

President Clinton's Plan for Comprehensive Tobacco Legislation to Protect America's Children

Today, President Clinton challenged Congress to pass sweeping tobacco legislation to reduce teen tobacco use significantly. The President announced that he will invite Congressional leaders in both parties to the White House in the coming weeks to launch a bipartisan effort to enact federal tobacco legislation. That legislation will build on the extraordinary efforts of the nation's attorneys general, who helped create an historic opportunity for progress in reducing smoking, especially by youth.

In August 1996, the Clinton Administration announced a landmark rule by the Food and Drug Administration to protect children from the harm caused by tobacco products, which was upheld by a federal judge in North Carolina earlier this year. Those victories for the public health, along with the aggressive efforts of the attorneys general and leaders of the public health community, drove the tobacco companies to the bargaining table and extracted concessions that would have been unimaginable just a short time ago.

Since a proposed national settlement was announced June 20, the Administration -- led by Vice President Gore, Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala, and Domestic Policy Advisor Bruce Reed -- has been working with the public health community, the attorneys general, members of Congress, tobacco farmers, and others to develop a comprehensive tobacco policy.

Today, the President announced five key elements that must be at the heart of any national tobacco legislation:

1. A Comprehensive Plan to Reduce Teen Smoking, Including Tough Penalties If Targets Are Not Met. Every day, 3,000 young people start smoking regularly, and 1,000 of them will die early as a result. The central goal of tobacco legislation must be a comprehensive, nationwide effort to reduce teen smoking. The Administration is calling for:

- **Tough Penalties and Price Increases to Reduce Teen Smoking:** The Administration believes tobacco legislation must include stiff penalties that give the tobacco industry the strongest possible incentive to stop targeting kids. Legislation should set ambitious targets to cut teen smoking by 30% in 5 years, 50% in 7 years, and 60% in 10 years, and impose severe financial penalties that hold tobacco companies accountable to meet those targets. The Administration supports penalties that are non-deductible, uncapped, and escalating -- so that the penalties get stiffer and the price goes up the more that companies miss the targets. Reducing youth smoking is the Administration's bottom line, and now it must be the industry's bottom line.

One of the surest ways to reduce youth smoking is to increase the price of cigarettes. By some estimates, a 10% increase in cigarette prices will lead to a 7% drop in youth smoking. Today, the President called for a combination of industry payments and penalties to increase the price of cigarettes by up to \$1.50 a pack over the next decade as necessary to meet the youth smoking reduction targets.

- **A Public Education and Counter Advertising Campaign:** To succeed in reducing youth smoking, legislation must provide for a nationwide effort to deglamorize tobacco, warn young people of its addictive nature and deadly consequences, and help parents discourage their children from taking up the habit. Legislation should provide for a public education and counter advertising campaign, as well as state and local prevention efforts. The Administration also supports stronger, more visible warning labels on tobacco products.
- **Expanded Efforts to Restrict Access and Limit Appeal:** The current FDA rule includes significant measures to reduce youth access to tobacco products (such as requiring retailers to check photo identification of anyone under 27) and to limit the advertising of tobacco to young people (such as restricting advertising near school buildings). The Administration supports legislation codifying these measures, imposing even stronger restrictions on youth access and advertising consistent with the Constitution, and establishing an effective retail licensing scheme with tough penalties.

2. Full Authority for FDA to Regulate Tobacco Products. In 1996, the Administration took the historic step of asserting FDA jurisdiction over tobacco products. Since that time, the Administration has said it would support federal legislation explicitly affirming the FDA's authority to regulate the manufacture, marketing, and sale of tobacco products. Under such legislation, the FDA's authority over tobacco products must be as effective as its authority over other drugs and devices, and must be sufficiently flexible to meet changing circumstances. The legislation should not impose any obligation on the FDA to make specific findings about such speculative matters as the creation of contraband markets; nor should it impose any special procedural hurdles or requirements, such as enhanced standards of proof or unusual evidentiary formalities.

3. Changes in the Way the Tobacco Industry Does Business. Federal tobacco legislation must include measures to expose the industry's past misconduct, especially its efforts to market products to children, and to change the way the industry does business.

- **No Marketing to Children:** Commitments by the industry -- such as agreements to limit advertising to children -- can serve to recognize the need for increased

corporate responsibility. Today, the President reiterated his call to the tobacco industry to stop marketing and promoting tobacco to children.

- **Document Disclosure:** To ensure that patterns of corporate malfeasance are disclosed and effectively checked in the future, tobacco legislation must provide for broad disclosure of industry documents, especially those containing scientific or other health information or relating to the industry's attempts to market tobacco to children. This legislation should respect essential principles of attorney-client privilege. But the legislation should establish effective mechanisms to turn over to the public all non-privileged documents, including documents the industry has inappropriately claimed to be privileged, as well as to disclose scientific and health-related information in even privileged documents.
- **Corporate Compliance:** Tobacco companies should set up comprehensive corporate compliance programs that will reinforce the real economic incentives provided by the youth smoking penalties to discourage companies from marketing to children. The legislation should establish oversight mechanisms to investigate and monitor corporate compliance and to make recommendations to Congress on appropriate future legislation.

4. Progress Toward Other Public Health Goals. Federal tobacco legislation provides an opportunity not only to reduce youth smoking, but to meet other public health goals: the reduction of environmental (second-hand) tobacco smoke, the expansion of smoking cessation programs, the strengthening of international efforts to control tobacco, and the provision of funds for health research and other health objectives.

- **Second-Hand Smoke:** The best scientific studies show that restrictions on second-hand smoke reduce the risk of death and injury to non-smokers, including the hundreds of thousands of children with asthma and other respiratory illness, and lead many smokers to quit the habit. Federal tobacco legislation should include provisions to restrict smoking in workplaces and other public facilities of the kind found in H.R. 3434, as well as in the President's recent Executive Order on tobacco smoke in federal facilities.
- **Smoking Cessation Programs:** Data suggests that some 70% of smokers want to quit, but fewer than 3% each year successfully do so. Legislation should help enable smoking cessation services to reach and assist the millions of smokers who want to break their addiction to tobacco products.
- **International Leadership:** According to the World Health Organization (WHO), tobacco use now causes 3 million deaths a year worldwide; unless checked, that number will rise to 10 million by 2025, with 70% of annual deaths

occurring in developing countries. Legislation should strengthen global and bilateral efforts to reduce smoking by providing assistance to international institutions.

- **Resources for Health Research and Other Health Care Objectives:** The Administration believes that the primary objective of tobacco legislation is to reduce youth smoking, not to raise money. But tobacco legislation also should take into account the health costs associated with smoking and the resulting need for public health investments. Legislation should generate sufficient resources to establish a health research fund and contribute significantly to other important health objectives. In addition, Congress should repeal the provision giving the tobacco industry a \$50 billion credit.

5. Protection for Tobacco Farmers and Their Communities. The President made clear today that any tobacco legislation must protect tobacco farmers and their communities. Most tobacco farmers live and work on small family farms; in many cases, their families have been growing tobacco for generations. In some states, entire communities rely on income from the tobacco crop. The Administration is committed to working with members of Congress in both parties to ensure that we protect the financial well-being of tobacco farmers, their families, and their communities.

President Clinton: Building Stronger Families

"To Prepare America for the 21st Century, we must build stronger families."

President Bill Clinton
February 4, 1997

Strong families are vital to our children, our communities and our nation. President Clinton is meeting the challenge to strengthen our families by providing tax relief to working families, investing in our children's education, reducing crime and helping families move from welfare to work. The Clinton Administration is committed to protecting children, improving their quality of health, encouraging companies to adopt family-friendly practices and strengthening parents' capacity to nurture healthy families.

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

Cherishing Our Children

- **Expanding Children's Access to Health Care:** Ten million children lack health insurance -- 80% of them have working parents who pay taxes. President Clinton's Balanced Budget Agreement of 1997 expands health care for 5 million of these children. [1997 Budget Agreement]
- **Expanding Head Start to Reach 1 Million Children a Year:** For over 30 years, Head Start has helped low-income families create an environment where their children are ready to learn by taking a comprehensive approach to child development - improving children's learning skills, health, nutrition, and social competency. Under the Clinton Administration, funding for Head Start has increased 80% to \$4 billion in 1997. These additional funds have enabled Head Start to serve 180,000 more children and their families. And President Clinton's Budget Agreement with Congress continues expansion of Head Start toward the President's goal of serving 1 million children in 2002. [Paper; HHS Press Release, 3/26/96]
- **Protecting Children from TV Violence:** President Clinton gave parents greater control over what their children watch on television by requiring the installation of anti-violence screening chips ("V-chips") in all new televisions. [Telecommunications Act of 1996, P.L. 104-104, signed 2/8/96] In addition, the President announced a breakthrough agreement with the media and entertainment industry to develop a television ratings system to enable parents to protect their children from violence and adult content. Today, the rating system is in place, informing parents on what their children are watching. [Statement by the President, 2/29/96]

- **Targeting Teen-Age Smoking:** President Clinton proposed the first-ever comprehensive program to protect children from the dangers of tobacco. The Food and Drug Administration has already issued rules aimed at teen-age smoking, such as making 18 the age for the purchase of cigarettes nationwide.[Food and Drug Administration Press Release, 4/15/97]
- **Protecting Children's Health Through Increased Immunizations:** The President has established a Childhood Immunization Initiative to ensure vaccinations and healthy futures for all children. In 1995, the immunization rate for two-year olds reached 76%, a record high. And these vaccinations are working: the number of reported cases of diphtheria, mumps, tetanus, measles, rubella, and polio continue to be at or near record low levels.[Centers for Disease Control, Press Release, 2/27/97]
- **Reaching Full Participation in WIC:** The Clinton Administration is committed to full funding in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), reaching 7.5 million participants by the end of FY97. This program works: Every dollar invested in WIC has been proven to save \$ 3 in preventive health-care costs.[Federal Department and Agency Documents, 2/6/97]
- **More Educational Television:** Joined together with the four major television networks to support a proposal to require broadcasters to air three hours of quality educational programming each week.[AP 7/29/96; Statement by the President, 7/29/96]
- **Mobilizing Service and Volunteers on Behalf of Children:** President Clinton convened the President's Summit of America's Future, along with former President Bush. At the summit, hundreds of organizations, including federal agencies, made commitments to give children the resources they need to grow up to be healthy and productive citizens -- a mentor, a healthy start, a safe place, a marketable skill through an effective education, and a chance to serve. President Clinton also announced the creation of 50,000 new scholarships to increase the reach of the AmeriCorps program.

Strengthening Our Families

- **Strengthening Families:** The first bill President Clinton signed was the Family Medical Leave Act, which enables workers to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave to care for family members without fear of losing their jobs. More than 12 million families have taken leave since its enactment. [Commission on Family Medical Leave, A Workable Balance - Report to Congress, 1996; Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, P.L. 103-3, signed February 5, 1993]
- **Greater Health Care Security for Millions of American Families:** Because President Clinton believes that we should provide more Americans with access to health care services, he fought for and signed the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, also known as Kennedy-Kassebaum. The bill limited exclusions for pre-existing conditions, ended "job-lock" by making health coverage portable, and helped individuals

who lose jobs maintain insurance coverage. The Health Insurance Reform Bill President Clinton signed into law protects the health care of millions of working Americans, giving millions of families peace of mind. [Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, P.L. 104-191, signed 8/21/96]

- **Cutting taxes for millions of working families:** President Clinton expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit to give 15 million working families tax relief. Today, that earned income tax credit is worth about \$1,000 to a family of four with an income under \$28,000 a year. The Earned Income Tax Credit lifts full-time workers with children out of poverty. [Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, P.L. 103-66, signed August 10, 1993]
- **Increasing the Minimum Wage:** The President proposed and signed into law an increase in the minimum wage from \$4.25 to \$5.15 over two years. For a full-time, year-round worker at minimum wage, this 90-cent increase raises yearly income by \$1,800 -- as much as the average family spends on groceries over seven months. The law signed by President Clinton will increase the wages of 10 million Americans, giving them a chance to raise stronger families and build better futures. [Small Business Job Protection Act Of 1996, P.L. 104-188, Signed 8/20/96]

Ensuring Responsibility

- **Overhauling the Welfare System:** Last year the President signed a bipartisan welfare plan that is dramatically changing the nation's welfare system into one that requires work in exchange for time-limited assistance. The law contains strong work requirements, a performance bonus to reward states for moving welfare recipients into jobs, state maintenance of effort requirements, comprehensive child support enforcement, and supports for families moving from welfare to work -- including increased funding for child care and guaranteed medical coverage. [Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, P.L. 104-193, signed 8/22/96] Nearly 90% of states have chosen to continue or build on their welfare waivers in implementing the new law.
- **Moving People From Welfare to Work:** From January 1993 to April 1997, the number of people receiving welfare benefits fell by 22%, or 3.1 million recipients - the largest decline in the welfare rolls in history and the lowest percentage of the population on welfare since 1970. This historic decline occurred in response to the Administration's grants of federal waivers to 43 states to experiment with innovative approaches to ending welfare dependency, as well as in response to a strong economy. These waivers gave states the freedom to reform welfare on the local level, including setting time limits on benefits, requiring recipients to work or stay in school, providing child care and giving employers incentives to hire welfare recipients. [HHS, 4/97]
- **Mobilizing the Business Community, Civic Groups, and the Federal Government:** to make welfare reform a success and help move a million people from welfare into the workforce by the year 2000, President Clinton has enlisted the business community's leadership. At the President's urging, the Welfare to Work Partnership was launched in

May 1997 to lead the national business effort to hire people from the welfare rolls. To help former welfare recipients stay in the workforce and succeed, the Vice President has created a coalition of civic groups committed to helping new workers retain jobs. The Vice President is also overseeing the federal government's hiring initiative, in which under the President's direction, federal agencies have committed to directly hire at least 10,000 welfare recipients in the next four years.[DPC Fact paper]

- **Enforcing Child Support:** The Clinton Administration collected a record \$12 billion in child support in 1996 through tougher enforcement, an increase of \$4 billion, or nearly 50%, since 1992.[Source: HHS Press release, 4/14/96] President Clinton also issued an Executive Order to help track down federal workers who fail to pay child support.[Executive Order 12953, 2/27/95]
- **Breaking the Cycle of Dependency:** President Clinton has launched a comprehensive effort to prevent teen pregnancy. In response to his 1995 challenge, the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, a private nonprofit organization, was formed. In addition, the welfare law the President signed in 1996 requires unmarried minor parents to stay in school and live at home or in a supervised setting; encourage "second chance homes" to provide teen parents with the skills and support they need; and provides \$50 million a year in new funding for state abstinence education activities. Data shows we are making progress: teen births have fallen four years in a row, by 8 percent from 1991 to 1995.

THE CHALLENGES AHEAD:

America is moving in the right direction. The crime rate is down, welfare rolls and food stamp participation are falling and the teen pregnancy rate has dropped. But we still have more work to do to ensure the health, safety and futures of our children and families. The President's agenda includes:

- Expanding health insurance coverage for all children whose parents cannot afford it.
- Providing families with a \$500 per child tax credit.
- Expanding the accessibility of child care information and services to parents, expanding child care funding available to low-income working families and working with states to improve the quality of services.
- Expanding the Family Medical Leave Act to better help workers care for their families without sacrificing their work obligations. This expansion would allow workers to take up to 24 hours of unpaid leave in support of their children's education needs, older relatives' health care and other family medical obligations.

- Enacting and implementing the \$3.6 billion program that the President negotiated as part of the balanced budget agreement with Congress, to help cities and states create and subsidize jobs for the hardest to employ welfare recipients and to provide tax credits and other incentives for businesses that hire people off welfare.

Jen-

I gave Diane a call and gave her the comments. She will send you another revised letter soon.

You may want to keep some of this stuff for ~~the~~ reference for the next letter.

- Brecken

Memorandum

To: Jennifer Klein
From: Brecken Armstrong
Re: The Children and Families Form Letter

*Brecken -
I agree with your
comments. Give her a
call and tell her to
try to edit the
original
letter*

I received a copy of the revised draft and the original draft of the Children and Families form letter from Diane Ikemiyashiro. I agree with you that the revised draft doesn't address the most important issues. She seems to have included some of the less important points about his concern for children and families. In general, the original draft was better. If there were some way to edit the original draft to one page then that would be preferable. Also, there are a few places in which the language is either weak or the grammar is bad. Here they are:

- 1) The words "worked with" and "challenged" in the second paragraph are very weak. When the President has "worked with the television industry," it sounds like he hasn't actually done anything. It is far too noncommittal. The language needs to reflect his decisive action.
- 2) In the third paragraph, there is a sentence that starts with "and." The word "and" cannot be used to begin a sentence.

As for the substance of the letter, I think that she didn't necessarily chose the most important points. She leaves out the V-chip and Adoption 2002, two very important points, but includes the three hours a week of educational programming. Here is a summary of what she includes:

- 1) Head Start, Early Head Start
- 2) scientific research
- 3) educational TV programming
- 4) information superhighway
- 5) Family and Medical Leave Act, health insurance reform legislation
- 6) WIC Supplemental Nutrition Program
- 7) childhood immunization
- 8) reforming welfare system
- 9) minimum-wage increase

In addition to these points, she also needs to include Adoption 2002, the V-chip, and perhaps the Earned Income Tax Credit in the letter. In general, the original is much better. It is written more smoothly, is better organized, and includes all of the most important points. Maybe it can be edited to the correct length.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Facsimile from Diane Ikemiyashiro
Office of Presidential Letters and Messages

Voice: (202) 456-5519 FAX: (202) 456-5426

Number of Pages (including cover): ~~2~~ 3

Date: 7.6.97

Time: 3:50 pm

To: Brecker Armstrong / Jan Klein

Voice: _____

FAX: 62878

☐ incoming letter(s) from: _____

re: _____

☐ for your review

☐ per my e-mail or voice-mail message to you

☒ per your request

Additional comments:

Thanks for your help.

-Diane

Children + Families

1

Thank you for letting me know your concerns regarding America's children and families. To ensure that we continue to give America's children the opportunity to live up to their God-given potential, my Administration is committed to funding research, supporting parents and caregivers, and strengthening programs that provide early intervention to disadvantaged families.

Although there is much work yet to be done, we have made substantial progress during the past four years to end the cycle of poverty. By reforming the welfare system, we have moved more than two million people off the welfare rolls. Since 1993, federal funding for a child care has increased by \$1 billion, enabling low-income families to pay for child care so they can work or attend school. Working to ensure that no parent has to raise children in poverty, we have b increased the Earned Income Tax Credit to allow more families to qualify for tax rebates. In addition, I was delighted to sign into law a minimum-wage increase that will help 10 million Americans and their families succeed.

My Administration has invested heavily in research to help us better understand the importance of the first few years of life in a child's development and learning. Because education is the key to taking advantage of new opportunities, we expanded Head Start and established the Early Head Start program, which supports families with children younger than four years old. We have challenged the private sector to help us connect every classroom to the information superhighway by the end of this decade, giving our children the tools they need to become technologically literate and succeed in the 21st century.

We are taking other steps to strengthen our nation's families as well. I worked hard for, and was proud to sign, both the Family and Medical Leave Act and meaningful health insurance reform legislation. We dramatically increased participation in the WIC Supplemental Nutrition Program, providing nutrition packages and information and health referrals to 7.4 million pregnant women, infants, and children. I am pleased that childhood immunization rates are at an all-time high and funding for childhood immunization has doubled since fiscal 1993. We proposed targeted measures to cut off children's access to tobacco products and reduce the appeal of tobacco advertising to children. I am also committed to finding stable and permanent homes for children needing adoptive parents, and my Administration has announced Adoption 2002, a plan to double the number of children adopted or placed in permanent homes each year by the year 2002.

Last year I was proud to sign the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which contained a provision for the creation of the V-chip, to give parents greater control over what their children watch on television. My administration worked with the television industry to develop an industry-created television program rating system that would be compatible with the V-chip. That ratings system is now in place a full year before the V-chip is available. The industry also agreed that broadcasters will provide three hours a week of educational programming for children.

As President and as a parent, I believe that we have an

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obligation to put the needs of our children first and to help families succeed. I appreciate knowing of your interest in these important issues.

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Record Type: Record

To: Jennifer L. Klein/OPD/EOP

cc: Reuben L. Musgrave Jr./WHO/EOP, James A. Dorskind/WHO/EOP

Subject: Form letter - Children and Families

Hi, Jen --

The following draft is a revision of the Children and Families form letter. You may remember seeing a version of this draft. I had to drastically edit the original draft because the draft we worked on was too long. The text of the letter has to be able to fit on **ONE PAGE**. There are a few things that I edited out, such as the mentioning of the V-Chip and Adoption. Can you please let me know if the draft meets your approval and if it addresses the president's most significant points about his concern for children and families?

Thanks for all of your help, Jen.

two very important issues

-- Diane

Thank you for letting me know your concerns about issues affecting America's children and families. Our youth represent our hope for the future and the promise of a better tomorrow. More than ever, we must reaffirm our determination to cherish our children and strengthen our families because they are the foundation of American society. All of us -- government, the private sector, religious groups, communities, and individuals -- must work together to support the American family.

From the beginning of my Administration, I have been committed to making essential investments for our children and families to help them succeed, and I am proud of my Administration's progress. I have honored this commitment with concrete, direct action. I've expanded Head Start and established the Early Head Start program. I've invested heavily in scientific research into children's development and early learning. I've worked with the television industry to reach an agreement that broadcasters will provide three hours a week of educational programming for children; and I've challenged the private sector to help my Administration connect every American classroom to the information superhighway by the end of this decade.

weak language
weak language

5) My signing of the Family and Medical Leave Act and meaningful health insurance reform legislation will make it easier and more affordable for parents to meet their children's urgent needs. I have also dramatically increased participation in the WIC Supplemental Nutrition Program, providing information and health referrals to 7.4 million pregnant women, infants, and children. And childhood immunization rates are at an all-time high, and funding for childhood immunization

never start a sentence w/ "and"

repetitive

has nearly
has doubled since fiscal 1993.

In broader terms, my Administration has made substantial progress during the past four years in ending the cycle of poverty, by

⑧ reforming the welfare system and moving more than two million people -
- many of them families with children -- off the welfare rolls.

⑨ Working teens and older children, and their families, will be helped
by my minimum-wage increase.

As President and as a parent, I believe that we have an obligation to put the needs of our children first and to help families succeed. I'm glad you got in touch with me to let me know your concerns.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTONFacsimile from Diane Ikeniyashiro
Office of Presidential Letters and Messages

Voice: (202) 456-5519 FAX: (202) 456-5426

Number of Pages (including cover): 7Date: 7-29-97Time: 5:07 pmTo: Brechen Armstrong

Voice: _____

FAX: 6-6244☐ incoming letter(s) from: _____

re: _____

☐ for your review☐ per my e-mail or voice-mail message to you☒ per your request - *Admin's accomplishments / priorities
for Children & Families*

Additional comments:

*Brechen -**Please let me know if you need
anything else?**Thanks.**-Diane*

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND LEARNING: WHAT NEW RESEARCH ON THE BRAIN TELLS US ABOUT OUR YOUNGEST CHILDREN

"Learning begins in the first days of life. Scientists are now discovering how young children develop emotionally and intellectually from their very first days, and how important it is for parents to begin immediately talking, singing, even reading to their infants... We already know we should start teaching children before they start school."

--President Bill Clinton, State of the Union Address, February 4, 1997

On April 17, the President and First Lady hosted *The White House Conference on Early Childhood Development and Learning: What New Research on the Brain Tells Us About Our Youngest Children*. The day-long conference highlighted new scientific findings on brain development in very young children and pointed to the importance of children's earliest experiences in helping them get off to a strong and healthy start and reach their full potential.

Applying New Findings on Brain Development in the Earliest Years. New scientific research shows that experiences after birth -- particularly in the first three years of life -- have a dramatic impact on brain development. That means that nurturing, talking to, singing to and reading to our youngest children will improve their ability to learn and develop throughout their lives. The White House Conference focused on the practical applications of the latest scientific research on the brain, particularly for parents and caregivers. The conference was also a call to action to all members of society -- including the health, business, media and faith communities, child care providers and government -- to use this information to strengthen America's families.

Clinton Administration Commitment to Young Children. This conference builds on the Clinton Administration's investment in children and families. The Administration has invested heavily in research to help us better understand the importance of the first few years of life to child development and learning.

② Between 1993 and 1997, funding for NIH children's research increased 25%, from \$1.3 billion to \$1.6 billion.

President Clinton has also strengthened efforts to support families with young children. To take just a few examples, the Administration raised funding for Head Start -- providing low-income children and their families with comprehensive education, health services, and nutrition -- by 43% over the last four years and created the Early Head Start program to support families with children ages zero to three. The President's FY 1998 Budget further increases participation to reach 122,000 more children in FY 1998 than when he took office. The Administration also dramatically increased participation in the WIC Supplemental Nutrition Program, providing 7.4 million pregnant women, infants, and children with nutrition packages and information and health referrals - 1.7 million more than when President Clinton took office. And his FY 1998 Budget would achieve his goal of full participation in the WIC program by the end of FY 1998.

Conference Program and Participants. During the morning session of the conference, leading researchers and child development experts discussed the new research and what it means for parents and caregivers. The panelists for this session were: Dr. David Hamburg, Carnegie Corporation of New York (moderator); Dr. Carla Shatz, University of California, Berkeley; Dr. Donald Cohen, Yale Child Study Center; Dr. Patricia Kuhl, University of Washington; Dr. Ezra Davidson, Drew University of Medicine, Dr. T. Berry Brazelton, Harvard University; and Dr. Deborah Phillips, National Research Council. The afternoon session highlighted model community efforts to support parents and enhance early childhood development. The panelists included: Avance Family Support and Education Program, San Antonio, TX; the CEO and Chairman of the Board, The Kellogg Company, Battle Creek Michigan; and Ounce of Prevention, Chicago, IL.

Broad Participation Across the Country. The morning session of the conference was broadcast by satellite to over 80 locations across the country. The satellite conferences were co-hosted by regional federal agencies, local officials, and children's and other organizations.

CLINTON ADMINISTRATION EFFORTS TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF AMERICA'S YOUNGEST CHILDREN

"Learning begins in the first days of life. Scientists are now discovering how young children develop emotionally and intellectually from their very first days, and how important it is for parents to begin immediately talking, singing, even reading to their infants.... We already know we should start teaching children before they start school."

-- President Bill Clinton, State of the Union Address, February 4, 1997

Recent scientific research has demonstrated that experiences during the earliest years of life -- before children reach school age -- are critical to their cognitive, emotional, and physical development. Nurturing and stimulating children in the first years of life actually help their brains develop and prepare them for the challenges of school and later life. President Clinton is committed to giving America's children the opportunity to live up to their God-given potential by investing in research, supporting parents and caregivers, and strengthening programs that provide early intervention to disadvantaged families.

PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN'S HEALTH

Supported Over 90% of all Children's Research. In fiscal year 1995, the federal government spent an estimated \$2 billion on research and development directly related to children and youth -- over 90% of all funding of children's research. Spending on children's health research at The National Institutes of Health (NIH) increased 25% between 1993 and 1997, and this year NIH will spend \$904 million on research on young children alone. This research has contributed to the recent advances in understanding early learning and language development.

Increased participation in WIC program. WIC Supplemental Nutrition Program provides nutrition packages, nutrition education, and health referrals to low-income pregnant women, infants, and children. Over the past four years participation has expanded by 1.7 million from 5.7 to 7.4 million women, infants, and children. The increase in the President's budget proposal fulfills his commitment to achieving full participation in WIC by the end of 1998. Research shows that WIC prenatal services save Medicaid much more than they cost by reducing health care expenses in the first 60 days after birth.

Raised Childhood Immunization Rates to an All-Time High. The President's Childhood Immunization Initiative focuses on five areas: 1) improving the quality and quantity of vaccination delivery services; 2) reducing vaccine costs for parents; 3) increasing community participation, education and partnerships; 4) improving systems to monitor diseases and vaccinations; and 5) improving vaccines and vaccine use. This initiative has achieved notable

success. In 1995, 75% of two-year olds were fully immunized -- an historic high. Funding for childhood immunization has doubled since fiscal year 1993.

Protected the Medicaid Guarantee for 9 Million Children Under 6 Years Old. This Administration has protected and, preserved -- and now will improve on -- the guarantee of Medicaid coverage for 36 million Americans, including 9 million children under the age of 6. In 1995, the President vetoed the Republican Medicaid block grant proposal that would have ended the guarantee of coverage for up to 4 million children by 2002. At the same time, the President worked with states by granting 15 comprehensive Medicaid waivers and approving many more state plan amendments that improve and expand coverage for children.

Seeks to Extend Health Coverage to Up to 5 Million Children. Although this Administration has made great strides in protecting the health of America's neediest children, there is still much to be done. In 1995, more than 10 million American children, 80% of whom have working parents, had no health insurance. The President's budget takes three important steps to address the problem of children who lack health insurance coverage:

- 1) Provides annual grants to states to cover health insurance premiums for families of workers who are in-between jobs;
- 2) Utilizes state partnership grants to help working families who are not eligible for Medicaid to purchase private insurance for their children; and
- 3) Expands Medicaid coverage by allowing states to continue Medicaid coverage for up to one year even if family income changes, intensifying outreach to children who are currently eligible but not enrolled, and continuing current law expansions of coverage to reach poor children between the ages of 13 and 18.

Fighting Pediatric AIDS. In 1994, the National Institutes of Health released new research showing that the use of the drug AZT by HIV-infected pregnant women can reduce the risk of transmission from mother to child by two-thirds. In response, the Food and Drug Administration quickly approved changes in labeling indications for AZT to include HIV-infected pregnant women and, in 1995, the Centers for Disease Control began recommending routine HIV counseling and voluntary HIV testing for all pregnant women. In addition, the President has consistently supported investment through Title IV of the Ryan White CARE Act, which provides grants for coordinated HIV services and access to research for children, women and families. Since 1994, \$113 million has been appropriated under Title IV, with 59 organizations in 26 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia receiving support.

Protecting Mothers and Children. Due to the Clinton Administration's comprehensive strategy to increase access to prenatal care, the preliminary estimate for the U.S. infant mortality rate (the rate at which babies die before their first birthday) is at an historic low of less than 8 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1995, and the proportion of mothers getting early prenatal care is at a record high of 81%. In addition, the President spearheaded legislation requiring insurance companies to cover at least 48 hour hospital stays following childbirth. In 1970, the average length of stay for an uncomplicated delivery was four days, but by 1992 it had declined to two days. This legislation ensures that mothers and babies do not leave the hospital before they and their doctors decide they are ready. The Administration is ensuring that the health needs of mothers and

children are met by providing over \$1 billion in FY 97 for Title V Maternal and Child Health Programs. The Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, one of the Title V programs, serves approximately 17 million women, infants and children, in partnership with states. In addition, Title V programs provide comprehensive care for children with special health needs, meet nutritional and development needs of mothers and children and help reduce infant mortality.

Preventing Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). The Clinton Administration launched the Back to Sleep public education campaign to send the message to parents and health professionals that putting babies to sleep on their backs can reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. Largely as a result of this campaign, SIDS deaths dropped by 30% between 1992 and 1995.

PROMOTING EARLY LEARNING

Increased participation in Head Start, created Early Head Start for 0-3 year olds, and improved program quality. For more than thirty years, Head Start has been one of our nation's best investments. President Clinton has made improving and expanding Head Start a priority because Head Start ensures that low-income children start school ready to learn. Over the past five years, funding for the program has increased by 80%, and in fiscal year 1997 Head Start will serve 800,000 low-income children five years old and younger. Initiated in 1994, there are now 143 *Early Head Start* programs across the country, expanding the proven benefits of Head Start to low-income families with children under three. Over the last three years, the Clinton Administration has also invested significantly in improving program quality and providing local programs with the resources they need to attract and retain high quality teachers. The President's 1998 budget proposal provides a \$324 million increase in Head Start's budget so that it will remain on course to serve 1 million children by 2002.

Improved Support for Infants and Toddlers with Special Needs. Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the Infants and Families Program supports the continuing efforts of states to implement high quality statewide early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities. Over the past four years, funding for the program has increased by 48% or \$102.5 million. During the same period, the number of children served increased by 21.5%. An estimated 191,000 children will be served in fiscal year 1998.

Enhanced Family Literacy Program. Even Start Family Literacy is a family-focused grant program to improve the educational opportunities for children and their parents in low-income areas by integrating family literacy activities, including early childhood education, adult education, and parenting education. Since 1993, funding for Even Start has increased by over 40% to support programs in every state and the District of Columbia.

Providing Funding for Parent Resource Centers in 42 States. In addition to involving parents in the development of state and local education plans, the President's Goals 2000 program provides funding to establish parent resource centers that help parents learn how to help their children meet high standards. The centers provide training, distribute resource materials, and support a variety of programs that strengthen family involvement in education. In fiscal year 1997, funding is available for support centers in 42 states, 14 more than in 1996.

Promoting Parents as First Teachers. The President's America Reads Challenge, a campaign to ensure that every child can read well by the end of the third grade, includes Parents as First Teachers Challenge Grants to fund proven local, regional and national programs that provide assistance to parents to help their children become successful readers. The grants can be used to expand successful programs such as the Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) and the Parents as First Teachers (PAT) program. They will also fund national and regional networks to share information on how parents can help children to read.

IMPROVING CHILD CARE

Increased Child Care Funding. Since 1993 federal funding for child care has increased by \$1 billion, providing services for over 660,000 children -- 65% of whom are under 5 years of age. The newly established Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) has made available \$2.9 billion to states. The new fund, authorized and expanded by the new welfare law, will assist low-income families working their way off welfare to obtain child care so they can work or attend school.

Improved Child Care in Public Housing. The Early Childhood Development Program helps to provide quality child care for families living in public housing communities, as well as families who are homeless or at risk of becoming so. The program allows parents or guardians who live in public housing to get and keep jobs by ensuring that their children are cared for. In 1996, \$21 million was awarded to public housing sites across the country -- three times more than in 1994.

Providing High Quality Child Care for Military Families. Under the Clinton Administration, the Department of Defense has made important strides to improve the quality of child care for the children of the men and women who serve our country. Since 1992, the number of military child care facilities that are accredited by the independent National Association for the Education of Young Children has risen from 55 to 466. Currently, 72% of military child care programs are accredited, as compared to only 7% of other child care facilities nationwide.

SAFEGUARDING THE ENVIRONMENT

Controlling Childhood Lead Poisoning. The Administration has launched a major new effort to control childhood lead poisoning. The program requires landlords and sellers of older homes to notify prospective tenants and buyers about lead-based paint hazards, provides grants to states to control lead-based paint hazards in low-income privately-owned homes, and offers technical assistance to ensure that lead hazard control work is done safely and efficiently. The 1997 interim report evaluating the HUD Lead-Based Point Hazard Control grant program shows that median dust levels on interior window sills were reduced by 85 %. In addition, the number of children suffering from lead poisoning dropped from 1.7 million in the late 1980s to about 930,000 in the mid-1990s.

Protecting Our Children's Environment. Because their bodies are still developing, children are among the most vulnerable to pollution in the air, water and soil. In 1995, the Clinton Administration began requiring that children receive first consideration when EPA assesses

environmental hazards and sets public health standards. In addition, the Clinton Administration has strengthened environmental protections for children by: proposing to strengthen air quality standards for soot and smog to protect children from air pollution, particularly those with asthma; speeding the clean-up of two-thirds of the nation's toxic waste sites to protect the 10 million children under age 12 who live within four miles of a toxic waste dump; strengthening drinking water protections to ensure that drinking water is free of microbial contaminants; expanding families' right to know about environmental health risks that infants and children face to help them make informed decisions about their children's exposure to these risks; issuing advisories about contaminated fish so parents can protect children from cancer-causing PCBs; and educating parents about the effects of second-hand smoke, which annually results in 7,500 to 15,000 hospitalizations of infants and children under 18 months of age.

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

Passed Family and Medical Leave. The President fought for the passage of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) that allows workers to take up to 12 weeks unpaid leave to care for a newborn or adopted child, to attend to their own serious health needs, or to care for a seriously ill parent, child or spouse. In June 1996, President Clinton proposed expanding FMLA to allow workers to take up to 24 unpaid hours off each year for school and early childhood education activities, routine family medical care, and additional activities related to caring for an elderly relative. Last week, the President asked Federal agencies to implement his expanded leave policy immediately for Federal workers.

Improved Children's Television. The President announced a breakthrough agreement with the media and entertainment industry to develop a television ratings system to enable parents to protect their children from violence and adult content. In addition, the Administration has given parents greater control over what their children watch on television by requiring the installation of anti-violence screening chips ("V-chips") in all new televisions.

Reducing Child Abuse and Domestic Violence. The Administration created the Safe Streets/Safe Kids initiative to make community responses to child abuse and neglect more comprehensive and coordinated in an effort to break the cycle of early childhood victimization and later delinquency. The Administration also put in place a nurse home visitation program for low-income first-time mothers. Studies have shown that home visitation programs are successful -- for example, reducing cigarette smoking during pregnancy by 25% and reducing mistreatment of children from birth to age 2 by 80 percent. The Clinton Administration has also taken significant steps to reduce domestic violence. For example, the Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Enforcement Grant Program helps law enforcement agencies, courts community organizations and businesses to work toward early identification, intervention and prevention of domestic violence and child victimization in rural areas. Finally, the President is committed to finding stable and permanent homes for children who cannot remain safely at home. As a result, the Administration announced Adoption 2002, a plan to double the number of children adopted or placed in permanent homes each year by the year 2002.

You are a

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find out @ Children +
Families letter

for Diane I

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To: Jennifer L. Klein/OPD/EOP

cc: Reuben L. Musgrave Jr./WHO/EOP, James A. Dorskind/WHO/EOP

Subject: Form letter - Children and Families

Hi, Jen --

The following draft is a revision of the Children and Families form letter. You may remember seeing a version of this draft. I had to drastically edit the original draft because the draft we worked on was too long. The text of the letter has to be able to fit on **ONE PAGE**. There are a few things that I edited out, such as the mentioning of the V-Chip and Adoption. Can you please let me know if the draft meets your approval and if it addresses the president's **most significant** points about his concern for children and families?

Thanks for all of your help, Jen.

-- Diane

Thank you for letting me know your concerns about issues affecting America's children and families. Our youth represent our hope for the future and the promise of a better tomorrow. More than ever, we must reaffirm our determination to cherish our children and strengthen our families because they are the foundation of American society. All of us -- government, the private sector, religious groups, communities, and individuals -- must work together to support the American family.

From the beginning of my Administration, I have been committed to making essential investments for our children and families to help them succeed, and I am proud of my Administration's progress. I have honored this commitment with concrete, direct action: I've expanded Head Start and established the Early Head Start program; I've invested heavily in scientific research into children's development and early learning; I've worked with the television industry to reach an agreement that broadcasters will provide three hours a week of educational programming for children; and I've challenged the private sector to help my Administration connect every American classroom to the information superhighway by the end of this decade.

My signing of the Family and Medical Leave Act and meaningful health insurance reform legislation will make it easier and more affordable for parents to meet their children's urgent needs. I have also dramatically increased participation in the WIC Supplemental Nutrition Program, providing information and health referrals to 7.4 million pregnant women, infants, and children. And childhood immunization rates are at an all-time high, and funding for childhood immunization

has ^{nearly} doubled since fiscal 1993.

In broader terms, my Administration has made substantial progress during the past four years in ending the cycle of poverty, by reforming the welfare system and moving more than two million people - many of them families with children -- off the welfare rolls. Working teens and older children, and their families, will be helped by my minimum-wage increase.

As President and as a parent, I believe that we have an obligation to put the needs of our children first and to help families succeed. I'm glad you got in touch with me to let me know your concerns.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 2, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL DPC STAFF

FROM: Paul Weinstein

SUBJECT: Clinton-Gore Administration Accomplishments Document

Please review the draft Clinton-Gore Accomplishments document and provide written edits on the appropriate sections to me by COB ~~Tuesday~~ Monday

PREPARING AMERICA FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Clinton-Gore Administration Accomplishments

June 1997

ECONOMY: The Best American Economy In A Generation

12.3 Million New Jobs...for the first time ever over 11 million jobs were created during a single Presidential term.

Deficit Cut By 80%...from \$290 billion to \$57 billion, down 5 years in a row for the first time in 50 years.

Lowest Unemployment In 24 Years...down from 7.5% in 1992 to 4.8% today, the lowest level since 1973.

Median Family Income Up \$1,600...between 1993 and 1995, the fastest growth since the Johnson Administration.

EDUCATION: Largest Expansion Of Educational Opportunity In 30 Years

180,000 More Kids In Head Start...which now reaches more kids than at any time since its creation in 1965.

Leading A Crusade For Voluntary National Education Standards...so that by 1999, every 4th grade student will be tested in reading and every 8th grade student will be tested in math.

Making College More Affordable...by increasing Pell Grants by 20% from \$2,300 in 1993 to \$2,700 in 1997 and creating the Direct Lending program, which has made college more affordable for more than 2.1 million students.

Biggest Investment In Higher Education Since The G.I. Bill....The balanced budget plan includes the largest overall investment in education in 30 years and biggest investment in higher education since the G.I. Bill in 1944.

CRIME: Declining Steadily For The First Time In 25 Years

Violent Crime Down 5 Years In a Row...the longest period of decline in 25 years. And for the first time in seven years, juvenile crime (which had been exploding) declined in 1995.

100,000 New Police On The Street...resulting in a nearly 20% increase in our nation's police force. Already 61,000 new officers have been funded.

186,000 Felons, Fugitives And Stalkers Denied Handguns...because the President signed the Brady Bill into law.

Developed Comprehensive Anti-Drug Strategy...and appointed four-star General Barry McCaffrey Drug Czar.

WELFARE: Largest Drop In Welfare Rolls In 50 Years

Overhauled The Welfare System...by signing bipartisan welfare reform legislation in 1996 and is now challenging private businesses to hire 1 million people, moving them from welfare to work.

2.75 Million People Moved From Welfare To Work...even before the new welfare bill took effect, the largest decline in welfare rolls in 50 years.

50% Increase In Child Support Collection...from 1992 to 1996 due to tougher enforcement of Child Support Laws. A record \$11.8 billion was collected in 1996, up \$4 billion (nearly 50%) since 1992.

ENVIRONMENT: Protecting Our Environment For Future Generations

Cleaned Up As Many Superfund Sites In 3 Years As Previous Administrations Did In 12.

Safer Food, Drinking Water And Air...because the President fought for and signed the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Food Quality Protection Act and issued new standards to cut toxic pollution from chemical plants by 90%.

Created New National Parks In Utah, California; \$1.5 Billion Plan To Restore The Florida Everglades.

Reduced EPA Paperwork Requirements For Businesses By 15 Million Hours.

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ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING
INITIALS: W DATE: 02/18/15
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THE AGENDA AHEAD:

President Clinton has issued a call to action for American education in the 21st Century:

- **Set rigorous national standards**, that all states adopt, with national tests in 4th grade reading and 8th grade math to make sure our children master the basics.
- **Make sure a talented and dedicated teacher is in every classroom.** We must ensure teacher quality well into the 21st century by challenging our most promising young people to consider teaching as a career and setting high standards for entering the teaching profession.
- **Connect every classroom and library to the Internet** by the year 2000 and help all students become technologically literate.
- **Create 1,000 after-school safe havens in communities across the country.** This initiative would extend learning opportunities for children and their families at schools across the country, keeping schools open late, on weekends, and in the summer so young people will stay off the streets and out of trouble.

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President Clinton: Building Stronger Families

"To Prepare America for the 21st Century, we must build stronger families."

President Bill Clinton
February 4, 1997

Strong families are vital to our children, our communities and our nation. President Clinton is meeting the challenge to strengthen our families by providing tax relief to working families, investing in our children's education, reducing crime and helping families move from welfare to work. The Clinton Administration is committed to protecting children, improving their quality of health, encouraging companies to adopt family-friendly practices and strengthening parents' capacity to nurture healthy families.

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

Cherishing Our Children

- **Expanding Children's Access to Health Care:** Ten million children lack health insurance -- 80% of them have working parents who pay taxes. President Clinton's Balanced Budget Agreement of 1997 expands health care for 5 million of these children.[1997 Budget Agreement]
- **Expanding Head Start to Reach 1 Million Children a Year:** For over 30 years, Head Start has helped low-income families create an environment where their children are ready to learn by taking a comprehensive approach to child development - improving children's learning skills, health, nutrition, and social competency. Under the Clinton Administration, funding for Head Start has increased 80% to \$4 billion in 1997. These additional funds have enabled Head Start to serve 180,000 more children and their families. And President Clinton's Budget Agreement with Congress continues expansion of Head Start toward the President's goal of serving 1 million children in 2002. [Paper; HHS Press Release, 3/26/96]
- **Protecting Children from TV Violence:** President Clinton gave parents greater control over what their children watch on television by requiring the installation of anti-violence screening chips ("V-chips") in all new televisions.[Telecommunications Act of 1996, P.L. 104-104, signed 2/8/96] In addition, the President announced a breakthrough agreement with the media and entertainment industry to develop a television ratings system to enable parents to protect their children from violence and adult content. Today, the rating system is in place, informing parents on what their children are watching. [Statement by the President, 2/29/96]

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**PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON:
BUILDING SAFER COMMUNITIES BY TAKING BACK OUR
STREETS FROM CRIME, GANGS AND DRUGS**

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

Won Passage of the Most Comprehensive Crime Bill Ever:

In 1994, after more than six years of gridlock, a bipartisan majority in Congress passed the toughest, smartest Crime Bill in the nation's history. ["Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994," P.L.103-322] It passed with the strong support of every major law enforcement organization in the country, as well as prosecutors, mayors, and state and local officials. The new law now provides:

- A targeted "Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out" provision to put career violent offenders behind bars for life.
- An expanded death penalty for drug kingpins, murderers of federal law enforcement officers and nearly 60 additional categories of violent felons.
- Funding for 100,000 more prison cells to help states ensure that violent offenders serve their full sentences.
- Increased penalties for sex offenders and a registration requirement for violent sexual offenders.

More Police and Community Policing

- **The President's plan to put 100,000 more police officers on the street through community policing represents the federal government's biggest commitment ever to local law enforcement.** The President's plan will result in an almost 20% increase in the nation's police force levels. Already, the Administration has provided funding for over 60,000 officers, who are now helping keep our neighborhoods and communities safe. [U.S.D.O.J. COPS, 6/4/97; Government Performance Results Act 1997 (attached to President's FY 98 Budget Request)]
- **The rate of violent crime is down.** The number of murders fell an historic 11% in 1996, while violent crime decreased 7%, and aggravated assault decreased 6%. These falling crime rates mark the largest one-year decline in the past 35 years. [Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Report - 1996 Preliminary Annual Release, 6/1/97]

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- **The rate of juvenile crime is down.** Over the past two years, there has been a decline in both the rates of murders committed by young people and youth violence in general.
 - ❑ While the juvenile violent crime arrest rate increased 62% between 1987 and 1993, it decreased 2.9% in 1995, the first decline in seven years.
 - ❑ The decrease in the juvenile murder arrest rate is even more significant, declining 15.2% in 1995 -- the largest one-year drop in more than 10 years.
 - ❑ Since 1993, the juvenile murder arrest rate has dropped an incredible 22.8%.
[Department of Justice, 3/97; OJJDP, Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1997 Update on Violence, 7/97]
 - ❑ And the rate is decreasing for other crimes as well: robberies by juveniles decreased 15% in 1995 and juvenile aggravated assaults decreased 32%. [OJJDP, Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1997 Update on Violence, 7/97]
- **Crime rates have dropped for five straight years.** Violent crime has dropped five years in a row - the longest period of decline in 25 years. [FBI, Uniform Crime Report, 1/5/97] .

Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Criminals

- **Stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill** which provides for a 5-day waiting period and background checks of prospective handgun buyers. [Brady Bill, P.L. 103-159] In the three years since its enactment, the Brady Law has stopped over 186,000 felons, fugitives and stalkers from buying guns. [Bureau of Justice Statistics, Press Release, 2/25/97]
- **Banned the manufacture and importation of 19 of the deadliest assault weapons** while specifically protecting more than 50 legitimate sporting weapons. Cop-killing assault weapons, like the Uzi, are the weapons of choice for drug dealers and gangs - not hunters and sportsmen. ["Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994", P.L. 103-322]
- **The Clinton Administration has strengthened efforts to clamp down on illicit gun markets, especially those that provide guns to children.** The President directed the ATF to implement the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative in 17 pilot cities. Through this initiative, law enforcement will trace all guns used in crime that are seized by Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers, and work with that trace information to help identify illegal gun traffickers. By analyzing patterns of gun .

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trafficking that exist in an area, our communities will develop more effective law enforcement strategies to target illegal gun traffickers for prosecution, particularly those who put guns into the hands of our nation's young people. [Memorandum on the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative to the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General, 7/8/96]

- **Placing child safety locks in guns.** The President is fighting for legislation in Congress that would require child safety locking devices as part of every gun in America. He has already signed a directive to every federal agency, requiring child safety locking devices in every handgun issued. [Memorandum on Child Safety Lock Devices for Handguns, 3/5/97]

Combatting Drug Use

- **Developed a comprehensive National Drug Control Strategy** that will reduce illegal drug use through law enforcement, prevention, treatment and interdiction. [Office of National Drug Control Strategy, National Drug Control Strategy, 1997]
- **Made Drug Czar a Cabinet Position.** President Clinton is the **first** President to make the Director of National Drug Control Policy a Cabinet position. [U.P.I. 7/1/1993] He is also the **first** President to nominate a Drug Czar with drug interdiction background. And he appointed a four-star general, Barry McCaffrey, to lead our nation's fight against drugs.
- **Targeting young people with anti-drug messages.** The President's proposed FY 98 budget funds a \$175 million national advertising campaign that would rely on high-impact, anti-drug television ads to educate young people on the dangers of illegal drug use.
- **Drug seizures are up.** The Clinton Administration has increased seizures of marijuana by 50% - from 787,523 pounds in 1992 to 1,163,989 pounds in 1996. And seizures of heroin are up 32% - from 1,157 kilograms in 1992 to 1,524 kilograms in 1996.[DEA's FDSS Report, 3/11/97]
- **Increasing Drug Seizures.** In the last three years, the Border Patrol has seized over \$4.7 billion in drugs -- a 38 percent increase over the three prior years. The \$4.7 billion represents nearly 20,000 drug seizures -- an increase of 22 percent. On the California border, alone, the Border Patrol has seized more than 110 tons of illegal drugs valued at \$618 million. [Source: Department of Justice, U.S. Border Patrol, Total Drug Seizures: Narcotics: Dollar Value of Drugs seized, 1995]
- **Drug Use is Down.** Overall drug use in the United States has declined under the Clinton Administration:

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* Casual drug use is down 13% among Americans between the ages of 18 and 35 since 1992. [Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse/Mental Health Agency, 8/20/96]

* During this Administration, the number of cocaine users has dropped by 30%. The amount of money Americans spend on illicit drugs has declined by 23%. [Source: Office of National Drug Control Policy, The National Drug Control Strategy, April 1996]

- **Mandatory drug testing of state prisoners and parolees as a condition of parole.** President Clinton fought for and signed legislation requiring states to drug test prisoners and also parolees so that they can send them back to prison if they get back on drugs.[Omnibus Consolidated Appropriation Act, 1997, P.L. 104-208, Signed 9/30/97]
- **Expanding drug courts.** The Clinton Administration has established drug courts across the country, a proven and effective measure in breaking the cycles of drugs and crime. The President's FY 98 budget increases funding for this program by 150% over last year's funding. [ONDCP, The National Drug Control Strategy, 1997: Budget Summary, 1997]
- **Developed a comprehensive strategy to combat the trafficking and abuse of methamphetamine, one of the country's most dangerous drugs.** The President fought for and signed legislation that increases penalties for trafficking in meth and those chemicals used to produce meth. And the strategy is working. In the eight cities where meth use had been skyrocketing, it declined substantially in 1996.

Fighting to End Domestic Violence

- **Extended the Brady bill to deny handguns to anyone convicted of domestic violence.** Under the law, anyone who commits an act of domestic violence against a spouse or child, would be prohibited from having a gun.[Omnibus Consolidated Appropriation Act, 1997, P.L. 104-208, Signed 9/30/97]
- **Bolstered local law enforcement, prosecution and victims' services to better address violence against women through \$275 million in state grants.** Over the next four years, a total of \$800 million in federal funds is scheduled to assist states as they restructure their law enforcement response to address violent crimes against women. [Violence Against Women Office Press Release, 5/24/96]
- **Established nationwide 24-hour domestic violence hotline** providing immediate crisis intervention, counseling and referrals for those in need. Since the hotline opened, there have been over 106,000 total calls. [Department of Justice, Stop the Cycle of Violence: What You Can Do"; National Domestic Violence Summary Report, 3/31/97; HHS Press Release, 5/20/97]
- **Almost tripled funding for battered women's shelters.** In 1993, the federal government spent \$20 million on battered women's shelters. In 1997, the Clinton Administration spent \$58 million.[Administration for Children and Families, 1997; HHS Press Release, 5/20/97]

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Making Our Schools and Communities Safer

- **Keeping dangerous weapons out of our children's classrooms** by enforcing a "Zero Tolerance" gun policy in schools. Thus far, 6,276 students have been expelled for bringing weapons to schools, and the vast majority of those expulsions involved guns. [Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994, enacted as part of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994, P.L. 103-382, signed on 10/20/94]
- **Encouraged schools to adopt school uniform policies** to help reduce violence while promoting discipline and respect. [Public Papers of the Presidents, Memorandum on the School Uniforms Manual, 2/23/96]
- **Helped protect families and children who live in public housing** from gangs, drugs and violent crime by instituting a "One-Strike-and-You're-Out" policy for residents who engage in criminal activity. [Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996, P.L. 104-120]
- **The Clinton Administration has targeted efforts against sexual predators.** The President fought for and signed "Megan's Law," which makes community notification concerning registered sex offenders mandatory. Megan's Law requires States to make public relevant information about child molesters and sexually violent offenders who are released from prison or placed on parole.[P. L. 104-145, Signed 5/17/96] And taking the next step, the President directed the Department of Justice to develop a plan for the implementation of a national sexual predator and child molester registration system. [Public Papers of the Presidents, Memorandum on the Development of a National Sexual Offender Registration System, 6/25/96]

Securing America's Borders

- **Stood firm against illegal immigration** and deported over 95,000 illegal and criminal aliens from October 1995 to January 1997. [Source: I.N.S. 1/97]
- **More border patrol agents than ever.** There are now over 6,000 Border Patrol agents stemming the flow of illegal immigration. This represents an increase of over 70% since 1993. [Federal News Service, Prepared Testimony of Commissioner Doris Meissner, Immigration and Naturalization Services, 4/10/97]

The Agenda Ahead

The President recognizes that juvenile crime will be the largest threat to our communities in the future. That is why he has proposed a bill that will be a full scale assault on juvenile crime. The President's bill:

Declares war on gangs with new prosecutors and tougher penalties.

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Extends the Brady Bill so that someone who commits a violent crime as a juvenile is barred from buying a gun as an adult.

Requires child safety locks be sold with every gun to keep children from hurting themselves or each other.

Keeps schools open after hours, on weekends and in the summer to keep children off the streets and out of trouble. The President's juvenile crime legislation funds anti-crime initiatives to keep our schools open later and on weekends so young people can stay under the watchful eye of parents, educators and community leaders.

Ending the use of cop-killer bullets. The President is fighting for a permanent ban on the production and use of cop-killer bullets. These armor-piercing bullets have no sporting value and serve only to endanger the police officers we ask to protect us every day.[S 112, introduced Jan. 21, 1997]

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Clinton-Gore Administration Accomplishments

THE ENVIRONMENT

"We must protect our environment in every community. In the last four years, we cleaned up 250 toxic waste sites, as many as in the previous 12. Now we should clean up 500 more so that our children grow up next to parks, not poison." -- President Clinton, State of the Union address, 2/4/97

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

Ensuring Public Health

Expanded The Public's Right To Know About Toxic Releases: President Clinton required polluters to publicly disclose information about toxic releases -- nearly doubling the number of chemicals releases reported to the public and increasing by 30 percent the number of facilities that must report under right to know. [Executive Order 12969 & 12856, Public Papers of the President, 8/8/95; 8/3/93; EPA rule, 11/28/94 (AP, 11/28/94); President's remarks, (U.S. Newswire, 4/22/97)]

Cleaned Up As Many Superfund Sites In Three Years As The Previous Administrations Did In 12 Years: The Clinton Administration achieved this dramatic increase in toxic waste clean-ups while dramatically cutting costs. The President and the Vice President also fought Republican attempts to gut the Superfund law that makes polluters -- rather than taxpayers -- pay to clean up toxic dumps. The President vetoed a GOP bill that would have cut Superfund clean ups by 25%. [EPA Construction Completion/Deletion Tracking System; Veto Message of H.R. 1977, Public Papers of the President, 12/18/95]

Proposed & Signed The Safe Drinking Water Act: President Clinton proposed and signed legislation to ensure that our families have healthy, clean drinking water. This law requires drinking water systems to protect against dangerous contaminants like *cryptosporidium*, and gives people the right to know about contaminants in their tap water. [P.L. 104-182, Public Papers of the President, 8/6/96]

Fought To Ensure Safe Food & Water For Our Families: President Clinton fought attempts in Congress to roll back the progress that has been made in ensuring safe food and water for our families. The Clinton Administration also issued new standards to prevent *E. coli* bacteria contamination in meat. The President signed the Food Quality Protection Act which included special safeguards for children and the Administration cancelled dozens of hazardous pesticides while moving safer substitutes into the market more quickly. [Veto Messages, 11/13/95, 12/6/95, 12/18/95, Public Papers of the President; President's Radio address, 7/8/96; P.L. 104-170, Public Papers of President, 8/3/96]

Made The Air We Breathe Cleaner: The Clinton Administration made the air we breathe cleaner by issuing new standards to cut toxic pollution from chemical plants by **90%** and dangerous incinerator emissions by **98%**. [EPA HON Rule (made final 3/1/94); EPA incinerator and cement kiln rule (proposed 3/20/96); L.A. Times, 3/2/94]

Toughened EPA Enforcement Programs To Ensure Compliance With Environmental Safeguards: The Clinton Administration has collected the largest fines in history and established a

new compliance assistance program to help honest business owners comply with environmental laws. [EPA Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Accomplishments Report, 7/96]

Forged Agreement For A Global Phaseout of Persistent Pollutants: The Clinton Administration led the way on an agreement to phase out the use of 12 dangerous, persistent organic pollutants worldwide, such as PCBs and DDT.

Protecting Our Natural Resources

Created The Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument In Utah: President Clinton created a new national monument protecting 1.7 million acres of spectacular red rock canyon-lands, artifacts from three ancient cultures, and the most remote site in the lower 48 states. [Presidential Proclamation Number 6920, 9/18/96]

Improved The National Parks & Created A Large New Park In The California Desert: President Clinton signed legislation that creates or improves almost 120 national parks, trails, rivers, and historical sites. President Clinton also created the largest new park in lower the 48 states with California Desert Protection Act. [P.L. 104-333, Public Papers of the President, 11/12/96; P.L. 103-433, Public Papers of the President, 10/31/94]

Fought Attempts To Close National Parks & Lift The Ban On Offshore Drilling. [President Clinton Radio Address, 8/26/95; President Clinton Statement 6/20/95]

Vetoed A Republican Bill That Would Have Opened The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge To Oil & Gas Drilling. [Veto Message on H.R. 2491, U.S. Newswire, 12/6/95; President Clinton Letter to Senator Lieberman, 10/26/95]

Led The Way On A Plan To Restore The Florida Everglades: President Clinton and Vice President Gore committed \$1.5 billion over seven years to help restore the unique Florida Everglades. President Clinton signed into law the most sweeping restoration effort ever to implement his Everglades plan. [P. L. 104-127; P.L. 104-303, Public Papers of the President, 4/4/96; 10/12/96; VP Gore Statement (FDCH), 2/20/96 (statement on 2/19/96)]

Reached An Agreement To Halt Destructive Mining Near Yellowstone National Park. [President Clinton statement (U.S. Newswire), 8/12/96]

Negotiated A Plan For California Bay-Delta Water: The President broke through decades of conflict and negotiated a consensus plan to protect and allocate California Bay-Delta water. [President Clinton statement (U.S. Newswire), 12/15/94]

Common Sense Reform To Environmental Programs

Working With Auto Manufacturers To Develop A "Clean Car": This partnership program with the domestic auto industry and labor is designed to produce automobiles three times as fuel efficient as today's cars without sacrificing affordability, performance or safety. [Presidential announcement (U.S. Newswire), 9/29/93; New York Times, 10/19/94]

Reduced EPA Paperwork For Businesses By 15 Million Hours: With the Vice President, President Clinton changed EPA rules and procedures to reduce paperwork requirements for businesses by 15 million hours. [Best Kept Secrets In Government, p. 90]

Reformed The Wetlands & Endangered Species Programs: The President reformed wetlands and endangered species programs to lessen any adverse impact on homeowners without compromising environmental protection. The Administration completed 190 habitat conservation partnerships, compared to 14 in place when the Administration took office. [President Clinton statement (U.S. Newswire), 7/12/95; Department of the Interior]

Launched A Brownfields Initiative. President Clinton proposed a targeted \$2 billion tax incentive for investors who purchase and clean up old waste sites in communities across the country -- a move that will protect public health and revitalize urban areas. [President Clinton's Remarks at Farleigh Dickinson University, 3/11/96 (Federal News Service)]

Helped To Increase Recycling: President Clinton issued an Executive Order to jump start the market for recycled goods which is now stronger than ever. [Executive Order 12873, 10/20/93]

A RECORD TO BUILD ON:

→ **Recognize & Restore Outstanding Stretches Of America's Rivers:** Select ten American Heritage Rivers this year.

Expand Community Right-To-Know Laws: Expand these laws and challenge communities to use the information to work with business to cut pollution.

Clean Up Two-Thirds Of Superfund Sites By 2000 -- 500 More In Four Years: Challenging Congress to provide true reform of the Superfund program and to drop proposals to force taxpayers to pick up the tab to clean up toxic waste.

Get Tough On Criminal Polluters: This can be done by strengthening penalties for the worst environmental criminals and ensuring that courts can secure polluters' assets in order to restore the communities they victimize.

Negotiate A Global Accord To Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

Challenge Congress to provide true reform of the Endangered Species Act.

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Clinton-Gore Administration Accomplishments

POLITICAL & GOVERNMENT REFORM

"Our second piece of unfinished business requires us to commit ourselves tonight, before the eyes of America, to finally enacting bipartisan campaign finance reform... So let's set our own deadline. Let's work together to write bipartisan campaign finance reform into law and pass McCain-Feingold by the day we celebrate the birth of our democracy, July the Fourth." -- President Clinton, State of the Union, February 2, 1997

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

Reforming Our Political System

Signed Motor-Voter Bill Into Law Leading To 9 Million New Voters: President Clinton signed the National Voter Registration Act ("Motor-Voter") which registered at least nine million new voters and made voting easier for more than 20 million Americans from January 1995 to June 1996.

"Motor-Voter" has already created the greatest expansion of the voter registration rolls since the 19th century. [P.L. 103-31, U.S. Newswire, 5/20/93; National Motor Voter Coalition study, 10/15/96; USA Today, 10/15/96]

Fought For Meaningful Campaign Finance Reform: In 1992 Governor Clinton proposed voluntary campaign spending limits, free TV time, PAC limits, and a ban on soft money. In May 1993, President Clinton unveiled his campaign finance reform plan which Fred Wertheimer called a "strong campaign finance reform proposal." This plan was eventually killed by a Republican filibuster. In 1996, President Clinton supported the bipartisan McCain/Feingold campaign finance reform bill which was also killed by a Republican filibuster. President Clinton continues to support this legislation and has named former Senators Walter Mondale (D-MN) and Nancy Kassebaum-Baker (R-KS) to head a campaign finance reform education project. [Washington Post, 3/18/97; 5/8/93; Newsday, 7/4/96; AP, 10/3/92; 10/30/92]

Cracking Down On Special Interests

Signed Toughest Overhaul Of Lobbying Rules In 50 Years: President Clinton fought for and signed the Lobby Disclosure Act -- the first major overhaul of the lobbying rules in 50 years. This bill requires lobbyists to disclose who they work for and eliminated loopholes that allowed lobbying organizations to avoid disclosure. [P.L. 104-65, Public Papers of President, 12/19/95]

Eliminated Tax Deduction For Lobbying: President Clinton eliminated the tax deductibility of the cost of lobbying expenses for corporations. [P.L. 103-66; Public Papers of the President, 8/10/93; New York Times, 8/27/93]

Fought For And Signed A Ban On Gifts From Lobbyists: In his 1995 State-of-the-Union Address, President Clinton challenged the Congress to ban gifts, meals, travel and entertainment from lobbyists. The Congress subsequently passed the ban on November 16th, 1995. [P.L. 104-65, Public Papers of President, 12/19/95]

Strictest White House Ethics Guidelines Ever: On his first day in office, President Clinton imposed the strictest Administration ethics guidelines ever -- including a five-year ban on top officials lobbying their former agencies and a lifetime ban against lobbying for foreign governments. [Executive Order 12832, Public Papers of the President, 1/20/93]

Reinventing Government

The Smallest Federal Government in 30 Years: From January 1993 to January 1997, President Clinton and Vice President Gore cut the federal civilian workforce by 309,000 positions. The size of the federal government is now at its *lowest level in 30 years*. President Clinton has *eliminated 16,000 pages* of obsolete regulations affecting the public and rewriting 31,000 more. Vice President Gore's Reinventing Government efforts have already *saved \$118 billion* by cutting wasteful government practices and spending. Additional recommendations will save billions more. [Office of Personnel Management, 1/97; 1996 Best Kept Secrets In Government, p. 1; p. 4]

Washington Is Now Accountable For Abiding By The Laws It Passes: President Clinton fought for enactment of the Congressional Accountability Act & the Presidential & Executive Office Accountability Act. These acts ensure that the Congress and the Executive Office of the President live under the same laws as the rest of the country. [P.L. 104-1, P.L. 104-331 Public Papers of the President, 1/23/95; 10/26/96]

Signed Bill Ending Unfunded Mandates From Washington: In 1995 President Clinton signed a bill which restricted Congress from imposing new requirements on state and local governments without paying for them. [P.L. 104-4, Public Papers of the President, 3/22/95]

Signed Line Item Veto Into Law To Fight Government Waste: President Clinton fought for and signed into law line-item veto legislation which significantly enhances the presidential authority to eliminate wasteful spending by allowing the president to cancel wasteful special interest projects and special interest tax loopholes that sneak into the budget year after year. [P.L. 104-130; Public Papers of the President, 4/9/96]

A RECORD TO BUILD ON:

- **Pass Real Campaign Finance Reform This Year:** Pass the first truly bipartisan campaign finance reform bill (McCain-Feingold, Shays-Meehan) in a generation that will reduce the amount of money that is raised and spent on federal elections and open the airwaves to all candidates.
- **Finish The Job Of Balancing The Budget:**
Since taking office in 1993, President Clinton has cut the deficit from \$290 billion to \$75 billion. President Clinton is now working to enact into law an historic bipartisan budget agreement which will balance the federal budget by the year 2002.
- **Get Gillespie To Find Something Else To Put Here:**
entitlement reform?

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Clinton-Gore Administration Accomplishments

FOREIGN POLICY

"To prepare America for the 21st century we must master the forces of change in the world and keep American leadership strong and sure for an uncharted time... Let us do what it takes to remain the indispensable nation, to keep America strong, secure and prosperous for another 50 years." -- President Clinton, State of the Union address, February 4, 1997

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

Protecting American Interests

Forged A Deal To Stop Russian Nuclear Missiles From Pointing At U.S.: For the first time in over 40 years, Russian nuclear missiles are no longer pointed at America's children and Ukraine, Belarus and Kazhakstan gave up nuclear weapons altogether. [President Clinton's State of the Union address, 1/25/94]

Successfully Secured Bipartisan Senate Ratification Of The Start II Treaty: This treaty reduced U.S. and Russian nuclear stockpiles by another 25%. [AP, 1/26/96]

Persuaded North Korea To Freeze & Eventually Dismantle Its Dangerous Nuclear Weapons Program. [President Clinton statement, Federal News Service, 10/18/94]

Signed New Anti-Terrorism Legislation: President Clinton intensified the fight against terrorism by pressing for and signing new anti-terrorism legislation imposing sanctions on Iran and Libya for state-sponsored terrorism and providing law enforcement officials with tougher tools to stop terrorists before they strike, ensuring strong penalties for the convicted. [P.L. 104-132, Public Papers of the President, 4/26/96]

Fought For & Secured Bipartisan Senate Ratification Of Chemical Weapons Convention: President Clinton's leadership helped ensure passage of this treaty which will bans the production, stockpiling, and use of chemical weapons and which will reduce the threat of chemical weapons disasters. [Washington Post, 4/25/97]

Deployed Aircraft Carriers To Taiwan Straits To Deter China: When China conducted provocative military exercises, in 1996, President Clinton deployed two aircraft carriers. [L.A. Times, 3/11/96]

Imposed The Toughest Sanctions Ever On Cuba: President Clinton imposed the toughest sanctions on Castro's Cuba following the brutal killing of U.S. nationals over international waters. [President Clinton announcement, (Federal News Service), 2/26/96]

Shaped The New American Military For Post Cold-War Challenges: President Clinton's leadership ensures that America remains the best-equipped, best-trained and best-prepared fighting force in the world.

Swiftly Deployed U.S. Forces To Deter Resurgent Iraqi Threats. [President Clinton Letter to Congressional Leaders on Iraq, 3/7/97]

Ordered The Reorganization Of U.S. Foreign Policy Agencies: The President has ordered the merger of ACDA, USIA, & USAID into a new and better coordinated State Department to make the conduct of U.S. foreign policy more accountable and responsive to the challenges of the 21st century. [New York Times, 4/18/97]

Leading The Fight For Peace & Democracy

Brokered The Dayton Peace Accords And Ended Four Years Of Bloodshed: President Clinton's Dayton Peace accords ended four years of rape, bloodshed, and ethnic cleansing in Bosnia, America is now helping to provide a secure environment so that peace, democracy and economic reconstruction can proceed. [President Clinton letter to Senator Daschle (D-SD), Public Papers of the President, 12/11/95]

Negotiated Israel-Jordan Peace Treaty: President Clinton championed peace efforts in the Middle East by negotiating the Israel-Jordan peace treaty and helping Israelis and Palestinians fulfill their historic peace agreement. [President Clinton remarks at signing of Peace Treaty, 10/26/94 (U.S. Newswire, 10/27/94)]

Led International Efforts To Adopt Counter-Terrorism Initiatives: President Clinton led these efforts at the Summit of the Peacemakers in Egypt in March 1996, at the G-7 Economic Summit in France in June 1996, and at the July 1996 Paris Terrorism Ministerials. [President Clinton statements, (Public Papers of the President) 3/13/96; 6/27/96]

Negotiated A Written Agreement Between Syria and Israel: This agreement ended Hezbollah attacks on Israel, restored peace, and protected civilians on both sides of the Lebanon-Israel border. [President Clinton statement, (U.S. Newswire), 4/26/96]

Successfully Managed Israeli Troop Withdrawal From Hebron: The President advanced the Middle East Peace Process by successfully managing the Israeli troop withdrawal from the West Bank town of Hebron. [President Clinton statement, 1/15/97]

Restored Democracy To Haiti: President Clinton stopped the flow of refugees to the U.S. and accomplished the first transfer of power from one democratically-elected president to another in Haitian history. [P.L. 103-423, Public Papers of the President, 10/25/94; President Clinton Letter to Congressional Leaders on Haiti, 3/21/96]

President Clinton Became The First American President To Engage Directly In The Pursuit Of A Just & Lasting Peace In Northern Ireland. [Reuters, 8/31/94; 5/14/94]

Led The Way On NATO Expansion: Expansion of the NATO alliance would help extend European security and democracy. [President Clinton's Remarks, 1/11/94; Partnership For Peace, 1/10/94; President Clinton's Remarks, (U.S. Newswire), 5/14/97]

A RECORD TO BUILD ON:

President Clinton will continue to stand up for American values abroad. By supporting those who are taking risks for peace, we are living up to the promise of American leadership and helping secure a future of peace and prosperity for all. President is challenging the Congress and other countries to:

- **Intensify The Fight Against Terrorism & Organized Crime:** Continue to combat terrorism at home and abroad by working for tougher enforcement and more cross-border cooperation.
- **Secure A Truly Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty:**
- **Aggressively Combat International Drug-Trafficking:** Continue to aggressively fight international drug-trafficking by working closely with other countries, providing military support and initiating anti-corruption efforts to stem the flow of drugs.

- **Targeting Teen-Age Smoking:** President Clinton proposed the first-ever comprehensive program to protect children from the dangers of tobacco. The Food and Drug Administration has already issued rules aimed at teen-age smoking, such as making 18 the age for the purchase of cigarettes nationwide.[Food and Drug Administration Press Release, 4/15/97]
- **Protecting Children's Health Through Increased Immunizations:** The President has established a Childhood Immunization Initiative to ensure vaccinations and healthy futures for all children. In 1995, the immunization rate for two-year olds reached 76%, a record high. And these vaccinations are working: the number of reported cases of diphtheria, mumps, tetanus, measles, rubella, and polio continue to be at or near record low levels.[Centers for Disease Control, Press Release, 2/27/97]
- **Reaching Full Participation in WIC:** The Clinton Administration is committed to full funding in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), reaching 7.5 million participants by the end of FY97. This program works: Every dollar invested in WIC has been proven to save \$ 3 in preventive health-care costs.[Federal Department and Agency Documents, 2/6/97]
- **More Educational Television:** Joined together with the four major television networks to support a proposal to require broadcasters to air three hours of quality educational programming each week.[AP 7/29/96; Statement by the President, 7/29/96]

Strengthening Our Families

- **Strengthening Families:** The first bill President Clinton signed was the Family Medical Leave Act, which enables workers to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave to care for family members without fear of losing their jobs. More than 12 million families have taken leave since its enactment. [Commission on Family Medical Leave, A Workable Balance - Report to Congress, 1996; Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, P.L. 103-3, signed February 5, 1993]
- **Greater Health Care Security for Millions of American Families:** Because President Clinton believes that we should provide more Americans with access to health care services, he fought for and signed the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, also known as Kennedy-Kassebaum. The bill limited exclusions for pre-existing conditions, ended "job-lock" by making health coverage portable, and helped individuals who lose jobs maintain insurance coverage. The Health Insurance Reform Bill President Clinton signed into law protects the health care of millions of working Americans, giving millions of families peace of mind.[Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, P.L. 104-191, signed 8/21/96]

- **Cutting taxes for millions of working families:** President Clinton expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit to give 15 million working families tax relief. Today, that earned income tax credit is worth about \$1,000 to a family of four with an income under \$28,000 a year. The Earned Income Tax Credit lifts full-time workers with children out of poverty.[Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, P.L. 103-66, signed August 10, 1993]
- **Increasing the Minimum Wage:** The President proposed and signed into law an increase in the minimum wage from \$4.25 to \$5.15 over two years. For a full-time, year-round worker at minimum wage, this 90-cent increase raises yearly income by \$1,800 -- as much as the average family spends on groceries over seven months. The law signed by President Clinton will increase the wages of 10 million Americans, giving them a chance to raise stronger families and build better futures. [Small Business Job Protection Act Of 1996, P.L.104-188, Signed 8/20/96]

Ensuring Responsibility

- **Enforcing Child Support:** The Clinton Administration collected a record \$11.8 billion in child support in 1996 through tougher enforcement, an increase of \$4 billion, or nearly 50%, since 1992.[Source: HHS Press release, 4/14/96] President Clinton also issued an Executive Order to help track down federal workers who fail to pay child support.[Executive Order 12953, 2/27/95]
- **Moving People From Welfare to Work:** During the first four years of the Clinton Administration, from January 1993 to January 1997, the number of people receiving welfare benefits fell by 20%, or 2.75 million recipients - the largest decline in the welfare rolls in 50 years. This historic decline occurred in response to the Administration's grants of federal waivers to 43 states to experiment with innovative approaches to ending welfare dependency, as well as in response to a strong economy. These waivers gave states the freedom to reform welfare on the local level, including setting time limits on benefits, requiring recipients to work or stay in school, providing child care and giving employers incentives to hire welfare recipients.[Council of Economic Advisors, Explaining the Decline in Welfare Receipt: 1992-1996, 5/9/97]
- **Overhauling the Welfare System:** Last year the President signed a bipartisan welfare plan that will dramatically change the nation's welfare system into one that requires work in exchange for time-limited assistance. The law contains strong work requirements, a performance bonus to reward states for moving welfare recipients into jobs, state maintenance of effort requirements, comprehensive child care enforcement, and supports for families moving from welfare to work -- including increased funding for child care and guaranteed medical coverage.[Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, P.L. 104-193, signed 8/22/97]

- **Breaking the Cycle of Dependency:** The Clinton Administration took executive action in May 1996 to require teenage mothers to stay in school and sign personal responsibility contracts or lose their welfare benefits. Having a baby should not be the ticket to leaving home and dropping out of school.[Memorandum from the President on the Welfare Initiative for Teen Parents, 5/10/96]

THE CHALLENGES AHEAD:

America is moving in the right direction. The crime rate is down, welfare rolls and food stamp participation are falling and the teen pregnancy rate has dropped. But we still have more work to do to ensure the health, safety and futures of our children and families. The President's agenda includes:

- Expanding health insurance coverage for all children whose parents cannot afford it.
- Providing families with a \$500 per child tax credit.
- Expanding the accessibility of child care information and services to parents, expanding child care funding available to low-income working families and working with states to improve the quality of services.
- Expanding the Family Medical Leave Act to better help workers care for their families without sacrificing their work obligations. This expansion would allow workers to take up to 24 hours of unpaid leave in support of their children's education needs, older relatives' health care and other family medical obligations.

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**PRESIDENT CLINTON:
PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE NEW CENTURY**

"Looking ahead, the greatest step of all -- the high threshold of the future we now must cross -- and my number one priority for the next four years is to ensure that all Americans have the best education in the world."

President Clinton

State of the Union, February 4, 1997

A Commitment to Education

President Clinton has made an unprecedented commitment to education: the President's Budget Agreement with Congress includes the largest increase in our investment in education in 30 years and the largest single boost in college aid since the G.I. Bill.

ENSURING THAT EVERY CHILD IN AMERICA CAN LEARN

- **Voluntary National Standards.**

Leading a National Crusade for Education Standards. President Clinton has challenged every state to adopt high national standards, so that by 1999, every 4th grade student will be tested in reading and every 8th grade reader will be tested in math. These standards will represent what all our children must know to succeed in the knowledge economy. [Already five states have joined the President's effort.]

Goals 2000. The President's National Standards effort builds upon the success of Goals 2000, a Clinton Administration initiative enacted in 1994, that helps participating States establish voluntary standards of excellence for all children and plan and implement steps to raise educational achievement. All states have now chosen to receive Goals 2000 funding. [Goals 2000: Educate America Act, P.L. 103-227; Office of Management and Budget, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 1998, 1997]

- **Launched America Reads.** President Clinton launched America Reads Challenge, a nationwide effort to mobilize a citizen army of a million volunteer tutors to make sure every child can read independently by the end of third grade. [The 1997 Congressional Budget Resolution] The President's Budget Agreement with Republicans includes America's Reading Corps: 25,000 reading specialists and 11,000 AmeriCorps members serving as recruiters and coordinators, to enlist an army of one million volunteer.[1997 Budget Agreement]
- **Expanding Head Start to Reach 1 Million Children a Year.** President Clinton has made Head Start an Administration priority. For over 30 years, Head Start has helped low-income families create an environment where their children are ready to learn by taking a

comprehensive approach to child development - improving children's learning skills, health, nutrition, and social competency. Under the Clinton administration, funding for Head Start has increased 80% to \$4 billion in 1997. These additional funds have enabled Head Start to serve 180,000 more children and their families. And President Clinton's Budget Agreement with Congress continues expansion of Head Start toward the President's goal of serving 1 million children in 2002.[Budget Agreement; HHS Press Release, 3/26/97]

- **Expanding School-To-Work.** The Clinton Administration is providing hundreds of thousands of students with school-to-work opportunities, where they experience work-based learning and gain access to pathways from high school to good jobs and post-secondary education. [School-to-Work Opportunities Act, P.L. 103-239] In 1994 and 1995, over 500,000 young people in 1,800 schools throughout the nation, as well as 135,000 employers, participated in school-to-work systems that integrate academic and vocational instruction and provide work-based learning. [Source: Department of Education, 12/96]
- **Expanding Opportunity for Disabled Children.** President Clinton signed legislation reauthorizing the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), strengthening and reaffirming our nation's 20-year commitment to disabled children and their parents. The IDEA demonstrates the Administration's commitment to educational opportunity for all, by helping ensure that children with disabilities are included in all facets of community life and are able to become independent and productive citizens.[Title,

PREPARING OUR SCHOOLS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

- **Bringing Computers to the Classroom.** The President's 1997 Budget Agreement with Congress doubles the funding for America's Technology Literacy Challenge, catalyzing private-public sector partnerships to put the information age at our children's fingertips. The President is committed to helping communities and the private sector ensure that every student is equipped with the computer literacy skills needed for the 21st century. For 1998, the budget proposes \$425 million, more than doubling the \$200 million that Congress provided in 1997.[1997 Budget Agreement]
- **Linking Children to the Internet.** The Clinton Administration is implementing a plan to create an "E-Rate," a discounted education rate for telecommunications services so schools and libraries will be able to bring technology into the classroom, set up phone lines and access the Internet at a fraction of the cost. The Federal Communications Commission has already approved a plan to make discounts worth \$2.25 billion annually available to our schools and libraries.[Source: Education Department Initiatives, 5/8/97]
- **Expanding school choice and accountability in public education.** The President has challenged every state to let parents choose the right public school for their children. The Clinton Administration is helping teachers, parents and community groups to start charter schools -- innovative public schools that stay open only as long as they produce results and meet the highest standards. The President's proposed budget doubles funding to help start

charter schools so that there will be more than 3,000 charter schools at the dawn of the 21st century. [Office of Management and Budget, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 1998, 1997]

OPENING THE DOOR TO COLLEGE

- **Making the 13th and 14th years of education universal.**

America's Hope Scholarships The President's Budget Agreement with Congress funds these scholarships, which provide students with a \$1,500 refundable tax credit for full-time tuition in their first year and second year of college. [Office of Management and Budget, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 1998, 1997]

A targeted tax deduction of up \$10,000 a year for all tuition after high school. The President's Budget Agreement with Congress will fund this initiative as part of the \$35 billion in tax cuts for higher education. This tax cut will put college in the reach of millions of American families.

The largest increase in Pell Grants in 20 years. President Clinton has already increased Pell Grants from \$2,300 in 1993 to \$2,700 in 1997. These grants will provide a total of 3.8 million low-income students the opportunity to attend college this year. [Source: Department of Education (Memo to President, 12/6/96)] And he plans to do more. The President's Budget Agreement with Congress includes the largest increase in Pell Grants in two decades -- a funding boost of 25%. The maximum award will reach \$3,000, \$700 more than in 1993. In the 1998 budget alone, an additional 348,000 students will receive grants: 130,000 young people from moderate income families, and 218,000 low income students over the age of 24. [Source: Budget Agreement - Domestic Policy Council Background]

- **Expanding Student Loans.** President Clinton has reformed the student loan program, making college more affordable this year for millions of students through the Direct Lending program. [Student Loan Reform Act of 1993, P.L. 103-66] More than 2.1 million student and parent borrowers have received direct loans since the program began. [Source: Department of Education, 12/96] Under this Administration, the rate of student loan defaults within the first two years after borrowers leave college has reached an all-time low. The losses from student loan defaults fell from \$ 1.7 billion in 1992 to \$ 249 million in 1996 - an 86% drop. [Budget; Department of Education Press Release, 1/9/97]
- **Expanding Educational Opportunity Through Service.** The Clinton Administration has enabled 70,000 volunteers to earn money for college by serving their communities and their country in the AmeriCorps program. [The National and Community Service Act, P.L. 103-82; U.S. Newswire, 4/28/97]

PRESIDENT CLINTON DELIVERS THE LARGEST SINGLE INVESTMENT IN CHILDREN'S HEALTH CARE SINCE THE PASSAGE OF MEDICAID IN 1965

The President fought hard to ensure that the Budget Agreement includes \$24 billion to provide meaningful health care coverage to as many as five million of our nation's ten million uninsured children. This investment includes a meaningful benefits package, ensures that states use this money to cover uninsured children and not replace existing public or private spending, and guarantees adequate cost-sharing protections for families.

