Senate, the bill was never taken to the floor and is currently held up in the Senate. Senator Lott has threatened to include the Africa Trade Bill in an omnibus trade bill with Fast Track, CBI, GSP, ship building, and TAA. We do not think an Omnibus Trade Bill can pass the Senate with Fast Track attached.

TALKING POINTS

- I remain committed to passage of the Africa trade bill in this legislative session. This bill allows us to support the people of Africa, while increasing trade and investment with the region's emerging markets.
- The Africa trade bill helps American business and workers by enhancing trade opportunities in Africa and ensuring that we do not cede important markets in Africa to others.

WELFARE TO WORK

Like many opponents of the welfare law, members of the Black Caucus have expressed concerns about whether adequate training and child care will be available to help individuals move from welfare to work, and they have underscored the importance of monitoring welfare reform carefully. You should stress three points 1) you have fought for and won additional targeted funding for jobs, training, and services to ensure all welfare recipients -- particularly those living in the poorest areas -- can move from welfare to work; 2) you've used your influence to create jobs for welfare recipients in both the private and public sector; and 3) your Administration is holding states accountable for results and monitoring welfare reform carefully through independent research efforts. If asked about recent reports that African American and Hispanic families are leaving welfare more slowly than whites, we suggest you say you have directed your Administration to analyze these trends, their possible causes, and what initiatives if any may be needed.

TALKING POINTS

- **I have fought for funding for jobs, training, and services to ensure all welfare recipients -- particularly those living in the poorest areas -- can move from welfare to work.**
- I fought for and won a \$3 billion Welfare-to-Work fund in the Balanced Budget Act last year to help long-term recipients living in high poverty areas, and the fathers of their children, obtain the skills they need to get jobs and move up a career ladder. Secretary Alexis Herman is overseeing the successful administration of this new program.
- I have urged every Governor to reinvest TANF resources from falling caseloads into training, child care, transportation and other supports to help even more people get and keep jobs, and a new GAO study shows many states are doing so.
- The welfare reform law provided \$4 billion more funding for child care. We know we must do more, so last January we launched a \$21 billion initiative to help working families pay for child care, build the supply of good after-school programs, improve the safety and quality of care, and promote early learning. We will continue to fight for this critical investment in our children.
- I fought for and obtained welfare to work transportation funds in the TEA-21 transportation reauthorization bill. The law guarantees \$50 million this coming year, and we're urging the appropriators to provide a total of \$100 million.
- I've proposed funding for 50,000 new welfare-to-work housing vouchers to provide families with stable, affordable housing to help them get or keep a job. So far, the House has funded about 18,000 vouchers and the Senate has funded about 8,000, and we're fighting hard to increase those numbers.

- **I've used my influence to create jobs for welfare recipients.**
- Over 6,500 private sector employers have joined the Welfare to Work Partnership that we launched to lead the national business effort to hire people from the welfare rolls and in 1997 these businesses hired 135,000 welfare recipients. The Small Business Administration is also helping small firms obtain job-ready welfare recipients and is providing loans to help welfare recipients start their own businesses.
- The federal government, the nation's largest employer, is doing its share and has already hired nearly 6,200 recipients including seven at the White House. We're also asking federal contractors to join us in this effort.
- The new Welfare to Work Tax Credit, which I proposed in 1997 and which was enacted in the Balanced Budget Act, encourages the hiring and retention of long term welfare recipients. This new credit complements the Work Opportunity Tax Credit, which as Chairman Rangel knows, we need to extend so it can help even more disadvantaged applicants get jobs.
- Civic and faith-based groups have risen to the challenge and under the leadership of the Vice President's Welfare to Work Coalition to Sustain Success, are helping former welfare recipients succeed in the workforce.
- **I am monitoring welfare reform carefully.**
- We are holding states accountable by rewarding those that have the most success in helping people to get jobs and succeed in the workforce and penalizing those that fail to move people into jobs or activities that will help prepare them for work.
- We are funding independent research and evaluation efforts, including efforts to track outcomes for families leaving the welfare rolls, effects on welfare recipients with special needs (e.g., disabilities, substance abuse problems, immigrants), and are tracking outcomes for children.
- We are analyzing effects of welfare reform on minority families. We are analyzing data to determine whether minority families are leaving the welfare rolls more slowly than white families, what the possible causes may be, and what more we can do to help. Some of our initiatives already underway should help. For example we know that minorities on welfare are more likely to live in areas with fewer jobs. Our welfare-to-work transportation and housing vouchers will help people get to where the jobs are and our initiatives to spur economic development in distressed communities through our Community Empowerment fund, Community Development Financial Institutions, and a second round of Empowerment Zones, will help create jobs in these communities.

