



NATE HOLDEN
COUNCILMAN
TENTH DISTRICT

CITY HALL OFFICE:
200 N. MAIN ST.
CITY HALL, ROOM 403
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
TEL: (213) 485-3323
FAX: (213) 485-9829

December 24, 1998

City Council
of the
City of Los Angeles
City Hall
90012

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

DETERMINED TO BE AN ADMINISTRATIVE

MARKING INITIALS: MS DATE: 3/16/22

2019-0803-5

COMMITTEES:
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INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

VICE-CHAIRMAN
ARTS, HEALTH & HUMANITIES

MEMBER
PERSONNEL

FIELD OFFICE:
5651 W. PICO BLVD.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90019
TEL: (213) 237-1752
FAX: (213) 346-7337

99 JAN 7 PM 2:39

Honorable Bill Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D. C. 20200

Dear Mr. President

We are all so proud of you and Mrs. Clinton. Hang tough! The American people love you as the polls indicate. Everywhere I go, Republicans and Democrats alike are saying Congress is wrong!

As you may recall when they first began to attack you, I suggested that you ignore your accusers and take your fight directly to the American people, look them straight in the eye and they will support you. You did just that and the American people are on your side.

The historians who will write about how you were impeached by the 105th Congress will clearly, in all fairness, show that it was not against you but the fault of that stupid and idiotic 105th Congress. History will show then how they were the worst hypocrites to have ever served.

Stand tall, don't give an inch, and as my mother would say, "don't take any wooden nickels" and you will come out on top.

Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,

NATE HOLDEN
Councilman, Tenth District
City of Los Angeles

NH:dtb

1-7-99

Send to Benkhart?

Yes ☒
No ☐



FAX TRANSMISSION

NATE HOLDEN

COUNCILMAN - TENTH DISTRICT

200 North Main Street, #403

LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

(213) 485-3323

FAX: (213) 485-9829

TO: Ms. Betty Currie **DATE:** 12/24/98
Secretary to the President
FAX: (202) 456-12101 **PAGES:** , INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET.
456-2883
FROM: Councilman Nate Holden

SUBJECT: _____

COMMENTS: _____

99 JAN 7 AM 9:58

EV RENTAL CARS

775 Airport Road

Los Angeles, CA 90045

Office: 310.642.4530

Fax: 310.410.9502

E-mail: info@evrental.com

For Reservations:

1.877.EV-RENTAL

November 2, 1998

The Honorable William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

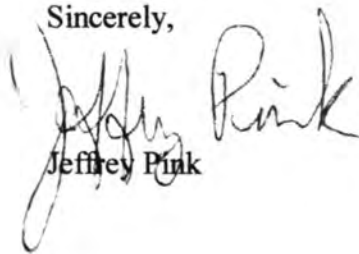
Dear Mr. President:

It was a real pleasure meeting with you at the fundraiser for Senator Barbara Boxer at the home of Jim and Holly Brooks last Saturday. Fresh from your historic achievement in brokering an agreement between the Israelis and Palestinians, I congratulate you on your skilled and evenhanded diplomacy. I share Senator Boxer's sentiment when she exclaimed, "I could not be more proud, Mr. President, of what you have done." It's impressive that all of the leaders of the parties involved have high praise for you as a "warrior for peace."

I welcome that same leadership and forward thinking as I open the very first rental car company in the United States for electric and hybrid vehicles, EV Rental Cars, at Los Angeles Airport early next month. Protecting the environment for ourselves, our children, and our grandchildren has consistently remained a theme of your Presidency. As we enter the 21st century, I stand with you, proud of America's reputation as a nation for peace and confident of her ability to lead the world on environmental issues so vital to our future.

My warm regards,

Sincerely,


Jeffrey Pink

1/7/99
Send to Benkhart
for reply?

Yes ☒

No ☐

C


RENTAL

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date

1/7

To:

Todd

From:

The Staff Secretary

Any comment on this?

Also, do you want to include
any sort of briefing memo for the
trip?

Phil

cc: David Goodfriend



99 JAN 7 AM 10:46

The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: BILL RICHARDSON

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "BR", is written over the name "BILL RICHARDSON".

DATE: JANUARY 6, 1999

SUBJECT: INFORMATION: Meetings with Big Three Automakers

In light of your upcoming visit to Detroit, I wanted to share with you the highlights of my meetings yesterday at the Detroit Auto Show with Bob Eaton of DaimlerChrysler, Jacques (Jack) Nasser of Ford, and Jack Smith of General Motors. All three CEOs praised our industry-government Partnership for a New Generation of Vehicles (PNGV), particularly the joint technology work on fuel cell, hybrid, and electric vehicles featured at the show. In separate meetings we discussed several issues that are key to future progress on high-efficiency, low-emission vehicles:

- The effect of Chrysler's merger with Daimler-Benz on the future of PNGV. Ford and GM are concerned about how access to technology will be controlled with foreign ownership of Chrysler. They are trying to reach consensus with DaimlerChrysler on this issue over the next few weeks. If they do not, we will consider, with Secretary Daley, how we might intervene.
- The upcoming EPA decisions on tailpipe emissions and sulfur in gasoline. The CEOs are urging EPA to adopt tailpipe standards that do not preclude use of clean diesel engines and that allow for continued production of sport utility vehicles. They also advocate EPA standards that will dramatically reduce sulfur in gasoline. You should be aware that most domestic refiners are opposed to rapid imposition of low-sulphur standards (within 5 or 6 years) and have expressed concerns about the cost and capacity impacts of the proposed rule. We are working with EPA to be sure they have the latest data on diesel engine emissions and fuel formulations.



Printed on recycled paper

- Tax incentives for advanced vehicles. Last year the Big Three did not support our proposed climate change tax incentive for high-mileage vehicles. They prefer tax incentives that are linked to advanced technologies (e.g. fuel cell and electric vehicles) instead of being tied to specific fuel economy levels. Your staff, with input from Treasury, DOE and EPA, is working on a potential compromise approach for announcement with the FY 2000 Budget.

Of course, at the top of the CEOs agenda were the eye-popping new models – when you visit the show don't miss the updated versions of the T-Bird, GTO and Charger!

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date

1/7/19

To:

SALLY KATZEN

From:

The Staff Secretary (GOODFRIEND)

Sally —

The "regulatory reform" talking points in this briefing deserve your attention. (This will go in POTUS' Detroit trip briefing book).

Comments?

-David



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

99 JAN 6 PM 5:37

January 6, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: GEORGE T. FRAMPTON, JR. *GTF*

SUBJECT: DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

National Town Meeting for a Sustainable America

The President's Council on Sustainable Development is sponsoring a "National Town Meeting for a Sustainable America" from May 2 to May 5, 1999. The hub event will be held in Detroit, with concurrent events to be held simultaneously in communities across the nation. The National Town Meeting will celebrate and foster innovative practices in business, in government, and in communities to produce economic prosperity and a high quality of life for all Americans. The Detroit host committee for the event is co-chaired by Mayor Dennis Archer, Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara, and General Motors Vice Chairman Harry Pearce.

Detroit River

You designated the Detroit River as an American Heritage River on July 30. Detroit Mayor Archer, Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara and Strohs Brewery President Peter Stroh nominated the Detroit River and see its designation as the centerpiece of economic activity in the Detroit area for the next five years. They have identified many projects to undertake as part of the designation, including channel dredging (to attract additional industries), restoration of natural areas, and preservation of historic structures. Peter Stroh also agreed to serve as the interim chair of the American Heritage Rivers Alliance, a nonprofit organization formed to help the designated rivers attract private sector donations.

Environmental Justice

Mayor Archer, urban developers, and the *Detroit Free Press* have been highly critical of EPA policies on environmental justice. They have called on EPA to withdraw an interim EPA guidance on the application of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (which bars discrimination in federally funded programs) to environmental permitting programs. EPA's critics assert that this guidance will encourage frivolous challenges to development proposals in distressed minority communities, and that this prospect will steer investment away from urban areas. These concerns were heightened when community groups presented a Title VI challenge to a permit for a proposed Select Steel mini-mill near Flint.

In October, EPA dismissed the Title VI complaint, assuring that the Select Steel plant will proceed and easing concerns about the agency's Title VI policies. Administrator Browner has worked with Mayor Archer and has convened an advisory committee to propose a revised approach to the Title VI issue. The advisory committee includes some of the harshest critics of the current guidance, and its report is expected in March.

If asked about this issue, you should say:

- Environmental protection has been an essential component of our efforts to bring new investment, development, and jobs in low-income, minority, and other economically distressed communities. EPA is working with Mayor Archer and other urban leaders to ensure that its Title VI policies contribute to that effort by making the rules clearer, by identifying and addressing community concerns early, and thereby avoiding the uncertainty generated by Title VI complaints and litigation.

Regulatory Reform

GM Chairman Jack Smith and other members of the Business Roundtable have had a strong interest in a number of regulatory reform proposals pending in the Congress. Most recently, these efforts have focused on S.981, the regulatory reform bill co-sponsored by Senators Levin and Thompson in the 105th Congress. Although more moderate than many past regulatory reform proposals, this bill has been strongly opposed by labor, environmental, consumer, and other public interest groups. While the Administration initially opposed this bill, Senator Levin met with Vice President Gore to enlist our support. As a result, we negotiated a proposed set of changes that would render the bill acceptable to the Administration.

If asked about this issue, you should say:

- This Administration has consistently supported responsible regulatory reform, and I have proposed and signed a number of major regulatory reform proposals providing small business relief, paperwork reduction, and reforms tailored to particular statutes.
- In general, our priority has been to develop and enact reforms tailored to specific programs and statutes, rather than omnibus regulatory reform proposals. We have been successful in our efforts to enact responsible reforms tailored to the FDA, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and other major programs that reduce costs for the regulated community without compromising protection of the public. Unfortunately, many of the across-board proposals would have the effect, whether intended or unintended, of compromising standards for the protection of human health, worker safety, or the environment.
- At the end of the last Congress, however, Senator Levin worked closely with Vice President Gore on a set of changes to his regulatory reform bill that would address our concerns and make his bill acceptable to us. Although the Senate leadership did not bring the Levin-Thompson bill to the Senate floor, we are grateful to Senator Levin for working with us to find that middle ground.

FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.

A REGISTERED LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP

99 JAN 7 AM 11:26

666 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10103-3198
FAX: (212) 752-5958

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

PLEASE TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING PAGES TO:

NAME: ATTENTION: PHIL CAPLAN To: President William J. Clinton
COMPANY/FIRM
(LOCATION): White House
FACSIMILE
NUMBER: 202-456-2215
VOICE PHONE: 202-456-1414

From:	William Bush	Phone No.:	212-318-3307	Total No. of Pages Sent:	(Including Cover Sheet)	3
Date:	January 7, 1999	User No.:	05845	Flr:	31	Matter No.:
Return Transmitted Fax To:			Donna M. Sepulveda	Internet:	wbush@fulbright.com	
Re:						
REMARKS: URGENT - This facsimile was sent on Monday January 4, 1999 to 202-456-2461 which may have been the wrong number. With such short notice, if possible, we would greatly appreciate hearing from you.						
1/7/99 Phil - came in over fax - Send to Burkhardt? Yes ☒ No ☐ If you experience problems with this transmission or have any questions, please call (212) 752-5958. CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: Unless otherwise indicated, the information contained in this facsimile message is attorney privileged and confidential. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or disclosure of this information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify the sender by return facsimile or telephone and delete the message from your system. Thank you. Don - would be nice to try and assist - Phil formation of or entity it to the prohibited. original Thank you.						

FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.

A REGISTERED LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP

666 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10103-3198

TELEPHONE: 212/318-3000
FACSIMILE: 212/752-5958

WILLIAM BUSH
PARTNER

INTERNET ADDRESS:
wbush@fulbright.com

DIRECT DIAL: 212/318-3307

HOUSTON
WASHINGTON, D.C.
AUSTIN
SAN ANTONIO
DALLAS
NEW YORK
LOS ANGELES
LONDON
HONG KONG

January 4, 1999

VIA FACSIMILE

President William J. Clinton
White House

Dear President Clinton:

I am a member of the Board of Trustees of the Bertram F. and Corella A. Bonner Foundation, an operating charitable foundation based in Princeton, New Jersey. The Foundation was founded and funded by Mr. and Mrs. Bertram F. Bonner. The principal activity of the Foundation is a college scholarship program known as The Bonner Scholars Program. The Program provides approximately 2,000 college scholarships each year at over 17 colleges and universities located primarily in the Appalachian area of the South. The concept of the Program is to provide financial assistance to qualifying students in exchange for community service. The Foundation embodies many of the ideals which you and Mrs. Clinton have espoused throughout your presidency. Obviously it is similar to the Americorps concept and in fact the Foundation has received an Americorps grant for its Americorps Bonner Leaders Program.

Mr. Bonner died several years ago. Since his death, the Foundation has been actively chaired and guided by his widow Corella A. Bonner - "Billie" Bonner to her friends.

On Saturday evening Mrs. Bonner will be celebrating her 90th birthday with her family, the trustees and employees of the Foundation and many of the college and university presidents of the "Bonner Schools." As is consistent with her style and graciousness Mrs. Bonner has insisted on no gifts for herself.

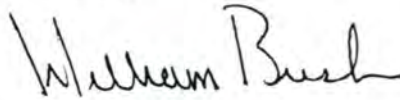
In my career I have encountered few people as committed as Mrs. Bonner to helping people in need. I know it is late but I would be most pleased if I could deliver a few words from you on the

January 4, 1999
Page 2

occasion of Mrs. Bonner's birthday celebration. She is most deserving and I'm sure she would be thrilled.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Bush". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

William Bush

WB/dms

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

1-8-99

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20502

January 7, 1999

99 copied
Blank
Podesta

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: REBECCA M. BLANK *RMB*

SUBJECT: Employment and Unemployment in December, Labor Department
Release, Friday, 8:30 a.m.

The unemployment rate dropped 0.1 percentage point in December to 4.3 percent. The market had expected a slight increase.

- For the year as a whole, the unemployment rates for blacks (8.9 percent) and Hispanics (7.2 percent) were the lowest since these series were first recorded in 1972 and 1973.

Nonfarm payroll employment rose 378,000 in December, well above market expectations.

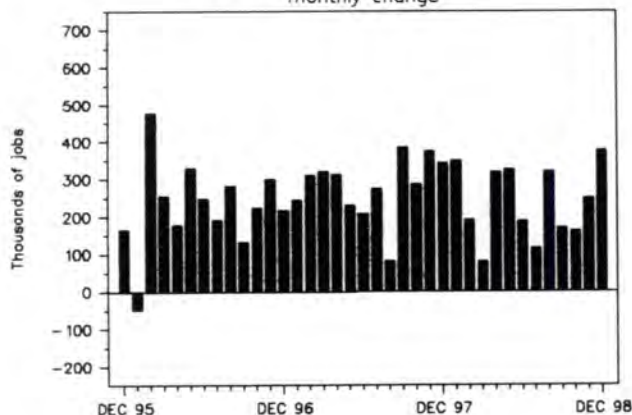
Payroll employment has increased 17.7 million since January 1993, with 16.3 million of these jobs in the private sector.

- The December job gains were particularly large in construction and the service-producing industries. The 104,000 increase in construction jobs probably reflects both the recent strength in housing starts as well as unseasonably warm weather in early December. Manufacturing jobs fell 13,000 in December and have fallen 272,000 since March.
- Over the year, job gains were particularly strong in mortgage banking, computer services, and management and public relations. These three industries comprise only 2¼ percent of total employment but accounted for 12½ percent of job growth.

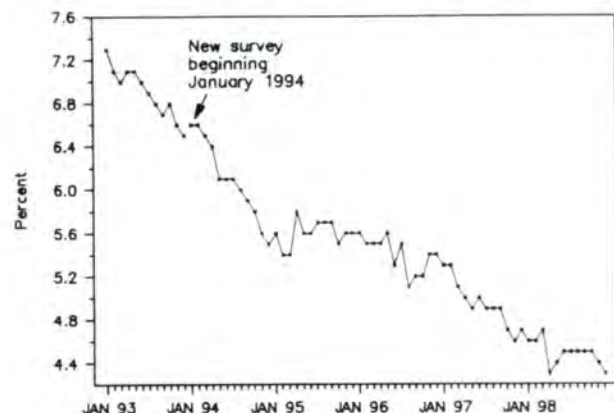
Average hourly earnings of production workers rose 0.4 percent in December, a bit above market expectations. This wage measure increased 3.8 percent during 1998, about the same as during the 2 previous years.

The December labor-market news is very favorable, with strong job growth (except in manufacturing), a drop in unemployment, and moderate wage gains. These figures--together with incomplete spending data--point to a growth rate of real GDP of 3 to 4 percent at an annual rate in the fourth quarter.

NONFARM PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT
monthly change



CIVILIAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



for
for
12/29

Nancy —

The author of the
enclosed letter is a great
admirer of the President and
a heavy hitter in Singapore.

If your staff could
draft a response back to
him it would be

appreciated. Thanks —

Tim

NH —

I thought EB
but wasn't sure
since POTUS doesn't
know...

Send to Burkhardt?

Yes ☒

No ☐

1-7-99



HIND HOTELS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

Owners of Imperial Hotel Singapore. Incorporated in Singapore

99 JAN 7 PM 4:06

Chhanuial Jhunjnuwala

Chairman & Managing Director

24 December 1998

President William J Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington D C
U S A

Dear Mr. President

Greetings from me and my wife for the Merry Christmas and New Year to you and your family.

I appreciate your bold stand on Iraq which shows your concern and determination for crushing the evil forces which acts against human and peace. The strain and stress you have undergone these days will be over and you will be victorious in the hearts of the people. From the recent public opinion poll it is evident that the people long to see you as their leader. It is a very good sign for the future. I am very confident that you will win in any case and you will continue to be the President for the rest of the term. I also pray for the same. I discussed with about 100 people in all walks of life and 95% of them appreciated your performance and wish that you should stay as the President.

I was very eager to meet you in Kuala Lumpur, if you had been there to attend the APEC meeting but unfortunately you had to cancel the trip. I am eagerly waiting for an opportunity to meet you which ever time and place suitable to you.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely

C Lal Jhunjnuwala

99 JAN 7 PM 5:25

14747 Statler Drive
Woodbridge, VA 22193
Tel: (703) 670-9633
January 5, 1999

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500-0001

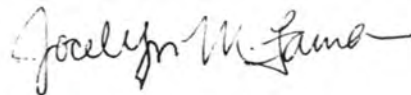
Dear Mr. President:

I am a senior at C. D. Hylton Senior High School, 14051 Spriggs Road, Woodbridge, VA 22193 which is in Prince William County. The past three years, I have managed the Varsity Football Team. This year, my football team went 14-0 throughout the season. Last December 5, 1998, our school team went to the State Championship game at Norfolk State University. We played against Varina High School, and we won our first state championship for our school in football Group AAA Division 6 in the State of Virginia. It will always be a memorable moment to me because I have dedicated my years in high school contributing my help towards our football, basketball, and soccer teams.

Mr. President, it would be a great honor if you can meet my Varsity Football Team and congratulate them on their perfect season. I was hoping that in your busy schedule during the holiday season and now, your preparation of your State of the Nation Address, if you could fit an hour or so of your time into meeting the football team and the coaching staff of C. D. Hylton High School.

Thank you very much and I hope to hear from you soon.

Respectfully yours,



JOCELYN M. FAMA

1-7-99

Betty brought this down.
This girl's father,
Joe Fama, is one of
the valets. Betty asks
that we try to do
something, even if a
meeting is impossible.
B

To Burkhardt
for nice
reply

99 JAN 8 AM 11:11

UNITED STATES SENATOR JOHN BREAU

Facsimile Transmission

TO: President Clinton

FROM: Sen. Breaux

FAX NUMBER TRANSMITTED TO: 456-1210

DATE: _____ TIME: _____

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET: 3

RE: _____

PLEASE DELIVER THIS INFO

UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON
(202)

1-8-99
Send to Legislative
Affairs -

Yes ☒ _____
No ☐ _____

LE

JOHN BREAU
LOUISIANA

MINORITY
CHIEF DEPUTY WHIP

COMMITTEES:

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION

FINANCE

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

WASHINGTON OFFICE
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TDD (202) 224-1986

senator@breau.senate.gov
http://www.senate.gov/~breau

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1803

January 7, 1999

STATE OFFICES:

ONE AMERICAN PLACE, SUITE 2030
BATON ROUGE, LA 70825
(504) 382-2050

THE FEDERAL BUILDING
705 JEFFERSON STREET, ROOM 103
LAFAYETTE, LA 70501
(318) 262-6871

WASHINGTON SQUARE ANNEX BUILDING
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MONROE, LA 71201
(318) 325-3320

HALE BOGGS FEDERAL BUILDING
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NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130
(504) 589-2531

CENTRAL LOUISIANA
(318) 487-8445

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

99 JAN 8 AM 11:19

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to you in response to your recent announcement authorizing additional steps to connect the citizens of our country with the people of Cuba. Specifically, I am requesting that the New Orleans International Airport be named as an additional designated "port" of travel between the United States and Cuba.

It is my understanding that you have recently authorized charter flights to cities in Cuba other than Havana, and from some cities in the United States other than Miami. I have received numerous requests from government officials and constituent businesses in Louisiana urging me to help in securing this designation for New Orleans, and I can state without reservation that New Orleans is an ideal host city for charter flights to Cuba.

As you are probably aware, there are substantial, long-standing ties between New Orleans and Havana. Culturally, New Orleans is a city that is much more "Caribbean" than it is "Southern." When New Orleans was under Spanish rule, its colonial governor was located in Havana, and New Orleans founder, D'Iberville, is buried there. There are a large number of Spanish, African, and Creole peoples in New Orleans and Havana, and their presence has influenced the culture of both cities in similar ways. One need only look at the similarities in architecture, music, and cuisine to see that Havana has more in common with New Orleans than it does with most U.S. cities.

In addition to these strong cultural similarities, there are also strong academic ties between New Orleans and Havana. Tulane University's Cuban Studies Institute offers a summer study program in Havana. This "Summer in Cuba Program" is the first undergraduate program ever nationally offered by the American Center for Latin American Studies. In the summer of 1998, the program offered a wider array of courses than any such university-sponsored program in the U.S., and had the largest number of students of any such program. In addition to this program, the Tulane Cuban Studies

Institute participates in many cultural exchange programs. In fact, the Institute received permission this week for 62 individuals to travel to Havana for New Orleans photography exhibit given in conjunction with the Office of Extension at the University of Havana.

New Orleans is roughly two hours away from Havana by plane. This close geographic proximity to Cuba coupled with New Orleans' location in the central gulf coast region makes it an ideal location to facilitate travel from the central and western U.S. Moreover, New Orleans could easily handle any overflow travelers outside of South Florida. The New Orleans International Airport has all the facilities and accommodations to host flights to and from Cuba.

I believe that New Orleans is uniquely qualified to host direct Cuban charter flights, and I urge you to give serious consideration to New Orleans International Airport as a designated airport for these flights. I thank you for your attention and consideration in this most important matter, and I look forward to your reply. If I can be of any assistance to you in this matter, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Breaux", written in a cursive style.

JOHN BREAUX
United States Senator

JB/jhl

cc: Honorable Madeleine Albright
Honorable Robert Rubin
Honorable Rodney Slater
Honorable William Daley



NATIONAL PRESS CLUB

529 14th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20045

(202) 662-7500
FAX (202) 662-7512

99 JAN 7 PM 4:07

December 4, 1998

Dear National Press Club Member:

Recently you may have received a letter from the Press club referring to a renewal sticker to show your paid membership for 1999. These letters were sent out in error from our mailing house without the renewal stickers. Enclosed is the sticker you should have received. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Thank you for your continued support of the National Press Club.

Cynthia Brennan
Assistant Director, Membership Administration

1-7-99
Send to Burkhardt >
Yes ☒
no ☐
get unit

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 8, 1998

TO: Bruce Reed
Elena Kagan
Gene Sperling
Sally Katzen

FR: Phil Caplan *PC*

RE: Attached Edley memo

I received the attached yesterday. As I've discussed with Elena and Sally, I think it should probably have a joint DPC/NEC cover note on it before I forward it to the President.

I would appreciate such a note by Monday morning so that I can get the package to the President Monday afternoon.

Thanks.

99 JAN 7 PM 1:17

THE HARVARD LAW SCHOOL
CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

January 5, 1999

Memorandum for the President

From: Christopher Edley, Jr. 

Re: Your Request for Candid Further Discussion of Opportunity-Related Ideas in Relation to the Race Book, Budget and SOTU

More details are in the attachment. In brief, you and I discussed these items:

Education: ESEA/Title I accountability for results. I stressed that ESEA reform, to present a credible alternative to vouchers, must emphasize accountability for *results*, not just promises. The draft race book urges a specific national commitment to close racial disparities in achievement. I also questioned the "Nation's Superintendent" model of federal leadership which focuses on carrots to spur changes in education inputs and processes, rather than focusing the national debate on accountability for results while leaving state and local governments to choose the means.

Education: Ending social promotion, with associated supports/protections. I stressed the likely objections to this from progressives and the civil rights community without equally forceful rhetoric and measures to deter abuses. The National Academy of Sciences has reported on the risks of high-stakes testing and abusive retention policies. Won't districts claim the right policies but practice something that grabs political credit for toughness while avoiding the resource investments in early intervention, remediation, and improved instruction? I fear a reprise of the National Voluntary Test fiasco, when Administration officials dismissed the concerns of progressives (like me) who support high standards but want enforceable safeguards.

Economic Development, Trillion Dollars, etc. I credited the good will of the "Trillion Dollar" and HUD packages, but voiced concerns that the blizzard of proposals really offers little hope for the well-informed observer. These helpful ideas pale in comparison to the creation of FHA and FNMA. Twenty SBICs and three turtle doves do not a bold legacy make. The draft book recommends re-chartering the Federal Home Loan Bank Board GSE to focus on community development, with a broad set of tools financed off budget or on the mandatory side.

Jobs: I noted the book's "mountain top" goal is to break the back of hyper-unemployment among minority young adults, and contrasted this with a plethora of ideas lacking focus and edge. Something like DOL's new \$250 million Youth Opportunity Areas program is not an answer, with 20 sites, each ten square blocks, serving only 60,000 kids nation wide: A drop in the swimming pool, impossible to scale up. The draft book recommends a challenge grant to leverage metropolitan reinvention; reinvention across bureaucracies; and accountability for results. I'm pleased that the budget is silent, because if your book says we must go to the moon, I don't want the budget to unveil the first step as the purchase of a wrench and two screws.

Attachment

ATTACHMENT

1. Education: ESEA/Title I accountability for results in closing achievement disparities

The DPC/Department reauthorization proposal as of 12/23 is exciting, but leaves the nagging concern that states/districts get and keep their money just by *planning and promising*. Or, arguably worse, we push them to change specific management practices or education inputs (interventions for failing schools, personnel policies) without holding anyone accountable for whether those actions in fact produce better learning outcomes. There are two conceptual problems:

a. Find the Stick. On a scale of incentives running from lofty exhortation to tactical nukes, either extreme is bad, but aren't we still far too soft? As between the "be patient" view of entrenched educrats and the "revolution, else vouchers" view of frustrated parents and business leaders, whose side are we on? I'm told that DPC is now working on options to add stronger consequences. I believe these must be both powerful and credible.

b. Superintendent, or President? Are we going to continue focusing on inputs – leaky roofs, teacher certification, Advanced Placement offerings, technology, class size – or should we try to shift the national discussion to the heart of the matter: *Everyone must be judged by results, and federal taxpayers will not subsidize failure or underwrite excuses*. All of the input interventions and regulations are individually sensible and many are research-based, but most strike me as the agenda for a superintendent of schools rather than a President -- particularly a President trying to demonstrate that New Democrats don't throw money at problems. I suspect you are focusing this way because an idea like fixing the roofs or shrinking class size has just enough intuitive appeal to trump conservative anxiety about an expanding federal role. The alternative conception of presidential leadership, however, is to focus public discourse on closing the achievement disparities and creating tough accountability for results, while stepping way back from top-down prescription of the means of achieving those results. And I think this alternative is the way to present a meaningful, values-based alternative to the Heritage Foundation agenda, striking a responsive popular and populist chord.

c. Connection to your race book. Finally, you have seen the draft chapter urging a focus on the "mountaintop" of eliminating the racial disparities in achievement. I urge that this "man on the moon" goal be explicit in the ESEA reauthorization, and that some dimension of accountability be tied to progress in achieving this goal. The draft chapter recommends a specific challenge fund for this purpose, on the theory that it is politically infeasible to put the larger body of Title I funding at risk when everyone pretty much thinks of that formula as a vital fiscal entitlement.

2. Education: Ending social promotion, with associated supports/protections.

We discussed the danger that, like your call for a Voluntary National Test, calling for an end to social promotion will generate a backlash from progressives who fear abuses – retention driven by the results of a single test, rather than a range of factors, and imposed without the various early interventions and remedial supports that you and your advisers usually emphasize. In 1997 I urged an early amendment to the VNT proposal to build in protections against the kind of test misuse the expert testing community fears, but Administration officials were, frankly, polite but dismissive of my substantive and political concerns, even after hearing the same message in last minute consultations with civil rights advocates. The response of Congressional progressives, and the results of Congressionally-chartered analyses by the National Academy of Sciences [NAS] (in which I played a role) validated my 1997 concerns. I am right this time, too.

According to the NAS, retention is linked to significant and sometimes dramatic increases in drop-out risk, and while virtually every district has a written retention policy stating all the right things about multiple considerations and early interventions, actual practice is poorly understood but known to include abuses and, civil rights advocates believe, discrimination.

These violations of the professional standards of educators and testing experts are perfectly predictable, and so are the responses to your initiative. No important constituency favors social promotion. I and others fear, however, that it is politically easy for some state or local official to say he's for tough standards and then show it by flunking poor colored kids (we know something is wrong with them anyway). On the other hand, it is politically difficult to spend a lot of money on the interventions, supports, and summer school that will forestall or ameliorate retention. And even more difficult to hold someone other than the kid, like a teacher or principal, responsible for the failure to achieve.

I have heard no persuasive response to these concerns. I predict that, absent adjustment, important voices will be raised against the proposal. It will alienate many of the very interests you should be rallying to unite in a bold school reform strategy. I see no easy way out of it, especially at this late date. As a conceptual matter, however, retention policies are just one of the "inputs" to the achievement equation. If the Federal leadership is focused on results instead of inputs, a new categorical program about social promotion is a distraction. It should be a bully pulpit item, as should other particular solutions that a superintendent ought consider.

3. Economic Development, Trillion Dollars, etc.

You wanted my reaction to the various HUD and "Trillion Dollar Roundtable" proposals. The blizzard of elements gives clear and convincing proof of good will and commendable energy. From a Race Initiative perspective, however, the elements aren't bold enough to make an informed observer believe this will make much difference. They do not inspire an educated hopefulness.

As the draft race book suggests, your goal should be to harness the power of markets and financial institutions and put them to work for distressed communities. But now, judge the FY 2000 proposals by that standard, or the standard of policy historians. When past presidents identified home ownership as a goal, they created FHA, chartered FNMA, and transformed market forces and institutions. When rural depression seemed an intractable blight, past Presidents created the TVA and REA. These ideas were as important for the *structural* changes they wrought as for the incremental dollars involved. Today, your package expanding the SBIC program and so forth is not comparable in vision or boldness, notwithstanding great rhetoric about leveraging billions of dollars. Giving Andrew \$100 million to promote "regionalism" is the substantively right direction, but an almost comic application of the aphorism that a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. If I were on the outside, I would write that the scale of the problem makes these measures too much like a handful of band aids, old-Democrat style. These initiatives aren't wrong or bad. Needy people will be helped and important policy principles underscored. But I believe you should offer a grander vision, while respecting fiscal discipline, and make clear that the proposals ready for announcement are part of that grander whole.

As I mentioned to you, the draft book suggests a major refocusing of the large housing-related GSEs -- FNMA, Freddie Mac and the Federal Home Loan Bank Board System. In particular, the FHLBB should be re-chartered as the **National Community Investment Bank**, with a new mission: working side-by-side with CDFIs to fuel economic revitalization in our most distressed communities through affordable financing of a range of community development and job-creating projects. In general, GSEs commonly assert that they are "private" and cannot be expected to make uneconomic investments. But their profitability is fueled by their access to "cheap" money via an implicit government debt guarantee tantamount to a discount Fed window. The FHLBB is the most egregious at playing loose with the public purpose, making much of its profit through arbitrage. Specifically, the Administration should propose to:

- First, adopt new regulatory and statutory provisions to **(a)** press the GSEs to focus more of their housing activity on severely distressed communities, and **(b)** give the GSEs more effective tools to promote targeted lending for community development purposes.
- More important, re-charter the FHLBB system as the *National Community Investment Bank* [NCIB] to stem arbitrage abuses and focus on investments and technical assistance that implement *comprehensive strategies for community economic development*, analogous to (good) IMF and World Bank missions in developing nations.
- Third, some or all of the fiscal impact of these Federal subsidies could be placed off-budget or on the PAYGO side; the *NCIB* could even be a source of financing outside the discretionary caps for CDFIs, SBICs, and many related efforts.

A thoroughly reinvented FHLBB/*National Community Investment Bank* could be a tremendous source of financial support and strategic planning assistance for distressed communities. As an intermediary, it could nurture secondary markets, allocate tax or other subsidies to attract private

financing for SBICs and CDFIs, create insured equity investment vehicles, and more, subject to the existing government safety and soundness oversight.

4. Jobs: Breaking the back of endemic hyper-unemployment in distressed communities.

The point I made to you was that, from the perspective of the race book, there is a need for some focus on a clear goal. We should break the back of hyper-unemployment of minority young adults in distressed areas, raising their employment levels to that of non-minorities in the same metro labor market. The three structural challenges here are: *metropolitan reinvention* across political jurisdictions; *service delivery reinvention* across a wide range of bureaucracies (from schools to reverse commuting to childcare to welfare); and *accountability for results* in closing the employment disparities. The draft book proposes a honey pot of resources available in a competitive challenge grant to metro and state applicants.

In my budget discussions with staff, there was reasonable interest in the idea, but not enough to push other ideas (from HUD, DOL, DOT, NEC) off the table and make the new investment substantial enough to be meaningful. I withdrew the proposal, because I hope to persuade you to include the "Man on the moon" statement of ambition in the book. I don't want to make it hollow with a budget down payment that belies the seriousness of the vision, draining hope away.



DINÉ COLLEGE

"The Higher Education Institution of the Navajos"

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

99 JAN 7 PM 4:06

31

6 November 1998

Mary — This is from Jimmie L Tesheis
JC - in Ark — please — you send to Burkhardt

1-7-99

Yes ☒
No ☐

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As President, you signed into law the Executive Order # Universities in 1997. Very recently (August 6, 1998), y Executive Order #13096 on K-12 schools on the reserv: of legislation will positively impact the future of Native American education. However, in 1978, Congress passed the Tribally Controlled Community College Assistance Act which approved \$5,820 per student for Native American education, but 20 years later only \$3000 per student has been appropriated.

cc: Waldman FYI

There is definitely something very wrong here. The average funding for an African-American college student is close to \$9,000 and for any of the armed forces academies, they are receiving almost \$50,000 per student. In spite of this disparity, there is yet still hope within the tribal communities that they can one day become self sufficient. Tribal colleges are on the front lines working on solutions to problems the federal government has overlooked.

Minority people in this country should have equal access to education but there remains a segment of society (Native Americans) who continue to rank on the lowest level of economic opportunity.

Here are some more little known facts about Tribal Colleges:

- There are 30 Tribal Colleges across the United States, which enroll over 25, 000 students from well over 200 American Indian tribes.
- Tribal Colleges comply with the strict standards of mainstream regional accreditation boards and offer two-year, four year, and graduate degrees.

- Tribal Colleges are located on federal trust territory, and their states therefore have no legal obligation to fund them. While states are the primary source of funding for mainstream educational institutions, Tribal Colleges are reliant on the federal government's treaty obligation and trust responsibility to provide education for American Indian tribes.

- Tribal Colleges operate on exceptionally minimal funding and lean, highly efficient budgets. Student contributions are currently maximized: tuition alone averages \$1,580 per academic year. This level of tuition is especially high in light of the fact that 85% of Tribal College students live below the poverty line.

- Unemployment rates on American Indian reservations average 45%, while some reservations served by Tribal Colleges have unemployment rates as high as 86%.

- Tribal Colleges are unparalleled in their ability to provide the knowledge and skills students need to become successfully employed, and their job placement rates are extremely high.

- 42% of Tribal College graduates continue their education in other postsecondary institutions.

- American Indian students who transfer from Tribal Colleges are four times more likely to complete four-year degree programs than those who enter mainstream institutions as freshmen.

- It is widely misperceived that income from Indian gaming is substantial enough to cover tribal education needs. This is untrue, as only 91 of the 550 tribes nationwide even allow gaming. Income for most gaming tribes is extremely moderate, and there are overwhelming social and infrastructure investment costs on nearly all reservations.

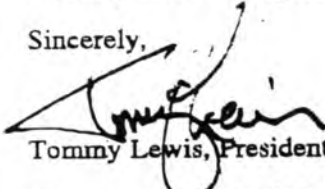
- Indian gaming revenue comprises less than 7% of all gambling revenue in the United States. Sovereign tribes do not share revenue, just as gambling states such as Nevada do not share their gambling proceeds with non-gambling states.

Ms. Carrie Billy, Executive Director, White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities has expressed a strong interest in our concerns and that she also wanted to bring these issues before you. Her telephone number is (202) 260-5114. I am sending her a copy of this letter.

Your support, Mr. President, by including some of this information in your State of the Union Address, will most definitely enlighten the Nation to some long neglected educational issues affecting the indigenous people of this great country.

Thank you for taking time to consider these suggestions.

Sincerely,



Tommy Lewis, President, Diné College

cc

Carrie Billie, Executive Director,
White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities

file



DINÉ COLLEGE

"The Higher Education Institution of the Navajos"

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

6 November 1998

Mr. Larry Finley
P.o. Box 1030
Little Rock, AR 72203

Dear Mr. Finley,

It was a pleasure to meet with you last week to discuss the CARS computer software implementation here at Diné College. I appreciated your interest in what our institution is doing to address the many unmet educational needs of our Native American people. I also appreciated your expressed personal desire to help us to meet this huge challenge.

I would like to request your assistance in bringing these issues more prominently before our government officials and the American public. Let me suggest how you might help us:

Your close personal friend, President William Jefferson Clinton, will soon deliver the "State of the Union Address" to 535 members of Congress and millions of the American people. In the past President Clinton has recognized individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to America. I would respectfully request your help in "planting a seed" in President Clinton's mind, to consider devoting a few seconds of this very important speech, to the contributions Tribal Colleges have made to the Nation and to some of the tremendous needs Native Americans continue to experience in regard to education. Most people in the country are not aware of these concerns and of how President Clinton has worked to begin to address these needs.

President Clinton signed into law the Executive Order #13021 on Tribal Colleges and Universities in 1997. He very recently (August 6, 1998) also signed the Indian Education Executive Order #13096 on K-12 schools on the reservations. These two little-known pieces of legislation will positively impact the future of Native American education. These should certainly be noted in this most significant address. However, in 1978, Congress passed the Tribal College Act which approved \$5,820 per student for Native American education, but 20 years later only \$3000 per student has been appropriated.

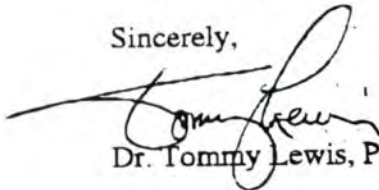
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I believe with your help, President Clinton could bring some national light to bear upon these issues during his speech. I would also suggest that there are a number of prominent Native American individuals who could possibly be present in the audience which the President could reference in his speech to help illustrate his points.

I am including a letter to President Clinton which includes the above information with additional statistical and demographic information which may be helpful to him. I greatly appreciate your help in delivering these documents to him and requesting his help. Please let me know your thoughts and any questions you may have. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tommy Lewis", with a stylized flourish extending from the end of the name.

Dr. Tommy Lewis, President, Diné College

file



DINÉ COLLEGE

"The Higher Education Institution of the Navajos"

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

99 JAN 7 PM 4:05

6 November 1998

William Jefferson Clinton,
President, United States of America
Washington DC

Dear Honorable President Clinton,

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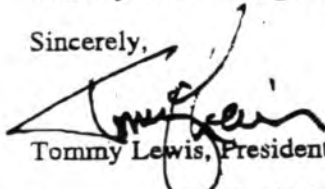
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- It is widely misperceived that income from Indian gaming is substantial enough to cover tribal education needs. This is untrue, as only 91 of the 550 tribes nationwide even allow gaming. Income for most gaming tribes is extremely moderate, and there are overwhelming social and infrastructure investment costs on nearly all reservations.
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Tommy Lewis, President, Diné College

cc Carrie Billie, Executive Director,
White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities
file

1-14-99

Phil -

This is a duplicate -
Original sent to (see
attached) -

OK

Carl

1/14/99

David -

Could you check
the chronos for the
~~the~~ copy to see ~~if~~
who we sent it to -

Carl



DINÉ COLLEGE

"The Higher Education Institution of the Navajos"

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

6 November 1998

William Jefferson Clinton,
President, United States of America
Washington DC

2nd Request

99 JAN 14 AM 9:36

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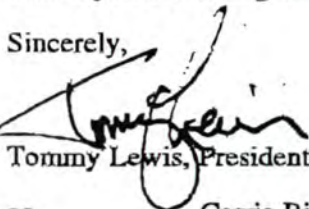
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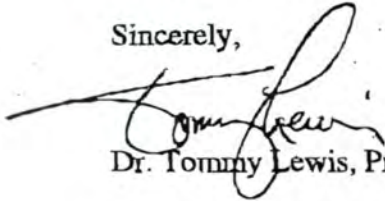
Carrie Billie, Executive Director,
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