- ✓ **1 INVESTS UNPRECEDENTED \$24 BILLION FOR UNINSURED CHILDREN.** The President insisted on increasing the investment for children's health from \$16 billion to \$24 billion by including revenue from a new tobacco tax. Because of the President's leadership, this budget will contain the largest children's health care budget increase since the enactment of Medicaid in 1965. Including these additional revenues in the children's health initiative will not only further reduce the number of uninsured children, but it will also serve as a financial barrier to help prevent our children from starting smoking in the first place.
- ✓ **2 ENSURES MEANINGFUL HEALTH CARE COVERAGE, WHILE ALLOWING STATES TO DESIGN THEIR OWN BENEFITS PACKAGES.** The President fought hard to ensure that this investment guarantees the full range of benefits -- from checkups to surgery -- that children need to grow up strong and healthy. The President also worked to ensure that prescription drugs, vision, hearing, and mental health coverage now offered at the state level are extended to millions of uninsured children.
- ✓ **GIVES STATES THE FLEXIBILITY TO DESIGN BENEFITS THAT MEET THEIR NEEDS.** States will be able to choose from any of four benefits packages: (1) the FEHPB model; (2) the benefits package of the most popular state HMO; (3) the state employee plan; and (4) the actuarial equivalent of any of the three stated benefit plans as long as prescription drugs, vision, hearing, and mental health services now offered in these plans are guaranteed to equal at least 75 percent of the value of these services.
- ✓ **3 SUPPLEMENTS, NOT SUPPLANTS, CURRENT HEALTH CARE COVERAGE.** Includes provisions to ensure that states provide health care coverage to children who do not currently have health insurance. It requires that states maintain their current Medicaid eligibility levels of spending to access Federal dollars to ensure that this investment is not used to replace public or private money that already covers children.
- ✓ **ENSURES ADEQUATE COST-SHARING PROTECTIONS.** The President fought to ensure that families are not forced to shoulder excessive costs for their children. The Agreement guarantees that families under 150 percent of poverty will be protected against overly burdensome cost sharing.

PRESIDENT CLINTON DELIVERS A \$500 CHILD TAX CREDIT FOR APPROXIMATELY 27 MILLION FAMILIES

MAIN FEATURES OF THE CHILD TAX CREDIT:

- **Age.** Covers children under 17.
- **Amount per child.** \$400 in 1998. \$500 thereafter.
- **Income limits.** Begins to be phased out for couples making over \$110,000 and for one parent families making over \$75,000.
- **"Stacking."** Child tax credit will be calculated or "stacked" before the EITC, and will therefore be available for the up to 7.5 million children in working families who have incomes below \$30,000 and who were denied the child tax credit under the congressional bills.
- **For families with more than two children — Refundability to cover out-of-pocket income and payroll taxes.** Because many large families have little income tax liability, but pay significant out-of-pocket payroll taxes, the child tax credit for these families is partially refundable. These families will receive a child credit for their income taxes plus the extent to which their out-of-pocket (employee share) payroll taxes exceed their EITC.
- **Savings Incentive.** Taxpayers will be given the opportunity to contribute \$500 each year to an education Individual Retirement Account (IRA). Earnings would accumulate tax-free in the account, and no taxes will be due upon withdrawal for an approved purpose.

A CHILD TAX CREDIT FOR FAMILIES WHO WORK HARD AND PAY TAXES.

13 million children from families with incomes below \$30,000 will receive the child tax credit — up to 7.5 million* more than would have under the Congressional plans. Families making under \$30,000 like young teachers, police officers, farmers, nurses and others who work hard and play by the rules will now receive the Child Tax Credit. *Comparison to House passed bill; vs. Senate bill: 5.9 million.

President Clinton worked to ensure that under any final agreement, these young parents would receive a child tax credit to make it easier for them to raise their children.

Consider a family of four with two small children: the father is a rookie police officer making \$23,000, and the mother has chosen to stay at home. Both congressional bills would have denied this family, and millions of others, the child tax credit. Under the final agreement, this family will receive a child tax credit of \$675.

	President Clinton's Proposal	Agreement	House Bill	Senate Bill
<i>Child Tax Credit for family of rookie police officer making \$23,000</i>	\$767	\$675	\$0	\$0

PRESIDENT CLINTON DELIVERS EDUCATION TAX CUTS TO HELP MIDDLE CLASS FAMILIES PAY FOR COLLEGE

THE PRESIDENT'S HOPE SCHOLARSHIP AND TUITION TAX CREDIT

From the beginning, promoting expanded educational opportunity has been the centerpiece of President Clinton's budget and his middle class tax cut proposal. Promoting education is the centerpiece of this final tax cut bill:

- ✓ **\$1,500 HOPE Scholarship to make the first two years of college universally available.** The final agreement includes the President's program to advance the goal of making the 13th and 14th grades as universally available as a high school diploma is today. Students will receive a scholarship of 100% on the first \$1,000 of tuition and fees and 50% on the second \$1,000.
- ✓ **20% Tuition Tax Credit for College Juniors, Seniors, Graduate Students and working Americans pursuing lifelong learning to upgrade their skills.** The 20% credit will be applied to the first \$5,000 of tuition and fees through 2002, and to the first \$10,000 thereafter.. The President has long understood that the economy is changing and that people must have the opportunity to enhance their skills throughout their working lives. This is why the President insisted on the 20% tuition tax credit that is in the final bill and is a major improvement over the Congressionally-passed bills.

A SUMMARY OF ADDITIONAL EDUCATION TAX CUTS

- ***Education and Retirement Savings Accounts.*** Allows penalty-free IRA withdrawals for undergraduate, post-secondary vocational, and graduate education expenses. Additionally, taxpayers are given the opportunity to deposit \$500 into an education IRA. Earnings would accumulate tax-free and no taxes will be due upon withdrawal for an approved purpose.
- ***Employer-Provided Education Benefits.*** Extends Section 127 of the tax code for three years, which allows workers to exclude \$5,250 of employer-provided undergraduate education benefits from their taxable income.
- ***Student Loan Interest Deduction.*** Allows a deduction for up to \$2,500 per year of interest on education loans for expenses of students enrolled at an institution of higher education. This deduction will be available even if the taxpayer does not itemize deductions.
- ***Community Service Loan Forgiveness.*** In most circumstances, a loan that is forgiven is considered income and is therefore taxable. To encourage programs that offer loan forgiveness to borrowers who take lower-paying, community-service jobs, the agreement excludes from taxable income both loan amounts forgiven through programs run by nonprofit tax-exempt charitable or educational institutions. Currently, the exclusion generally covers only certain forgiveness arrangements between students and government entities.
- ***Repeal Cap on Tax Exempt Bond Issuance by Colleges and Universities.*** Repeals the \$150 million bond cap that affects private higher education institutions and certain other charitable institutions. The repeal applies to tax-exempt bonds issued by these institutions to finance new capital expenditures.

PRESIDENT CLINTON DELIVERS A BUDGET THAT STRENGTHENS AND PRESERVES MEDICARE

The Budget Agreement preserves and strengthens the Medicare program, saving \$115 billion over five years and extending the life of the Medicare Trust Fund for at least ten years. It modernizes Medicare by including new market-oriented reforms that have proved successful in the private sector plus \$4 billion in new preventive benefits. As this agreement strengthens and preserves the Medicare program, it also creates a Medicare Commission to examine the long-term needs of the program so that Medicare will be prepared for the retirement of the baby boomers.

- ✓ **SAVES APPROXIMATELY \$115 BILLION OVER FIVE YEARS.** Includes about \$115 billion in savings over five years and between \$400-\$450 billion over ten years.
- ✓ **EXTENDS THE LIFE OF THE MEDICARE TRUST FUND FOR AT LEAST TEN YEARS.** This agreement will keep Medicare solvent until at least 2007.
- ✓ **IMPLEMENTS NEW MARKET-ORIENTED REFORMS INCLUDING:**
 - (1) Empowering the Secretary of Health and Human Services to implement competitive market mechanisms;
 - (2) Opening up new options that offer more choice among competing health plans and have proven effective in the private sector, including Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) and Provider Sponsored Organizations (PSOs);
 - (3) Providing Americans with meaningful choices by reforming annual Medigap enrollment; and
 - (4) Building on Medicare's success in controlling hospital costs, restructuring the payment systems for home health, agencies, skilled nursing facilities and hospital outpatient departments so that rates are set in advance through a prospective payment system.
- ✓ **INCLUDES \$4 BILLION OVER FIVE YEARS FOR NEW PREVENTIVE BENEFITS.** Expanding coverage for mammograms and colorectal screening and improving self-management of diseases like diabetes.
- ✓ **ENSURES NEW PREMIUM PROTECTIONS FOR LOW-INCOME MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES.** The budget agreement invests \$1.5 billion over five years to pay the premiums for beneficiaries up to 135 percent of poverty. Beneficiaries over 135 percent of poverty to as high as 175 percent of poverty will get assistance as well.
- ✓ **TAKES STEPS TO ENSURE THAT VULNERABLE HOSPITALS ARE PROTECTED.** The Agreement reduces the Medicare Disproportionate Share Hospitals cut from \$2.4 billion in the Senate-passed bill to \$600 million over five years.
- ✓ **ESTABLISHES A MEDICARE COMMISSION.** The agreement creates a 17-member Medicare Commission which contains eight Democrats and eight Republicans and a Chair who will be selected jointly by the President and the Congressional leadership. The Commission will release a report in 1999 and require an 11 of 17 majority to ensure that its recommendations are bipartisan.

THE BUDGET AGREEMENT PROTECTED THE PRESIDENT'S PRIORITY PROGRAMS, INCLUDING EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Budget Agreement achieved 99% of the President's budget for non-defense discretionary spending over the next 5 years. While priority items are protected, there are \$61 billion of savings in non-defense discretionary outlays over the next 5 years -- a 10% real cut by 2002. These priorities will be ratified in the appropriations process under the budget agreement.

LARGEST INCREASE IN EDUCATION INVESTMENT IN 30 YEARS

The budget agreement endorsed President Clinton's overall plan for investing in education and training -- \$63 billion more than the Republican plan over five years. With the tax cuts for education, this represents the largest increase in the Federal investment in education in 30 years. The agreement specifically calls for:

- ✓ **Increases funding for Head Start to continue on road to achieve enrollment of 1 million kids in 2002.**
- ✓ **Largest Pell Grant increase in two decades - boosts the maximum 1998 Pell grant from \$2,700 to \$3,000, and expands the program to more poor independent students.**
- ✓ **Adopts the President's budget request to launch a child literacy initiative consistent with his America Reads program.**
- ✓ **Increases funding for bilingual (27% increase) and immigrant education (50% increase).**
- ✓ **Includes all of the \$579 million increase in funding requested by the President in his FY 1998 budget of \$5.3 billion for Training and Employment Services, including Job Corps.**

BOLSTERS ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT AND KEY PROGRAMS

- ✓ **Provides a 9% increase for EPA's Operating program which includes research, enforcement, state grants and regulatory programs.**
- ✓ **Doubles the pace of Superfund cleanups, if policy details can be worked out.**
- ✓ **Provides a 6 percent increase for operation of the National Parks, and a more than doubles funding (\$156 million) for Everglades Restoration.**

PUTS MORE POLICE ON THE STREET

- ✓ **Protects funding for the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) initiative, which should put 100,000 more police officers on the street by 2000.**

URBAN INITIATIVES

- ✓ **Expansion of Community Development Financial Institution Fund.**

PRESIDENT CLINTON DELIVERS TAX CUTS TO CLEAN UP AND REVITALIZE URBAN AREAS...

- ✓ **THE BROWNFIELDS TAX INCENTIVE WILL REDUCE THE COST OF CLEANING UP THOUSANDS OF CONTAMINATED, ABANDONED SITES IN ECONOMICALLY DISTRESSED AREAS** by permitting clean-up costs to be deducted immediately for tax purposes. This will, in turn, encourage redevelopment of these areas. The tax incentive will be available for three years. *The Treasury Department estimates that this \$1.5 billion tax incentive would leverage more than \$6 billion for private sector cleanups nationwide, allowing redevelopment of 14,000 brownfields.*
- ✓ **THIS PROPOSAL IS A MAJOR PRIORITY FOR MANY OF AMERICA'S MAYORS.** Chicago Mayor Richard Daley, writing recently on behalf of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, urged Ways and Means Chairman Archer to include the President's Brownfields proposal in the tax bill: "This is a high priority for communities across the nation." [Letter to Chmn. Archer, 6/11/97]
- ✓ **CREATES NEW EMPOWERMENT ZONES.** Under the President's 1993 Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities initiative, participating communities develop a strategic plan to spur economic development, and they receive Federal tax benefits, social service grants and flexibility in use of Federal funds in order to put these plans into effect. The EZs and ECs are urban or rural areas with high poverty and unemployment rates.
 - ***A Strong Start since 1994.*** The 105 communities selected as EZ/ECs in 1994 amassed over \$8 billion in public-private commitments. In the six urban Empowerment Zones, the private sector has made or pledged \$2 billion in new investments.
 - ***A Second Round to Build on Successes.*** In response, the President proposed, and the bill includes, a second round of EZs -- 15 urban and 5 rural EZs. The new EZs will benefit from a different blend of tax credits from first-round EZs. They will be eligible for the Brownfields tax incentive, special expensing of business assets, and qualification for private-activity bonds.

...AND TO MOVE PEOPLE FROM WELFARE TO WORK

- ✓ **A WELFARE-TO-WORK TAX CREDIT.** This provision will give employers an added incentive to hire long-term welfare recipients by providing a credit equal to 35% of the first \$10,000 in wages in the first year of employment, and 50% of the first \$10,000 in wages in the second year, paid to new hires who have received welfare for an extended period. The credit is for two years per worker to encourage not only hiring, but also retention.
- ✓ **\$3 BILLION TO HELP MOVE 1 MILLION PEOPLE FROM WELFARE TO WORK.** Includes President's proposal to create \$3 billion Welfare to Work Jobs Challenge to move long-term welfare recipients into lasting, unsubsidized jobs. These funds can be used for job creation, job placement and job retention efforts, including wage subsidies to private employers, transportation and other critical post-employment support services. The Labor Department will provide oversight but the dollars will be placed in the hands of the localities who are on the front lines of the welfare reform effort.
- ✓ **PRESERVES THE MINIMUM WAGE AND OTHER LABOR PROTECTIONS FOR WELFARE RECIPIENTS MOVING FROM WELFARE TO WORK.** Does not include the House-passed provision to leave welfare participants unprotected by the Fair Labor Standards Act and other employment laws.
- ✓ **PROTECTS WORKERS FROM DISPLACEMENT BY THOSE LEAVING THE WELFARE ROLLS;** and establishes a strong process for workers to raise grievances with an independent agency.

PRESIDENT CLINTON FOUGHT TO PROTECT OUR MOST VULNERABLE PEOPLE

Several provisions in last year's welfare reform bill had nothing to do with the goals of welfare reform. The President said so at the time and promised to work to correct these provisions. That's why he fought to ensure that any agreement protects the most vulnerable in our society. The President fought to better protect:

CHILDREN

- ✓ **KEEPING THE MEDICAID GUARANTEE.** Preserves the Federal guarantee of Medicaid coverage for the vulnerable populations who depend on it, and contains additional investments to extend coverage to uninsured children. Also ensures that 30,000 disabled children losing SSI because of the new tighter eligibility criteria keep their Medicaid coverage.

LEGAL IMMIGRANTS

- ✓ **CURRENT RECIPIENTS.** Restores both SSI and Medicaid benefits for immigrants now receiving assistance, ensuring that they will not be turned out of their apartments or nursing homes or otherwise left helpless.
- ✓ **CURRENT RESIDENT NONRECIPIENTS.** Does not change the rules retroactively. Immigrants in the country as of August 22, 1996 but not receiving benefits at that time who subsequently become disabled will also be fully eligible for SSI and Medicaid benefits. The budget will restore benefits to over 350,000 legal immigrants in FY 2002.
- ✓ **REFUGEES AND ASYLEES.** Extends the SSI and Medicaid eligibility period for refugees and asylees from 5 years after entry (the limit in the welfare bill) to 7 years to give these residents more time to naturalize. Adopts Administration proposal to treat Cuban and Haitian entrants and Amerasian immigrants as refugees to preserve benefits for these groups that have endured extraordinary hardships.

POOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED, INCLUDING CITIZENS

- ✓ **RECIPIENTS OF STATE SSI SUPPLEMENTS.** Does not include the House-passed provision that would have repealed the maintenance-of-effort requirement applying to State supplementation of SSI benefits which would have permitted States to reduce or eliminate benefits to almost 3 million poor blind, elderly and disabled individuals.

PEOPLE WHO WANT TO WORK BUT CAN'T FIND A JOB

- ✓ **235,000 MORE WORK SLOTS.** Last year's welfare reform bill restricted food stamps for able-bodied childless adults to only 3 out of every 36 months, unless they were working. This move ignored the fact that finding a job often takes time. The budget bill provides nearly \$1 billion for an estimated 235,000 work slots over 5 years and food stamp benefits to those who are willing to work but, through no fault of their own, have not yet found employment.
- ✓ **ALLOWS STATES TO EXEMPT UP TO 15 PERCENT OF THE FOOD STAMP RECIPIENTS (70,000 Individuals Monthly) WHO WOULD OTHERWISE BE DENIED BENEFITS AS A RESULT OF THE "3 IN 36" LIMIT.**

AN HISTORIC BALANCED BUDGET: BUILDING ON THE PRESIDENT'S STRONG RECORD OF DEFICIT REDUCTION AND GROWTH

President Clinton has achieved a balanced budget agreement that includes critical investments in education, health care, and the environment while strengthening and modernizing Medicare and Medicaid -- just as he promised last year. This achievement finishes the job of balancing the budget, a key priority for the President since he took office.

ONLY FOUR YEARS AGO. In 1993, the President inherited a budget deficit of \$290 billion that was expected to explode to over one-half trillion dollars in 2002. A decade of large deficits had weakened the foundation of our economy and sapped our power and prestige abroad. Unemployment was 7.5% in 1992, and job growth was sluggish.

THE PRESIDENT PASSES HIS 1993 ECONOMIC PLAN. President Clinton addressed this problem of fiscal instability immediately on a pledge to cut the deficit in half. Working with Democrats in Congress, he implemented an economic program designed to reduce the deficit and to invest in critical priorities, such as education and training. *The 1993 economic plan has exceeded all expectations: the deficit has fallen by more than 75%, dropping for a likely fifth year in a row to \$67 billion or lower in 1997; equipment investment has been the strongest since Kennedy was President; the economy has produced over 12.5 million new jobs; and the unemployment rate this year is the lowest in 24 years.*

THE PRESIDENT ACHIEVES BIPARTISAN AGREEMENT TO FINISH THE JOB. The President began his second term determined to fulfill his goal of balancing the budget. As we head into the next century, this bipartisan agreement protects our priorities, solidifies the nation's economic foundation, restores faith in our ability to govern ourselves, and bolsters America's preeminent position in the world economy. The balanced budget agreement includes roughly \$900 billion in 10 year net deficit savings and delivers the first balanced budget in a generation.

The First Balanced Budget in a Generation*		
1993	\$310	\$255
1994	\$302	\$203
1995	\$301	\$164
1996	\$298	\$107
1997	\$347	\$67
1998	\$387	\$90
1999	\$429	\$90
2000	\$475	\$83
2001	\$521	\$53
2002	\$576	\$1 Surplus

BUDGET STAYS IN BALANCE. In addition to delivering a balanced budget in 2002, the budget agreement delivers budget surpluses for each of the second five years of the budget window, 2003-2007, putting the nation on a solid fiscal path at a critical time as the baby boom generation edges toward retirement.

Year	Surplus*
2003	\$5
2004	\$20
2005	\$24
2006	\$30
2007	\$34

* Numbers from the budget agreement. Final Budget numbers from reconciliation still being tallied.

The Balanced Budget Delivers a Mainstream, Middle Class Tax Cut

How Typical American Families Will Benefit

Example #1

Consider a family of four with an income of \$40,000 a year. The father is a carpenter who makes \$25,000, and the mother works at a local department store and makes \$15,000. They have two children, a son who is 14 and a freshman in high school and a daughter enrolled full-time in her first year at a state university. Her tuition is \$5,000 a year.

This family benefits from the tax cut in at least two ways. They will receive a child tax credit of \$500 for their son, plus a HOPE Scholarship of \$1,500 for their daughter. In total, they will receive a \$2,000 tax cut.

Tax Cut

Family of four with two children
aged 14 and 18 and \$40,000 income:

Child Tax Credit for 14 year old	\$500
HOPE Scholarship for 18 year old	<u>\$1,500</u>

Total tax cut:	\$2,000
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* Tax Year 1999

Example #2

Consider a family of three making \$55,000 a year. The father has a degree in accounting and works for a local business in the accounting department. The mother works part-time at the local library. They have one daughter aged 7. The father would like to return to school to prepare for his CPA examination. He is going to attend the local liberal arts college. He has signed up for two courses with total tuition of \$4,000.

This family will receive a \$500 child tax credit for their daughter and an \$800 tuition tax credit to help pay for the father's course work.

Tax Cut

Family of three with one child
aged 7 and \$55,000 income:

Child Tax Credit for 7 year old	\$500
Tuition tax credit	<u>\$800</u>

Total tax cut:	\$1,300
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* Tax Year 1999

Example #3

Consider a family of three making \$80,000 combined. They have a daughter who is 17 years old and is trying to decide where to go to college. She is leaning towards a private liberal arts school. Her parents are staring at tuition payments in excess of \$10,000 a year for four school years and wondering how they will pay for it.

This tax cut will help. Their daughter will be eligible for a \$1,500 HOPE Scholarship in each of her first two years in college. During her junior and senior years, she will be eligible for a tuition tax credit of \$1,000. (because four school years fall across five tax years she will be eligible for another \$1,000 in the fifth year).

<u>Year</u>	<u>Tuition Tax Credits</u>
1998	\$1,500 Hope Scholarship
1999	\$1,500 Hope Scholarship
2000	\$1,000 Tuition Tax Credit
2001	\$1,000 Tuition Tax Credit
2002	\$1,000 Tuition Tax Credit
Cumulative Tax Cut to Help Pay for Daughter's Education	\$6,000

Example #4

A single mother lives with her six year old daughter in California. She's been working as a bank teller for several years and her pay is now \$20,000 a year. Working towards becoming a loan officer, she is taking one course a semester towards a bachelor's degree. Her tuition is \$1,000. This family will receive a \$500 child tax credit for the daughter and a \$200 tuition tax credit.

Tax Cut

Family of two with one child
aged 6 and \$20,000 income:

Child Tax Credit for 6 year old	\$500
Tuition Tax Credit	<u>\$200</u>
Total tax cut:	\$700

* Tax Year 1999

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 2, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL DPC STAFF

FROM: Paul Weinstein

SUBJECT: **Clinton-Gore Administration Accomplishments Document**

Please review the draft Clinton-Gore Accomplishments document and provide written edits on the appropriate sections to me by COB ~~Tuesday~~ Monday.

PREPARING AMERICA FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Clinton-Gore Administration Accomplishments

June 1997

ECONOMY: The Best American Economy In A Generation

12.3 Million New Jobs...for the first time ever over 11 million jobs were created during a single Presidential term.

Deficit Cut By 80%...from \$290 billion to \$57 billion, down 5 years in a row for the first time in 50 years.

Lowest Unemployment In 24 Years...down from 7.5% in 1992 to 4.8% today, the lowest level since 1973.

Median Family Income Up \$1,600...between 1993 and 1995, the fastest growth since the Johnson Administration.

EDUCATION: Largest Expansion Of Educational Opportunity In 30 Years

180,000 More Kids In Head Start...which now reaches more kids than at any time since its creation in 1965.

Leading A Crusade For Voluntary National Education Standards...so that by 1999, every 4th grade student will be tested in reading and every 8th grade student will be tested in math.

Making College More Affordable...by increasing Pell Grants by 20% from \$2,300 in 1993 to \$2,700 in 1997 and creating the Direct Lending program, which has made college more affordable for more than 2.1 million students.

Biggest Investment In Higher Education Since The G.I. Bill....The balanced budget plan includes the largest overall investment in education in 30 years and biggest investment in higher education since the G.I. Bill in 1944.

CRIME: Declining Steadily For The First Time In 25 Years

Violent Crime Down 5 Years In a Row...the longest period of decline in 25 years. And for the first time in seven years, juvenile crime (which had been exploding) declined in 1995.

100,000 New Police On The Street...resulting in a nearly 20% increase in our nation's police force. Already 61,000 new officers have been funded.

186,000 Felons, Fugitives And Stalkers Denied Handguns...because the President signed the Brady Bill into law.

Developed Comprehensive Anti-Drug Strategy...and appointed four-star General Barry McCaffrey Drug Czar.

WELFARE: Largest Drop In Welfare Rolls In 50 Years

Overhauled The Welfare System...by signing bipartisan welfare reform legislation in 1996 and is now challenging private businesses to hire 1 million people, moving them from welfare to work.

2.75 Million People Moved From Welfare To Work...even before the new welfare bill took effect, the largest decline in welfare rolls in 50 years.

50% Increase In Child Support Collection...from 1992 to 1996 due to tougher enforcement of Child Support Laws. A record \$11.8 billion was collected in 1996, up \$4 billion (nearly 50%) since 1992.

ENVIRONMENT: Protecting Our Environment For Future Generations

Cleaned Up As Many Superfund Sites In 3 Years As Previous Administrations Did In 12.

Safer Food, Drinking Water And Air...because the President fought for and signed the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Food Quality Protection Act and issued new standards to cut toxic pollution from chemical plants by 90%.

Created New National Parks In Utah, California; \$1.5 Billion Plan To Restore The Florida Everglades.

Reduced EPA Paperwork Requirements For Businesses By 15 Million Hours.

CONFIDENTIAL

**President Clinton:
Building Stronger Families**

"To Prepare America for the 21st Century, we must build stronger families."

President Bill Clinton
February 4, 1997

Strong families are vital to our children, our communities and our nation. President Clinton is meeting the challenge to strengthen our families by providing tax relief to working families, investing in our children's education, reducing crime and helping families move from welfare to work. The Clinton Administration is committed to protecting children, improving their quality of health, encouraging companies to adopt family-friendly practices and strengthening parents' capacity to nurture healthy families.

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

Cherishing Our Children

- **Expanding Children's Access to Health Care:** ^{over} Ten million children lack health insurance -- 80% of them have working parents who pay taxes. President Clinton's ^{fight} ~~Balanced Budget Agreement~~ of 1997 expands health care for 5 million of these ^{hard to ensure that the} children. ^{included in a targeted health investment that will provide health care coverage for millions of uninsured children.} [1997 Budget Agreement]
- **Expanding Head Start to Reach 1 Million Children a Year:** For over 30 years, Head Start has helped low-income families create an environment where their children are ready to learn by taking a comprehensive approach to child development - improving children's learning skills, health, nutrition, and social competency. Under the Clinton Administration, funding for Head Start has increased 80% to \$4 billion in 1997. These additional funds have enabled Head Start to serve 180,000 more children and their families. And President Clinton's Budget Agreement with Congress continues expansion of Head Start toward the President's goal of serving 1 million children in 2002. [Paper; HHS Press Release, 3/26/96]
- **Protecting Children from TV Violence:** President Clinton gave parents greater control over what their children watch on television by requiring the installation of anti-violence screening chips ("V-chips") in all new televisions. [Telecommunications Act of 1996, P.L. 104-104, signed 2/8/96] In addition, the President announced a breakthrough agreement with the media and entertainment industry to develop a television ratings system to enable parents to protect their children from violence and adult content. Today, the rating system is in place, informing parents on what their children are watching. [Statement by the President, 2/29/96]

- **Targeting Teen-Age Smoking:** President Clinton proposed the first-ever comprehensive program to protect children from the dangers of tobacco. The Food and Drug Administration has already issued rules aimed at teen-age smoking, such as making 18 the age for the purchase of cigarettes nationwide.[Food and Drug Administration Press Release, 4/15/97]
- **Protecting Children's Health Through Increased Immunizations:** The President has established a Childhood Immunization Initiative to ensure vaccinations and healthy futures for all children. In 1995, the immunization rate for two-year olds reached 76%, a record high. And these vaccinations are working: the number of reported cases of diptheria, mumps, tetanus, measles, rubella, and polio continue to be at or near record low levels.[Centers for Disease Control, Press Release, 2/27/97]
- **Reaching Full Participation in WIC:** The Clinton Administration is committed to full funding in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), reaching 7.5 million participants by the end of FY97. This program works: Every dollar invested in WIC has been proven to save \$ 3 in preventive health-care costs.[Federal Department and Agency Documents, 2/6/97]
- **More Educational Television:** Joined together with the four major television networks to support a proposal to require broadcasters to air three hours of quality educational programming each week.[AP 7/29/96; Statement by the President, 7/29/96]

Strengthening Our Families

- **Strengthening Families:** The first bill President Clinton signed was the Family Medical Leave Act, which enables workers to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave to care for family members without fear of losing their jobs. More than 12 million families have taken leave since its enactment. [Commission on Family Medical Leave, A Workable Balance - Report to Congress, 1996; Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, P.L. 103-3, signed February 5, 1993]
- **Greater Health Care Security for Millions of American Families:** Because President Clinton believes that we should provide more Americans with access to health care services, he fought for and signed the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, also known as Kennedy-Kassebaum. The bill limited exclusions for pre-existing conditions, ended "job-lock" by making health coverage portable, and helped individuals who lose jobs maintain insurance coverage. The Health Insurance Reform Bill President Clinton signed into law protects the health care of millions of working Americans, giving millions of families peace of mind.[Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, P.L. 104-191, signed 8/21/96]

- **Cutting taxes for millions of working families:** President Clinton expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit to give 15 million working families tax relief. Today, that earned income tax credit is worth about \$1,000 to a family of four with an income under \$28,000 a year. The Earned Income Tax Credit lifts full-time workers with children out of poverty.[Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, P.L. 103-66, signed August 10, 1993]
- **Increasing the Minimum Wage:** The President proposed and signed into law an increase in the minimum wage from \$4.25 to \$5.15 over two years. For a full-time, year-round worker at minimum wage, this 90-cent increase raises yearly income by \$1,800 -- as much as the average family spends on groceries over seven months. The law signed by President Clinton will increase the wages of 10 million Americans, giving them a chance to raise stronger families and build better futures. [Small Business Job Protection Act Of 1996, P.L.104-188, Signed 8/20/96]

Ensuring Responsibility

- **Enforcing Child Support:** The Clinton Administration collected a record \$11.8 billion in child support in 1996 through tougher enforcement, an increase of \$4 billion, or nearly 50%, since 1992.[Source: HHS Press release, 4/14/96] President Clinton also issued an Executive Order to help track down federal workers who fail to pay child support.[Executive Order 12953, 2/27/95]
- **Moving People From Welfare to Work:** During the first four years of the Clinton Administration, from January 1993 to January 1997, the number of people receiving welfare benefits fell by 20%, or 2.75 million recipients - the largest decline in the welfare rolls in 50 years. This historic decline occurred in response to the Administration's grants of federal waivers to 43 states to experiment with innovative approaches to ending welfare dependency, as well as in response to a strong economy. These waivers gave states the freedom to reform welfare on the local level, including setting time limits on benefits, requiring recipients to work or stay in school, providing child care and giving employers incentives to hire welfare recipients.[Council of Economic Advisors, Explaining the Decline in Welfare Receipt: 1992-1996, 5/9/97]
- **Overhauling the Welfare System:** Last year the President signed a bipartisan welfare plan that will dramatically change the nation's welfare system into one that requires work in exchange for time-limited assistance. The law contains strong work requirements, a performance bonus to reward states for moving welfare recipients into jobs, state maintenance of effort requirements, comprehensive child care enforcement, and supports for families moving from welfare to work -- including increased funding for child care and guaranteed medical coverage.[Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, P.L. 104-193, signed 8/22/97]

- **Breaking the Cycle of Dependency:** The Clinton Administration took executive action in May 1996 to require teenage mothers to stay in school and sign personal responsibility contracts or lose their welfare benefits. Having a baby should not be the ticket to leaving home and dropping out of school. [Memorandum from the President on the Welfare Initiative for Teen Parents, 5/10/96]

THE CHALLENGES AHEAD:

America is moving in the right direction. The crime rate is down, welfare rolls and food stamp participation are falling and the teen pregnancy rate has dropped. But we still have more work to do to ensure the health, safety and futures of our children and families. The President's agenda includes:

- Expanding health insurance coverage for all children whose parents cannot afford it. *no we are not!*
- Providing families with a \$500 per child tax credit.
- Expanding the accessibility of child care information and services to parents, expanding child care funding available to low-income working families and working with states to improve the quality of services.
- Expanding the Family Medical Leave Act to better help workers care for their families without sacrificing their work obligations. This expansion would allow workers to take up to 24 hours of unpaid leave in support of their children's education needs, older relatives' health care and other family medical obligations.

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**PRESIDENT CLINTON:
PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE NEW CENTURY**

"Looking ahead, the greatest step of all -- the high threshold of the future we now must cross -- and my number one priority for the next four years is to ensure that all Americans have the best education in the world."

President Clinton

State of the Union, February 4, 1997

A Commitment to Education

President Clinton has made an unprecedented commitment to education: the President's Budget Agreement with Congress includes the largest increase in our investment in education in 30 years and the largest single boost in college aid since the G.I. Bill.

ENSURING THAT EVERY CHILD IN AMERICA CAN LEARN

- **Voluntary National Standards.**

Leading a National Crusade for Education Standards. President Clinton has challenged every state to adopt high national standards, so that by 1999, every 4th grade student will be tested in reading and every 8th grade reader will be tested in math. These standards will represent what all our children must know to succeed in the knowledge economy. [Already five states have joined the President's effort.]

Goals 2000. The President's National Standards effort builds upon the success of Goals 2000, a Clinton Administration initiative enacted in 1994, that helps participating States establish voluntary standards of excellence for all children and plan and implement steps to raise educational achievement. All states have now chosen to receive Goals 2000 funding. [Goals 2000: Educate America Act, P.L. 103-227; Office of Management and Budget, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 1998, 1997]

- **Launched America Reads.** President Clinton launched America Reads Challenge, a nationwide effort to mobilize a citizen army of a million volunteer tutors to make sure every child can read independently by the end of third grade. [The 1997 Congressional Budget Resolution] The President's Budget Agreement with Republicans includes America's Reading Corps: 25,000 reading specialists and 11,000 AmeriCorps members serving as recruiters and coordinators, to enlist an army of one million volunteer.[1997 Budget Agreement]
- **Expanding Head Start to Reach 1 Million Children a Year.** President Clinton has made Head Start an Administration priority. For over 30 years, Head Start has helped low-income families create an environment where their children are ready to learn by taking a

comprehensive approach to child development - improving children's learning skills, health, nutrition, and social competency. Under the Clinton administration, funding for Head Start has increased 80% to \$4 billion in 1997. These additional funds have enabled Head Start to serve 180,000 more children and their families. And President Clinton's Budget Agreement with Congress continues expansion of Head Start toward the President's goal of serving 1 million children in 2002.[Budget Agreement; HHS Press Release, 3/26/97]

- **Expanding School-To-Work.** The Clinton Administration is providing hundreds of thousands of students with school-to-work opportunities, where they experience work-based learning and gain access to pathways from high school to good jobs and post-secondary education. [School-to-Work Opportunities Act, P.L. 103-239] In 1994 and 1995, over 500,000 young people in 1,800 schools throughout the nation, as well as 135,000 employers, participated in school-to-work systems that integrate academic and vocational instruction and provide work-based learning. [Source: Department of Education, 12/96]
- **Expanding Opportunity for Disabled Children.** President Clinton signed legislation reauthorizing the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), strengthening and reaffirming our nation's 20-year commitment to disabled children and their parents. The IDEA demonstrates the Administration's commitment to educational opportunity for all, by helping ensure that children with disabilities are included in all facets of community life and are able to become independent and productive citizens.[Title,

PREPARING OUR SCHOOLS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

- **Bringing Computers to the Classroom.** The President's 1997 Budget Agreement with Congress doubles the funding for America's Technology Literacy Challenge, catalyzing private-public sector partnerships to put the information age at our children's fingertips. The President is committed to helping communities and the private sector ensure that every student is equipped with the computer literacy skills needed for the 21st century. For 1998, the budget proposes \$425 million, more than doubling the \$200 million that Congress provided in 1997.[1997 Budget Agreement]
- **Linking Children to the Internet.** The Clinton Administration is implementing a plan to create an "E-Rate," a discounted education rate for telecommunications services so schools and libraries will be able to bring technology into the classroom, set up phone lines and access the Internet at a fraction of the cost. The Federal Communications Commission has already approved a plan to make discounts worth \$2.25 billion annually available to our schools and libraries.[Source: Education Department Initiatives, 5/8/97]
- **Expanding school choice and accountability in public education.** The President has challenged every state to let parents choose the right public school for their children. The Clinton Administration is helping teachers, parents and community groups to start charter schools -- innovative public schools that stay open only as long as they produce results and meet the highest standards. The President's proposed budget doubles funding to help start

charter schools so that there will be more than 3,000 charter schools at the dawn of the 21st century. [Office of Management and Budget, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 1998, 1997]

OPENING THE DOOR TO COLLEGE

- **Making the 13th and 14th years of education universal.**

America's Hope Scholarships The President's Budget Agreement with Congress funds these scholarships, which provide students with a \$1,500 refundable tax credit for full-time tuition in their first year and second year of college. [Office of Management and Budget, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 1998, 1997]

A targeted tax deduction of up \$10,000 a year for all tuition after high school. The President's Budget Agreement with Congress will fund this initiative as part of the \$35 billion in tax cuts for higher education. This tax cut will put college in the reach of millions of American families.

The largest increase in Pell Grants in 20 years. President Clinton has already increased Pell Grants from \$2,300 in 1993 to \$2,700 in 1997. These grants will provide a total of 3.8 million low-income students the opportunity to attend college this year. [Source: Department of Education (Memo to President, 12/6/96)] And he plans to do more. The President's Budget Agreement with Congress includes the largest increase in Pell Grants in two decades -- a funding boost of 25%. The maximum award will reach \$3,000, \$700 more than in 1993. In the 1998 budget alone, an additional 348,000 students will receive grants: 130,000 young people from moderate income families, and 218,000 low income students over the age of 24. [Source: Budget Agreement - Domestic Policy Council Background]

- **Expanding Student Loans.** President Clinton has reformed the student loan program, making college more affordable this year for millions of students through the Direct Lending program. [Student Loan Reform Act of 1993, P.L. 103- 66] More than 2.1 million student and parent borrowers have received direct loans since the program began. [Source: Department of Education, 12/96] Under this Administration, the rate of student loan defaults within the first two years after borrowers leave college has reached an all-time low. The losses from student loan defaults fell from \$ 1.7 billion in 1992 to \$ 249 million in 1996 - an 86% drop. [Budget; Department of Education Press Release, 1/9/97]
- **Expanding Educational Opportunity Through Service.** The Clinton Administration has enabled 70,000 volunteers to earn money for college by serving their communities and their country in the AmeriCorps program. [The National and Community Service Act, P.L. 103-82; U.S. Newswire, 4/28/97]

THE AGENDA AHEAD:

President Clinton has issued a call to action for American education in the 21st Century:

- **Set rigorous national standards**, that all states adopt, with national tests in 4th grade reading and 8th grade math to make sure our children master the basics.
- **Make sure a talented and dedicated teacher is in every classroom.** We must ensure teacher quality well into the 21st century by challenging our most promising young people to consider teaching as a career and setting high standards for entering the teaching profession.
- **Connect every classroom and library to the Internet** by the year 2000 and help all students become technologically literate.
- **Create 1,000 after-school safe havens in communities across the country.** This initiative would extend learning opportunities for children and their families at schools across the country, keeping schools open late, on weekends, and in the summer so young people will stay off the streets and out of trouble.

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**PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON:
BUILDING SAFER COMMUNITIES BY TAKING BACK OUR
STREETS FROM CRIME, GANGS AND DRUGS**

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

Won Passage of the Most Comprehensive Crime Bill Ever:

In 1994, after more than six years of gridlock, a bipartisan majority in Congress passed the toughest, smartest Crime Bill in the nation's history. ["Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994," P.L.103-322] It passed with the strong support of every major law enforcement organization in the country, as well as prosecutors, mayors, and state and local officials. The new law now provides:

- A targeted "Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out" provision to put career violent offenders behind bars for life.
- An expanded death penalty for drug kingpins, murderers of federal law enforcement officers and nearly 60 additional categories of violent felons.
- Funding for 100,000 more prison cells to help states ensure that violent offenders serve their full sentences.
- Increased penalties for sex offenders and a registration requirement for violent sexual offenders.