DRUGS

BACKGROUND

Republicans intend to make the drug issue a major plank in their pre-election legislative push. On September 16, 1998, the House passed HR 4300 (384-39), which proposes to reduce the flow of illegal drugs into the US by 80 percent over the next three years. The bill carries a \$2.4 billion price tag, but does not specify any source for such funding. Anti-drug activities under the bill include: interdiction, law enforcement, and US activities in countries where illegal drugs are produced.

General McCaffrey has sharply criticized this legislation, stating:

- that its goal of reducing of a three year 80 percent in the flow of illegal drugs into the US is completely unrealistic;
- that the specific legislative enhancements proposed in the bill are not tied to a coherent strategy;
- that the bill's proposed authorizations far exceed expected appropriations and the President's budget; and
- the bill represents micromanagement of anti-drug tactics based on a shallow analysis of the problem and the available tools.

Members of the CBC, while generally supportive of the ONDCP's efforts have raised several concerns about our efforts. For example, Congressman Rangel believes that the President should use the bully pulpit more in the war against drugs. Some members of the CBC have raised concerns about the Administration's anti-drug media campaign because they believe better targeting of minority-owned media outlets should be occurring.

TALKING POINTS

Drug prevention and education. Preventing youth drug use and educating our children about the harms of drugs is the top priority of our National Drug Control Strategy.

Making sure kids get the message on drugs. This summer, we took our \$195 million youth anti-drug media campaign nationwide. I understand ONDCP and the CBC have been discussing ways to better target the message.

Giving kids adult supervision in the after school hours. We have sought a major increase in funding for after school programs to (\$200 million per year) to make sure that responsible adults are watching kids during unsupervised hours when children are more likely to engage in at-risk behaviors.

Drug testing and treatment for offenders. This Administration has sought a new approach to demand greater accountability from offenders in the criminal justice system through increased drug testing and treatment.

Coerced abstinence throughout the criminal justice system. This Administration has promoted coerced abstinence --a rigorous program of drug testing, sanctions, and treatment for prisoners, parolees and probationers. In addition to adding funds in our budget to accomplish this goal, we have repeatedly called on Congress to allow States to use their prison construction grants for this effort.

Drug Courts. Through the 1994 Crime Bill, we have helped to expand drug courts --which have grown from a handful to more than 400 today. A recent study concluded that drug courts provide more frequent drug testing, and closer supervision than other forms of community supervision.



'98 SEP 23 PM2:18

9125198

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

Dear President Clinton,

We are writing to express our concern over Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) emissions and ozone transport surrounding this regulator, on Michigan's and other midwest states. Michigan will be out of compliance with the new 8-hour ozone standard. Of these counties are in western Michigan where ozone transport from Wisconsin, Illinois, and Indiana contribute significantly to Michigan's dirty air. If this initiative is implemented, transport into Michigan will be dramatically reduced. Reductions in NOx emissions will help Michigan by reducing ozone (smog), particulates and haze, and acid deposition. These reductions lead to improved health of Michigan residents and improved yields for Michigan agriculture.

Leading the charge to stop EPA from implementing this proposal are Michigan Governor John Engler and other governors from the midwest. These governors are actively doing the political dirty work for the coal industry and the utilities, like those in Michigan, that are addicted to coal. Coal-fired power plants, like many plants in Michigan, are exempt from most of the requirements of the Clean Air Act. This is why Detroit Edison is fighting tooth and nail to re-open Conners Creek, a grandfathered coal-fired powerplant that has 1970's emission controls and hasn't operated for 10 years. If Detroit Edison gets its way, this plant will be re-opened without having to meet the NOx emission standards for new power plants. Using power plants which do not meet the clean air standards of today will allow Detroit Edison a cost advantage in the soon-to-be-deregulated electric utility market. Detroit Edison can then cost-effectively pollute Michigan and sell its electricity to other regions of the country.

The governors claim the EPA plan will result in brownouts or it will force utilities to operate in violation of federal law. While brownouts are looming on our horizon in Michigan, it is not due to the proposed EPA regulations; it is due to the arrogance of the private utilities and their maneuverings to maintain a stranglehold on the market once electricity generation is deregulated. Detroit Edison has fought to keep its market closed, stopped investing in energy efficiency, and claims that no additional generating capacity is needed, even though the Michigan Public Service Commission estimates Detroit Edison needs an additional 570 megawatts of generating capacity in 1999. Brownouts are on the horizon, but it is not due to this rule.

Michigan Environmental Council, A Coalition of Organizations Protecting Michigan's People and the Environment

119 Pere Marquette Dr. • Suite 2A • Lansing, MI 48912 • (517) 487-9539 • FAX (517) 487-9541 • mec@voyager.net

We urge you to assure that the EPA rule on NOx emissions and ozone transport goes into effect in its current form. Coal-fired powerplants are a cost-effective source from which NOx emission reductions can be achieved. These reductions will benefit Michigan and all other midwest states.

Sincerely,

Friends of the Jordan River

Michigan Ecumenical Consultation on Christianity and Ecology

Michigan Environmental Council

Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council

PIRGIM

Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter