

Saturday, October 17, 1998

20

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Alan Lewis
FYI -
DOTY
PL

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
10-17-98

Clinton
Attached
for member
disability
10/17
allergy
good



Minyon Moore
10/16/98 09:17:15 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Betty W. Currie/WHO/EOP, Nancy V. Hernreidl
cc:
Subject: FYI fwd

fyi

----- Forwarded by Minyon Moore/WHO/EOP on -----

Phil -
Should we send to
Burke for reply?
Yes - No -
Burke
cc - Alan Lewis
cp



Jonathan M. Young
10/15/98 11:17:57 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Minyon Moore/WHO/EOP
cc: Andrew J. Mayock/WHO/EOP
Subject: FYI fwd

I thought you might like to see this article of support for Clinton in the disability community. Quite a cogent article. Has been or will be posted on Fred Fay's Justice For All website.

Jonathan

----- Forwarded by Jonathan M. Young/WHO/EOP on 10/15/98 11:15 PM -----



PHYLLIS D ZLOTNICK <pzlotnick @ earthlink.net>
10/14/98 10:10:08 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message
cc:
Subject: FYI fwd

A supporter is
threatened

Sunday, October 11, 1998

By RICHARD EPSTEIN

I don't usually write about politics. To some extent, though, I guess it's inescapable, since disability rights issues are essentially political in nature.

Whether we're dealing with the availability of health insurance coverage, accessible public transportation, changes in Medicare and Medicaid rules, funding for attendant care, or the enforcement of civil rights laws, the fact is that success often depends on political support and government funding.

Given the congressional plan to begin hearings on the possibility of impeaching President Clinton -- in my opinion, one of the strongest supporters of disability rights this country has ever had -- I think this is one of those times when a discussion of politics is essential.

Interestingly, disability-related issues have not generally been partisan in nature. When George Bush, a Republican, was in the White House, he was a strong supporter of the Americans With Disabilities Act, the most far-reaching civil rights act for people with disabilities ever passed in America.

Over the past six years, with the White House under the leadership of Bill Clinton, a Democrat, there has been strong administrative support for a wide variety of disability-related issues.

Since Clinton has been president, for example, there has been government support for the development of new educational opportunities for people with disabilities, changes in Medicare, and the development of new health insurance regulations that would provide additional coverage for disability-related needs.

The president also has strongly supported the full enforcement of civil rights laws for the disabled, new waivers for Medicaid home- and community-based services, and laws such as the National Voter Registration Act and the Telecommunications Reform Act that have significantly increased accessibility.

The recent formation of the President's Committee on the Employment of Adults with Disabilities represents clear evidence of Clinton's commitment to full employment for people with disabilities. In addition, he has appointed a number of people with disabilities to high positions in the federal government.

Although it's difficult to change government policies, the focus of the Clinton administration has clearly

been on jobs, not welfare; on health insurance, not government handouts; on dignity and equality for individuals with disabilities, not on second-class citizenship.

That's why the possibility of impeachment is such a vital concern for the disability community. If Clinton were to be removed from office, or if his influence were to be significantly diminished, we might see a profound change in federal policies, including those that directly affect the lives of people with disabilities.

Perhaps the greatest irony in this situation is that the investigation into Clinton's behavior -- most of which is private behavior that has had no direct effect on government activities -- now has cost the taxpayers more than \$40 million, and the costs are still climbing.

That money is being spent at a time when the government is desperately searching for funds to pay for new health insurance programs, accessible transportation, and a new system of attendant care for individuals with disabilities.

It's my strong belief that the disability community cannot afford to lose the backing of such a strong supporter of disability rights. Thus, at this point, I think it's essential that individuals with disabilities and their friends and supporters write to their congressional representatives and let them know their feelings about Clinton and the potential effects of his impeachment.

Write to Richard Epstein in care of The Record's Living section, 150 River St., Hackensack, N.J. 07601. Send e-mail to him at newsroom@bergen.com, or fax questions to (201) 646-4135. Answers will appear only in this column.

Message Sent To:

Dorismatsui

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

10/17

October 16, 1998

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

10-17-98

Phil-

Should we send to
Burkhardt for reply?

yes ☒ No ☐

cp

That after six years, I am resigning, with mixed
sentiment to the President and Deputy Director of Public
Liaison, but expect to be leaving the White House
after I have accepted an offer from the Washington-based law
firm of [redacted] as Senior Advisor and Director of Public Policy and Federal
Relations.

Please know that I am very proud to have been a member of your administration. I was
honored when you first chose me to serve on your Presidential Transition Board in 1992, and was
privileged to be part of your senior management team here at the White House when you asked
me to serve as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of Public Liaison. Because
of your faith in me, I have been able to assist in public policy initiatives of tremendous importance
to our nation, including the 1993 economic plan, NAFTA, education, health care and children's
issues. I was also proud to accompany you on several official trips abroad on behalf of the
country, and assist you in seeking and appointing the highest caliber of appointees to serve at all
levels in your administration.

Although I will soon be a private citizen, I fully intend to express my support for you and
your accomplishments. I promise to stay in touch with you and the First Lady.

With the highest personal regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

Doris

Doris Matsui

Mr. President