More Police and Community Policing

- **The President's plan to put 100,000 more police officers on the street through community policing represents the federal government's biggest commitment ever to local law enforcement.** The President's plan will result in an almost 20% increase in the nation's police force levels. Already, the Administration has provided funding for over 60,000 officers, who are now helping keep our neighborhoods and communities safe. [U.S.D.O.J. COPS, 6/4/97; Government Performance Results Act 1997 (attached to President's FY 98 Budget Request)]
- **The rate of violent crime is down.** The number of murders fell an historic 11% in 1996, while violent crime decreased 7%, and aggravated assault decreased 6%. These falling crime rates mark the largest one-year decline in the past 35 years. [Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Report - 1996 Preliminary Annual Release, 6/1/97]

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- **The rate of juvenile crime is down.** Over the past two years, there has been a decline in both the rates of murders committed by young people and youth violence in general.
 - ❑ While the juvenile violent crime arrest rate increased 62% between 1987 and 1993, it decreased 2.9% in 1995, the first decline in seven years.
 - ❑ The decrease in the juvenile murder arrest rate is even more significant, declining 15.2% in 1995 -- the largest one-year drop in more than 10 years.
 - ❑ Since 1993, the juvenile murder arrest rate has dropped an incredible 22.8%. [Department of Justice, 3/97; OJJDP, Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1997 Update on Violence, 7/97]
 - ❑ And the rate is decreasing for other crimes as well: robberies by juveniles decreased 15% in 1995 and juvenile aggravated assaults decreased 32%. [OJJDP, Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1997 Update on Violence, 7/97]
- **Crime rates have dropped for five straight years.** Violent crime has dropped five years in a row - the longest period of decline in 25 years. [FBI, Uniform Crime Report, 1/5/97]

Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Criminals

- **Stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill** which provides for a 5-day waiting period and background checks of prospective handgun buyers. [Brady Bill, P.L. 103-159] In the three years since its enactment, the Brady Law has stopped over 186,000 felons, fugitives and stalkers from buying guns. [Bureau of Justice Statistics, Press Release, 2/25/97]
- **Banned the manufacture and importation of 19 of the deadliest assault weapons** while specifically protecting more than 50 legitimate sporting weapons. Cop-killing assault weapons, like the Uzi, are the weapons of choice for drug dealers and gangs - not hunters and sportsmen. ["Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994", P.L. 103-322]
- **The Clinton Administration has strengthened efforts to clamp down on illicit gun markets, especially those that provide guns to children.** The President directed the ATF to implement the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative in 17 pilot cities. Through this initiative, law enforcement will trace all guns used in crime that are seized by Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers, and work with that trace information to help identify illegal gun traffickers. By analyzing patterns of gun

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trafficking that exist in an area, our communities will develop more effective law enforcement strategies to target illegal gun traffickers for prosecution, particularly those who put guns into the hands of our nation's young people. [Memorandum on the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative to the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General, 7/8/96]

- **Placing child safety locks in guns.** The President is fighting for legislation in Congress that would require child safety locking devices as part of every gun in America. He has already signed a directive to every federal agency, requiring child safety locking devices in every handgun issued. [Memorandum on Child Safety Lock Devices for Handguns, 3/5/97]

Combatting Drug Use

- **Developed a comprehensive National Drug Control Strategy** that will reduce illegal drug use through law enforcement, prevention, treatment and interdiction. [Office of National Drug Control Strategy, National Drug Control Strategy, 1997]
- **Made Drug Czar a Cabinet Position.** President Clinton is the first President to make the Director of National Drug Control Policy a Cabinet position. [U.P.I. 7/1/1993] He is also the first President to nominate a Drug Czar with drug interdiction background. And he appointed a four-star general, Barry McCaffrey, to lead our nation's fight against drugs.
- **Targeting young people with anti-drug messages.** The President's proposed FY 98 budget funds a \$175 million national advertising campaign that would rely on high-impact, anti-drug television ads to educate young people on the dangers of illegal drug use.
- **Drug seizures are up.** The Clinton Administration has increased seizures of marijuana by 50% - from 787,523 pounds in 1992 to 1,163,989 pounds in 1996. And seizures of heroin are up 32% - from 1,157 kilograms in 1992 to 1,524 kilograms in 1996.[DEA's FDSS Report, 3/11/97]
- **Increasing Drug Seizures.** In the last three years, the Border Patrol has seized over \$4.7 billion in drugs -- a 38 percent increase over the three prior years. The \$4.7 billion represents nearly 20,000 drug seizures -- an increase of 22 percent. On the California border, alone, the Border Patrol has seized more than 110 tons of illegal drugs valued at \$618 million. [Source: Department of Justice, U.S. Border Patrol, Total Drug Seizures: Narcotics: Dollar Value of Drugs seized, 1995]
- **Drug Use is Down.** Overall drug use in the United States has declined under the Clinton Administration:

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* Casual drug use is down 13% among Americans between the ages of 18 and 35 since 1992. [Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse/Mental Health Agency, 8/20/96]

* During this Administration, the number of cocaine users has dropped by 30%. The amount of money Americans spend on illicit drugs has declined by 23%. [Source: Office of National Drug Control Policy, The National Drug Control Strategy, April 1996]

- **Mandatory drug testing of state prisoners and parolees as a condition of parole.** President Clinton fought for and signed legislation requiring states to drug test prisoners and also parolees so that they can send them back to prison if they get back on drugs.[Omnibus Consolidated Appropriation Act, 1997, P.L. 104-208, Signed 9/30/97]
- **Expanding drug courts.** The Clinton Administration has established drug courts across the country, a proven and effective measure in breaking the cycles of drugs and crime. The President's FY 98 budget increases funding for this program by 150% over last year's funding. [ONDCP, The National Drug Control Strategy, 1997: Budget Summary, 1997]
- **Developed a comprehensive strategy to combat the trafficking and abuse of methamphetamine, one of the country's most dangerous drugs.** The President fought for and signed legislation that increases penalties for trafficking in meth and those chemicals used to produce meth. And the strategy is working. In the eight cities where meth use had been skyrocketing, it declined substantially in 1996.

Fighting to End Domestic Violence

- **Extended the Brady bill to deny handguns to anyone convicted of domestic violence.** Under the law, anyone who commits an act of domestic violence against a spouse or child, would be prohibited from having a gun.[Omnibus Consolidated Appropriation Act, 1997, P.L. 104-208, Signed 9/30/97]
- **Bolstered local law enforcement, prosecution and victims' services to better address violence against women through \$275 million in state grants.** Over the next four years, a total of \$800 million in federal funds is scheduled to assist states as they restructure their law enforcement response to address violent crimes against women. [Violence Against Women Office Press Release, 5/24/96]
- **Established nationwide 24-hour domestic violence hotline** providing immediate crisis intervention, counseling and referrals for those in need. Since the hotline opened, there have been over 106,000 total calls. [Department of Justice, Stop the Cycle of Violence: What You Can Do": National Domestic Violence Summary Report, 3/31/97; HHS Press Release, 5/20/97]
- **Almost tripled funding for battered women's shelters.** In 1993, the federal government spent \$20 million on battered women's shelters. In 1997, the Clinton Administration spent \$58 million.[Administration for Children and Families, 1997; HHS Press Release, 5/20/97]

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Making Our Schools and Communities Safer

- **Keeping dangerous weapons out of our children's classrooms** by enforcing a "Zero Tolerance" gun policy in schools. Thus far, 6,276 students have been expelled for bringing weapons to schools, and the vast majority of those expulsions involved guns. [Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994, enacted as part of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994, P.L. 103-382, signed on 10/20/94]
- **Encouraged schools to adopt school uniform policies** to help reduce violence while promoting discipline and respect. [Public Papers of the Presidents, Memorandum on the School Uniforms Manual, 2/23/96]
- **Helped protect families and children who live in public housing** from gangs, drugs and violent crime by instituting a "One-Strike-and-You're-Out" policy for residents who engage in criminal activity. [Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996, P.L. 104-120]
- **The Clinton Administration has targeted efforts against sexual predators.** The President fought for and signed "Megan's Law," which makes community notification concerning registered sex offenders mandatory. Megan's Law requires States to make public relevant information about child molesters and sexually violent offenders who are released from prison or placed on parole. [P. L. 104-145, Signed 5/17/96] And taking the next step, the President directed the Department of Justice to develop a plan for the implementation of a national sexual predator and child molester registration system. [Public Papers of the Presidents, Memorandum on the Development of a National Sexual Offender Registration System, 6/25/96]

Securing America's Borders

- **Stood firm against illegal immigration** and deported over 95,000 illegal and criminal aliens from October 1995 to January 1997. [Source: I.N.S. 1/97]
- **More border patrol agents than ever.** There are now over 6,000 Border Patrol agents stemming the flow of illegal immigration. This represents an increase of over 70% since 1993. [Federal News Service, Prepared Testimony of Commissioner Doris Meissner, Immigration and Naturalization Services, 4/10/97]

The Agenda Ahead

The President recognizes that juvenile crime will be the largest threat to our communities in the future. That is why he has proposed a bill that will be a full scale assault on juvenile crime. The President's bill:

Declares war on gangs with new prosecutors and tougher penalties.

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Extends the Brady Bill so that someone who commits a violent crime as a juvenile is barred from buying a gun as an adult.

Requires child safety locks be sold with every gun to keep children from hurting themselves or each other.

Keeps schools open after hours, on weekends and in the summer to keep children off the streets and out of trouble. The President's juvenile crime legislation funds anti-crime initiatives to keep our schools open later and on weekends so young people can stay under the watchful eye of parents, educators and community leaders.

Ending the use of cop-killer bullets. The President is fighting for a permanent ban on the production and use of cop-killer bullets. These armor-piercing bullets have no sporting value and serve only to endanger the police officers we ask to protect us every day.[S 112, introduced Jan. 21, 1997]

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Clinton-Gore Administration Accomplishments

THE ENVIRONMENT

"We must protect our environment in every community. In the last four years, we cleaned up 250 toxic waste sites, as many as in the previous 12. Now we should clean up 500 more so that our children grow up next to parks, not poison." -- President Clinton, State of the Union address, 2/4/97

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

Ensuring Public Health

Expanded The Public's Right To Know About Toxic Releases: President Clinton required polluters to publicly disclose information about toxic releases -- nearly doubling the number of chemicals releases reported to the public and increasing by 30 percent the number of facilities that must report under right to know. [Executive Order 12969 & 12856, Public Papers of the President, 8/8/95; 8/3/93; EPA rule, 11/28/94 (AP, 11/28/94); President's remarks, (U.S. Newswire, 4/22/97)]

Cleaned Up As Many Superfund Sites In Three Years As The Previous Administrations Did In 12 Years: The Clinton Administration achieved this dramatic increase in toxic waste clean-ups while dramatically cutting costs. The President and the Vice President also fought Republican attempts to gut the Superfund law that makes polluters -- rather than taxpayers -- pay to clean up toxic dumps. The President vetoed a GOP bill that would have cut Superfund clean ups by 25%. [EPA Construction Completion/Deletion Tracking System; Veto Message of H.R. 1977, Public Papers of the President, 12/18/95]

Proposed & Signed The Safe Drinking Water Act: President Clinton proposed and signed legislation to ensure that our families have healthy, clean drinking water. This law requires drinking water systems to protect against dangerous contaminants like *cryptosporidium*, and gives people the right to know about contaminants in their tap water. [P.L. 104-182, Public Papers of the President, 8/6/96]

Fought To Ensure Safe Food & Water For Our Families: President Clinton fought attempts in Congress to roll back the progress that has been made in ensuring safe food and water for our families. The Clinton Administration also issued new standards to prevent *E. coli* bacteria contamination in meat. The President signed the Food Quality Protection Act which included special safeguards for children and the Administration cancelled dozens of hazardous pesticides while moving safer substitutes into the market more quickly. [Veto Messages, 11/13/95, 12/6/95, 12/18/95, Public Papers of the President; President's Radio address, 7/8/96; P.L. 104-170, Public Papers of President, 8/3/96]

Made The Air We Breathe Cleaner: The Clinton Administration made the air we breathe cleaner by issuing new standards to cut toxic pollution from chemical plants by **90%** and dangerous incinerator emissions by **98%**. [EPA HON Rule (made final 3/1/94); EPA incinerator and cement kiln rule (proposed 3/20/96); L.A. Times, 3/2/94]

Toughened EPA Enforcement Programs To Ensure Compliance With Environmental Safeguards: The Clinton Administration has collected the largest fines in history and established a

new compliance assistance program to help honest business owners comply with environmental laws. [EPA Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Accomplishments Report, 7/96]

Forged Agreement For A Global Phaseout of Persistent Pollutants: The Clinton Administration led the way on an agreement to phase out the use of 12 dangerous, persistent organic pollutants worldwide, such as PCBs and DDT.

Protecting Our Natural Resources

Created The Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument In Utah: President Clinton created a new national monument protecting 1.7 million acres of spectacular red rock canyon-lands, artifacts from three ancient cultures, and the most remote site in the lower 48 states. [Presidential Proclamation Number 6920, 9/18/96]

Improved The National Parks & Created A Large New Park In The California Desert: President Clinton signed legislation that creates or improves almost 120 national parks, trails, rivers, and historical sites. President Clinton also created the largest new park in lower the 48 states with California Desert Protection Act. [P.L. 104-333, Public Papers of the President, 11/12/96; P.L. 103-433, Public Papers of the President, 10/31/94]

Fought Attempts To Close National Parks & Lift The Ban On Offshore Drilling. [President Clinton Radio Address, 8/26/95; President Clinton Statement 6/20/95]

Vetoed A Republican Bill That Would Have Opened The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge To Oil & Gas Drilling. [Veto Message on H.R. 2491, U.S. Newswire, 12/6/95; President Clinton Letter to Senator Lieberman, 10/26/95]

Led The Way On A Plan To Restore The Florida Everglades: President Clinton and Vice President Gore committed \$1.5 billion over seven years to help restore the unique Florida Everglades. President Clinton signed into law the most sweeping restoration effort ever to implement his Everglades plan. [P. L. 104-127; P.L. 104-303, Public Papers of the President, 4/4/96; 10/12/96; VP Gore Statement (FDCH), 2/20/96 (statement on 2/19/96)]

Reached An Agreement To Halt Destructive Mining Near Yellowstone National Park. [President Clinton statement (U.S. Newswire), 8/12/96]

Negotiated A Plan For California Bay-Delta Water: The President broke through decades of conflict and negotiated a consensus plan to protect and allocate California Bay-Delta water. [President Clinton statement (U.S. Newswire), 12/15/94]

Common Sense Reform To Environmental Programs

Working With Auto Manufacturers To Develop A "Clean Car": This partnership program with the domestic auto industry and labor is designed to produce automobiles three times as fuel efficient as today's cars without sacrificing affordability, performance or safety. [Presidential announcement (U.S. Newswire), 9/29/93; New York Times, 10/19/94]

Reduced EPA Paperwork For Businesses By 15 Million Hours: With the Vice President, President Clinton changed EPA rules and procedures to reduce paperwork requirements for businesses by 15 million hours. [Best Kept Secrets In Government, p. 90]

Reformed The Wetlands & Endangered Species Programs: The President reformed wetlands and endangered species programs to lessen any adverse impact on homeowners without compromising environmental protection. The Administration completed 190 habitat conservation partnerships, compared to 14 in place when the Administration took office. [President Clinton statement (U.S. Newswire), 7/12/95; Department of the Interior]

Launched A Brownfields Initiative. President Clinton proposed a targeted \$2 billion tax incentive for investors who purchase and clean up old waste sites in communities across the country -- a move that will protect public health and revitalize urban areas. [President Clinton's Remarks at Farleigh Dickinson University, 3/11/96 (Federal News Service)]

Helped To Increase Recycling: President Clinton issued an Executive Order to jump start the market for recycled goods which is now stronger than ever. [Executive Order 12873, 10/20/93]

A RECORD TO BUILD ON:

→ **Recognize & Restore Outstanding Stretches Of America's Rivers:** Select ten American Heritage Rivers this year.

Expand Community Right-To-Know Laws: Expand these laws and challenge communities to use the information to work with business to cut pollution.

Clean Up Two-Thirds Of Superfund Sites By 2000 -- 500 More In Four Years: Challenging Congress to provide true reform of the Superfund program and to drop proposals to force taxpayers to pick up the tab to clean up toxic waste.

Get Tough On Criminal Polluters: This can be done by strengthening penalties for the worst environmental criminals and ensuring that courts can secure polluters' assets in order to restore the communities they victimize.

Negotiate A Global Accord To Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

Challenge Congress to provide true reform of the Endangered Species Act.

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Clinton-Gore Administration Accomplishments

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POLITICAL & GOVERNMENT REFORM

"Our second piece of unfinished business requires us to commit ourselves tonight, before the eyes of America, to finally enacting bipartisan campaign finance reform... So let's set our own deadline. Let's work together to write bipartisan campaign finance reform into law and pass McCain-Feingold by the day we celebrate the birth of our democracy, July the Fourth." -- President Clinton, State of the Union, February 2, 1997

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

Reforming Our Political System

Signed Motor-Voter Bill Into Law Leading To 9 Million New Voters: President Clinton signed the National Voter Registration Act ("Motor-Voter") which registered at least nine million new voters and made voting easier for more than 20 million Americans from January 1995 to June 1996.

"Motor-Voter" has already created the greatest expansion of the voter registration rolls since the 19th century. [P.L. 103-31, U.S. Newswire, 5/20/93; National Motor Voter Coalition study, 10/15/96; USA Today, 10/15/96]

Fought For Meaningful Campaign Finance Reform: In 1992 Governor Clinton proposed voluntary campaign spending limits, free TV time, PAC limits, and a ban on soft money. In May 1993, President Clinton unveiled his campaign finance reform plan which Fred Wertheimer called a "strong campaign finance reform proposal." This plan was eventually killed by a Republican filibuster. In 1996, President Clinton supported the bipartisan McCain/Feingold campaign finance reform bill which was also killed by a Republican filibuster. President Clinton continues to support this legislation and has named former Senators Walter Mondale (D-MN) and Nancy Kassebaum-Baker (R-KS) to head a campaign finance reform education project. [Washington Post, 3/18/97; 5/8/93; Newsday, 7/4/96; AP, 10/3/92; 10/30/92]

Cracking Down On Special Interests

Signed Toughest Overhaul Of Lobbying Rules In 50 Years: President Clinton fought for and signed the Lobby Disclosure Act -- the first major overhaul of the lobbying rules in 50 years. This bill requires lobbyists to disclose who they work for and eliminated loopholes that allowed lobbying organizations to avoid disclosure. [P.L. 104-65, Public Papers of President, 12/19/95]

Eliminated Tax Deduction For Lobbying: President Clinton eliminated the tax deductibility of the cost of lobbying expenses for corporations. [P.L. 103-66; Public Papers of the President, 8/10/93; New York Times, 8/27/93]

Fought For And Signed A Ban On Gifts From Lobbyists: In his 1995 State-of-the-Union Address, President Clinton challenged the Congress to ban gifts, meals, travel and entertainment from lobbyists. The Congress subsequently passed the ban on November 16th, 1995. [P.L. 104-65, Public Papers of President, 12/19/95]

Strictest White House Ethics Guidelines Ever: On his first day in office, President Clinton imposed the strictest Administration ethics guidelines ever -- including a five-year ban on top officials lobbying their former agencies and a lifetime ban against lobbying for foreign governments. [Executive Order 12832, Public Papers of the President, 1/20/93]

Reinventing Government

The Smallest Federal Government in 30 Years: From January 1993 to January 1997, President Clinton and Vice President Gore cut the federal civilian workforce by 309,000 positions. The size of the federal government is now at its *lowest level in 30 years*. President Clinton has *eliminated 16,000 pages* of obsolete regulations affecting the public and rewriting 31,000 more. Vice President Gore's Reinventing Government efforts have already *saved \$118 billion* by cutting wasteful government practices and spending. Additional recommendations will save billions more. [Office of Personnel Management, 1/97; 1996 Best Kept Secrets In Government, p. 1; p. 4]

Washington Is Now Accountable For Abiding By The Laws It Passes: President Clinton fought for enactment of the Congressional Accountability Act & the Presidential & Executive Office Accountability Act. These acts ensure that the Congress and the Executive Office of the President live under the same laws as the rest of the country. [P.L. 104-1, P.L. 104-331 Public Papers of the President, 1/23/95; 10/26/96]

Signed Bill Ending Unfunded Mandates From Washington: In 1995 President Clinton signed a bill which restricted Congress from imposing new requirements on state and local governments without paying for them. [P.L. 104-4, Public Papers of the President, 3/22/95]

Signed Line Item Veto Into Law To Fight Government Waste: President Clinton fought for and signed into law line-item veto legislation which significantly enhances the presidential authority to eliminate wasteful spending by allowing the president to cancel wasteful special interest projects and special interest tax loopholes that sneak into the budget year after year. [P.L. 104-130; Public Papers of the President, 4/9/96]

A RECORD TO BUILD ON:

- **Pass Real Campaign Finance Reform This Year:** Pass the first truly bipartisan campaign finance reform bill (McCain-Feingold, Shays-Meehan) in a generation that will reduce the amount of money that is raised and spent on federal elections and open the airwaves to all candidates.
- **Finish The Job Of Balancing The Budget:**
Since taking office in 1993, President Clinton has cut the deficit from \$290 billion to \$75 billion. President Clinton is now working to enact into law an historic bipartisan budget agreement which will balance the federal budget by the year 2002.
- **Get Gillespie To Find Something Else To Put Here:**
entitlement reform?

FOREIGN POLICY

"To prepare America for the 21st century we must master the forces of change in the world and keep American leadership strong and sure for an uncharted time... Let us do what it takes to remain the indispensable nation, to keep America strong, secure and prosperous for another 50 years." -- President Clinton, State of the Union address, February 4, 1997

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

Protecting American Interests

Forged A Deal To Stop Russian Nuclear Missiles From Pointing At U.S.: For the first time in over 40 years, Russian nuclear missiles are no longer pointed at America's children and Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan gave up nuclear weapons altogether. [President Clinton's State of the Union address, 1/25/94]

Successfully Secured Bipartisan Senate Ratification Of The Start II Treaty: This treaty reduced U.S. and Russian nuclear stockpiles by another 25%. [AP, 1/26/96]

Persuaded North Korea To Freeze & Eventually Dismantle Its Dangerous Nuclear Weapons Program. [President Clinton statement, Federal News Service, 10/18/94]

Signed New Anti-Terrorism Legislation: President Clinton intensified the fight against terrorism by pressing for and signing new anti-terrorism legislation imposing sanctions on Iran and Libya for state-sponsored terrorism and providing law enforcement officials with tougher tools to stop terrorists before they strike, ensuring strong penalties for the convicted. [P.L. 104-132, Public Papers of the President, 4/26/96]

Fought For & Secured Bipartisan Senate Ratification Of Chemical Weapons Convention: President Clinton's leadership helped ensure passage of this treaty which will ban the production, stockpiling, and use of chemical weapons and which will reduce the threat of chemical weapons disasters. [Washington Post, 4/25/97]

Deployed Aircraft Carriers To Taiwan Straits To Deter China: When China conducted provocative military exercises, in 1996, President Clinton deployed two aircraft carriers. [L.A. Times, 3/11/96]

Imposed The Toughest Sanctions Ever On Cuba: President Clinton imposed the toughest sanctions on Castro's Cuba following the brutal killing of U.S. nationals over international waters. [President Clinton announcement, (Federal News Service), 2/26/96]

Shaped The New American Military For Post Cold-War Challenges: President Clinton's leadership ensures that America remains the best-equipped, best-trained and best-prepared fighting force in the world.

Swiftly Deployed U.S. Forces To Deter Resurgent Iraqi Threats. [President Clinton Letter to Congressional Leaders on Iraq, 3/7/97]

Ordered The Reorganization Of U.S. Foreign Policy Agencies: The President has ordered the merger of ACDA, USIA, & USAID into a new and better coordinated State Department to make the conduct of U.S. foreign policy more accountable and responsive to the challenges of the 21st century. [New York Times, 4/18/97]

Leading The Fight For Peace & Democracy

Brokered The Dayton Peace Accords And Ended Four Years Of Bloodshed: President Clinton's Dayton Peace accords ended four years of rape, bloodshed, and ethnic cleansing in Bosnia, America is now helping to provide a secure environment so that peace, democracy and economic reconstruction can proceed. [President Clinton letter to Senator Daschle (D-SD), Public Papers of the President, 12/11/95]

Negotiated Israel-Jordan Peace Treaty: President Clinton championed peace efforts in the Middle East by negotiating the Israel-Jordan peace treaty and helping Israelis and Palestinians fulfill their historic peace agreement. [President Clinton remarks at signing of Peace Treaty, 10/26/94 (U.S. Newswire, 10/27/94)]

Led International Efforts To Adopt Counter-Terrorism Initiatives: President Clinton led these efforts at the Summit of the Peacemakers in Egypt in March 1996, at the G-7 Economic Summit in France in June 1996, and at the July 1996 Paris Terrorism Ministerials. [President Clinton statements, (Public Papers of the President) 3/13/96; 6/27/96]

Negotiated A Written Agreement Between Syria and Israel: This agreement ended Hezbollah attacks on Israel, restored peace, and protected civilians on both sides of the Lebanon-Israel border. [President Clinton statement, (U.S. Newswire), 4/26/96]

Successfully Managed Israeli Troop Withdrawal From Hebron: The President advanced the Middle East Peace Process by successfully managing the Israeli troop withdrawal from the West Bank town of Hebron. [President Clinton statement, 1/15/97]

Restored Democracy To Haiti: President Clinton stopped the flow of refugees to the U.S. and accomplished the first transfer of power from one democratically-elected president to another in Haitian history. [P.L. 103-423, Public Papers of the President, 10/25/94; President Clinton Letter to Congressional Leaders on Haiti, 3/21/96]

President Clinton Became The First American President To Engage Directly In The Pursuit Of A Just & Lasting Peace In Northern Ireland. [Reuters, 8/31/94; 5/14/94]

Led The Way On NATO Expansion: Expansion of the NATO alliance would help extend European security and democracy. [President Clinton's Remarks, 1/11/94; Partnership For Peace, 1/10/94; President Clinton's Remarks, (U.S. Newswire), 5/14/97]

A RECORD TO BUILD ON:

President Clinton will continue to stand up for American values abroad. By supporting those who are taking risks for peace, we are living up to the promise of American leadership and helping secure a future of peace and prosperity for all. President is challenging the Congress and other countries to:

- **Intensify The Fight Against Terrorism & Organized Crime:** Continue to combat terrorism at home and abroad by working for tougher enforcement and more cross-border cooperation.
- **Secure A Truly Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty:**
- **Aggressively Combat International Drug-Trafficking:** Continue to aggressively fight international drug-trafficking by working closely with other countries, providing military support and initiating anti-corruption efforts to stem the flow of drugs.

PRESIDENT CLINTON DELIVERS THE LARGEST SINGLE INVESTMENT IN CHILDREN'S HEALTH CARE SINCE THE PASSAGE OF MEDICAID IN 1965

The President fought hard to ensure that the Budget Agreement includes \$24 billion to provide meaningful health care coverage to as many as five million of our nation's ten million uninsured children. This investment includes a meaningful benefits package, ensures that states use this money to cover uninsured children and not replace existing public or private spending, and guarantees adequate cost-sharing protections for families.

- ✓ **INVESTS UNPRECEDENTED \$24 BILLION FOR UNINSURED CHILDREN.** The President insisted on increasing the investment for children's health from \$16 billion to \$24 billion by including revenue from a new tobacco tax. Because of the President's leadership, this budget will contain the largest children's health care budget increase since the enactment of Medicaid in 1965. Including these additional revenues in the children's health initiative will not only further reduce the number of uninsured children, but it will also serve as a financial barrier to help prevent our children from starting smoking in the first place.
- ✓ **ENSURES MEANINGFUL HEALTH CARE COVERAGE, WHILE ALLOWING STATES TO DESIGN THEIR OWN BENEFITS PACKAGES.** The President fought hard to ensure that this investment guarantees the full range of benefits -- from checkups to surgery -- that children need to grow up strong and healthy. The President also worked to ensure that prescription drugs, vision, hearing, and mental health coverage now offered at the state level are extended to millions of uninsured children.
- ✓ **GIVES STATES THE FLEXIBILITY TO DESIGN BENEFITS THAT MEET THEIR NEEDS.** States will be able to choose from any of four benefits packages: (1) the FEHPB model; (2) the benefits package of the most popular state HMO; (3) the state employee plan; and (4) the actuarial equivalent of any of the three stated benefit plans as long as prescription drugs, vision, hearing, and mental health services now offered in these plans are guaranteed to equal at least 75 percent of the value of these services.
- ✓ **SUPPLEMENTS, NOT SUPPLANTS, CURRENT HEALTH CARE COVERAGE.** Includes provisions to ensure that states provide health care coverage to children who do not currently have health insurance. It requires that states maintain their current Medicaid eligibility levels of spending to access Federal dollars to ensure that this investment is not used to replace public or private money that already covers children.
- ✓ **ENSURES ADEQUATE COST-SHARING PROTECTIONS.** The President fought to ensure that families are not forced to shoulder excessive costs for their children. The Agreement guarantees that families under 150 percent of poverty will be protected against overly burdensome cost sharing.

PRESIDENT CLINTON DELIVERS A \$500 CHILD TAX CREDIT FOR APPROXIMATELY 27 MILLION FAMILIES

MAIN FEATURES OF THE CHILD TAX CREDIT:

- **Age.** Covers children under 17.
- **Amount per child.** \$400 in 1998. \$500 thereafter.
- **Income limits.** Begins to be phased out for couples making over \$110,000 and for one parent families making over \$75,000.
- **"Stacking."** Child tax credit will be calculated or "stacked" before the EITC, and will therefore be available for the up to 7.5 million children in working families who have incomes below \$30,000 and who were denied the child tax credit under the congressional bills.
- **For families with more than two children — Refundability to cover out-of-pocket income and payroll taxes.** Because many large families have little income tax liability, but pay significant out-of-pocket payroll taxes, the child tax credit for these families is partially refundable. These families will receive a child credit for their income taxes plus the extent to which their out-of-pocket (employee share) payroll taxes exceed their EITC.
- **Savings Incentive.** Taxpayers will be given the opportunity to contribute \$500 each year to an education Individual Retirement Account (IRA). Earnings would accumulate tax-free in the account, and no taxes will be due upon withdrawal for an approved purpose.

A CHILD TAX CREDIT FOR FAMILIES WHO WORK HARD AND PAY TAXES.

13 million children from families with incomes below \$30,000 will receive the child tax credit — up to 7.5 million* more than would have under the Congressional plans. Families making under \$30,000 like young teachers, police officers, farmers, nurses and others who work hard and play by the rules will now receive the Child Tax Credit. *Comparison to House passed bill; vs. Senate bill: 5.9 million.

President Clinton worked to ensure that under any final agreement, these young parents would receive a child tax credit to make it easier for them to raise their children.

Consider a family of four with two small children: the father is a rookie police officer making \$23,000, and the mother has chosen to stay at home. Both congressional bills would have denied this family, and millions of others, the child tax credit. Under the final agreement, this family will receive a child tax credit of \$675.

	President Clinton's Proposal	Agreement	House Bill	Senate Bill
<i>Child Tax Credit for family of rookie police officer making \$23,000</i>	\$767	\$675	\$0	\$0

PRESIDENT CLINTON DELIVERS EDUCATION TAX CUTS TO HELP MIDDLE CLASS FAMILIES PAY FOR COLLEGE

THE PRESIDENT'S HOPE SCHOLARSHIP AND TUITION TAX CREDIT

From the beginning, promoting expanded educational opportunity has been the centerpiece of President Clinton's budget and his middle class tax cut proposal. Promoting education is the centerpiece of this final tax cut bill:

- ✓ **\$1,500 HOPE Scholarship to make the first two years of college universally available.** The final agreement includes the President's program to advance the goal of making the 13th and 14th grades as universally available as a high school diploma is today. Students will receive a scholarship of 100% on the first \$1,000 of tuition and fees and 50% on the second \$1,000.
- ✓ **20% Tuition Tax Credit for College Juniors, Seniors, Graduate Students and working Americans pursuing lifelong learning to upgrade their skills.** The 20% credit will be applied to the first \$5,000 of tuition and fees through 2002, and to the first \$10,000 thereafter.. The President has long understood that the economy is changing and that people must have the opportunity to enhance their skills throughout their working lives. This is why the President insisted on the 20% tuition tax credit that is in the final bill and is a major improvement over the Congressionally-passed bills.

A SUMMARY OF ADDITIONAL EDUCATION TAX CUTS

- ***Education and Retirement Savings Accounts.*** Allows penalty-free IRA withdrawals for undergraduate, post-secondary vocational, and graduate education expenses. Additionally, taxpayers are given the opportunity to deposit \$500 into an education IRA. Earnings would accumulate tax-free and no taxes will be due upon withdrawal for an approved purpose.
- ***Employer-Provided Education Benefits.*** Extends Section 127 of the tax code for three years, which allows workers to exclude \$5,250 of employer-provided undergraduate education benefits from their taxable income.
- ***Student Loan Interest Deduction.*** Allows a deduction for up to \$2,500 per year of interest on education loans for expenses of students enrolled at an institution of higher education. This deduction will be available even if the taxpayer does not itemize deductions.
- ***Community Service Loan Forgiveness.*** In most circumstances, a loan that is forgiven is considered income and is therefore taxable. To encourage programs that offer loan forgiveness to borrowers who take lower-paying, community-service jobs, the agreement excludes from taxable income both loan amounts forgiven through programs run by nonprofit tax-exempt charitable or educational institutions. Currently, the exclusion generally covers only certain forgiveness arrangements between students and government entities.
- ***Repeal Cap on Tax Exempt Bond Issuance by Colleges and Universities.*** Repeals the \$150 million bond cap that affects private higher education institutions and certain other charitable institutions. The repeal applies to tax-exempt bonds issued by these institutions to finance new capital expenditures.

PRESIDENT CLINTON DELIVERS A BUDGET THAT STRENGTHENS AND PRESERVES MEDICARE

The Budget Agreement preserves and strengthens the Medicare program, saving \$115 billion over five years and extending the life of the Medicare Trust Fund for at least ten years. It modernizes Medicare by including new market-oriented reforms that have proved successful in the private sector plus \$4 billion in new preventive benefits. As this agreement strengthens and preserves the Medicare program, it also creates a Medicare Commission to examine the long-term needs of the program so that Medicare will be prepared for the retirement of the baby boomers.

- ✓ **SAVES APPROXIMATELY \$115 BILLION OVER FIVE YEARS.** Includes about \$115 billion in savings over five years and between \$400-\$450 billion over ten years.
- ✓ **EXTENDS THE LIFE OF THE MEDICARE TRUST FUND FOR AT LEAST TEN YEARS.** This agreement will keep Medicare solvent until at least 2007.
- ✓ **IMPLEMENTS NEW MARKET-ORIENTED REFORMS INCLUDING:**
 - (1) Empowering the Secretary of Health and Human Services to implement competitive market mechanisms;
 - (2) Opening up new options that offer more choice among competing health plans and have proven effective in the private sector, including Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) and Provider Sponsored Organizations (PSOs);
 - (3) Providing Americans with meaningful choices by reforming annual Medigap enrollment; and
 - (4) Building on Medicare's success in controlling hospital costs, restructuring the payment systems for home health, agencies, skilled nursing facilities and hospital outpatient departments so that rates are set in advance through a prospective payment system.
- ✓ **INCLUDES \$4 BILLION OVER FIVE YEARS FOR NEW PREVENTIVE BENEFITS.** Expanding coverage for mammograms and colorectal screening and improving self-management of diseases like diabetes.
- ✓ **ENSURES NEW PREMIUM PROTECTIONS FOR LOW-INCOME MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES.** The budget agreement invests \$1.5 billion over five years to pay the premiums for beneficiaries up to 135 percent of poverty. Beneficiaries over 135 percent of poverty to as high as 175 percent of poverty will get assistance as well.
- ✓ **TAKES STEPS TO ENSURE THAT VULNERABLE HOSPITALS ARE PROTECTED.** The Agreement reduces the Medicare Disproportionate Share Hospitals cut from \$2.4 billion in the Senate-passed bill to \$600 million over five years.
- ✓ **ESTABLISHES A MEDICARE COMMISSION.** The agreement creates a 17-member Medicare Commission which contains eight Democrats and eight Republicans and a Chair who will be selected jointly by the President and the Congressional leadership. The Commission will release a report in 1999 and require an 11 of 17 majority to ensure that its recommendations are bipartisan.

THE BUDGET AGREEMENT PROTECTED THE PRESIDENT'S PRIORITY PROGRAMS, INCLUDING EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Budget Agreement achieved 99% of the President's budget for non-defense discretionary spending over the next 5 years. While priority items are protected, there are \$61 billion of savings in non-defense discretionary outlays over the next 5 years -- a 10% real cut by 2002. These priorities will be ratified in the appropriations process under the budget agreement.

LARGEST INCREASE IN EDUCATION INVESTMENT IN 30 YEARS

The budget agreement endorsed President Clinton's overall plan for investing in education and training -- \$63 billion more than the Republican plan over five years. With the tax cuts for education, this represents the largest increase in the Federal investment in education in 30 years. The agreement specifically calls for:

- ✓ Increases funding for Head Start to continue on road to achieve enrollment of 1 million kids in 2002.
- ✓ Largest Pell Grant increase in two decades - boosts the maximum 1998 Pell grant from \$2,700 to \$3,000, and expands the program to more poor independent students.
- ✓ Adopts the President's budget request to launch a child literacy initiative consistent with his America Reads program.
- ✓ Increases funding for bilingual (27% increase) and immigrant education (50% increase).
- ✓ Includes all of the \$579 million increase in funding requested by the President in his FY 1998 budget of \$5.3 billion for Training and Employment Services, including Job Corps.

BOLSTERS ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT AND KEY PROGRAMS

- ✓ Provides a 9% increase for EPA's Operating program which includes research, enforcement, state grants and regulatory programs.
- ✓ Doubles the pace of Superfund cleanups, if policy details can be worked out.
- ✓ Provides a 6 percent increase for operation of the National Parks, and a more than doubles funding (\$156 million) for Everglades Restoration.

PUTS MORE POLICE ON THE STREET

- ✓ Protects funding for the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) initiative, which should put 100,000 more police officers on the street by 2000.

URBAN INITIATIVES

- ✓ Expansion of Community Development Financial Institution Fund.

PRESIDENT CLINTON DELIVERS TAX CUTS TO CLEAN UP AND REVITALIZE URBAN AREAS...

- ✓ **THE BROWNFIELDS TAX INCENTIVE WILL REDUCE THE COST OF CLEANING UP THOUSANDS OF CONTAMINATED, ABANDONED SITES IN ECONOMICALLY DISTRESSED AREAS** by permitting clean-up costs to be deducted immediately for tax purposes. This will, in turn, encourage redevelopment of these areas. The tax incentive will be available for three years. *The Treasury Department estimates that this \$1.5 billion tax incentive would leverage more than \$6 billion for private sector cleanups nationwide, allowing redevelopment of 14,000 brownfields.*
- ✓ **THIS PROPOSAL IS A MAJOR PRIORITY FOR MANY OF AMERICA'S MAYORS.** Chicago Mayor Richard Daley, writing recently on behalf of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, urged Ways and Means Chairman Archer to include the President's Brownfields proposal in the tax bill: "This is a high priority for communities across the nation." [Letter to Chmn. Archer, 6/11/97]
- ✓ **CREATES NEW EMPOWERMENT ZONES.** Under the President's 1993 Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities initiative, participating communities develop a strategic plan to spur economic development, and they receive Federal tax benefits, social service grants and flexibility in use of Federal funds in order to put these plans into effect. The EZs and ECs are urban or rural areas with high poverty and unemployment rates.
 - ***A Strong Start since 1994.*** The 105 communities selected as EZ/ECs in 1994 amassed over \$8 billion in public-private commitments. In the six urban Empowerment Zones, the private sector has made or pledged \$2 billion in new investments.
 - ***A Second Round to Build on Successes.*** In response, the President proposed, and the bill includes, a second round of EZs -- 15 urban and 5 rural EZs. The new EZs will benefit from a different blend of tax credits from first-round EZs. They will be eligible for the Brownfields tax incentive, special expensing of business assets, and qualification for private-activity bonds.

...AND TO MOVE PEOPLE FROM WELFARE TO WORK

- ✓ **A WELFARE-TO-WORK TAX CREDIT.** This provision will give employers an added incentive to hire long-term welfare recipients by providing a credit equal to 35% of the first \$10,000 in wages in the first year of employment, and 50% of the first \$10,000 in wages in the second year, paid to new hires who have received welfare for an extended period. The credit is for two years per worker to encourage not only hiring, but also retention.
- ✓ **\$3 BILLION TO HELP MOVE 1 MILLION PEOPLE FROM WELFARE TO WORK.** Includes President's proposal to create \$3 billion Welfare to Work Jobs Challenge to move long-term welfare recipients into lasting, unsubsidized jobs. These funds can be used for job creation, job placement and job retention efforts, including wage subsidies to private employers, transportation and other critical post-employment support services. The Labor Department will provide oversight but the dollars will be placed in the hands of the localities who are on the front lines of the welfare reform effort.
- ✓ **PRESERVES THE MINIMUM WAGE AND OTHER LABOR PROTECTIONS FOR WELFARE RECIPIENTS MOVING FROM WELFARE TO WORK.** Does not include the House-passed provision to leave welfare participants unprotected by the Fair Labor Standards Act and other employment laws.
- ✓ **PROTECTS WORKERS FROM DISPLACEMENT BY THOSE LEAVING THE WELFARE ROLLS;** and establishes a strong process for workers to raise grievances with an independent agency.

PRESIDENT CLINTON FOUGHT TO PROTECT OUR MOST VULNERABLE PEOPLE

Several provisions in last year's welfare reform bill had nothing to do with the goals of welfare reform. The President said so at the time and promised to work to correct these provisions. That's why he fought to ensure that any agreement protects the most vulnerable in our society. The President fought to better protect:

CHILDREN

- ✓ **KEEPING THE MEDICAID GUARANTEE.** Preserves the Federal guarantee of Medicaid coverage for the vulnerable populations who depend on it, and contains additional investments to extend coverage to uninsured children. Also ensures that 30,000 disabled children losing SSI because of the new tighter eligibility criteria keep their Medicaid coverage.

LEGAL IMMIGRANTS

- ✓ **CURRENT RECIPIENTS.** Restores both SSI and Medicaid benefits for immigrants now receiving assistance, ensuring that they will not be turned out of their apartments or nursing homes or otherwise left helpless.
- ✓ **CURRENT RESIDENT NONRECIPIENTS.** Does not change the rules retroactively. Immigrants in the country as of August 22, 1996 but not receiving benefits at that time who subsequently become disabled will also be fully eligible for SSI and Medicaid benefits. The budget will restore benefits to over 350,000 legal immigrants in FY 2002.
- ✓ **REFUGEES AND ASYLEES.** Extends the SSI and Medicaid eligibility period for refugees and asylees from 5 years after entry (the limit in the welfare bill) to 7 years to give these residents more time to naturalize. Adopts Administration proposal to treat Cuban and Haitian entrants and Amerasian immigrants as refugees to preserve benefits for these groups that have endured extraordinary hardships.

POOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED, INCLUDING CITIZENS

- ✓ **RECIPIENTS OF STATE SSI SUPPLEMENTS.** Does not include the House-passed provision that would have repealed the maintenance-of-effort requirement applying to State supplementation of SSI benefits which would have permitted States to reduce or eliminate benefits to almost 3 million poor blind, elderly and disabled individuals.

PEOPLE WHO WANT TO WORK BUT CAN'T FIND A JOB

- ✓ **235,000 MORE WORK SLOTS.** Last year's welfare reform bill restricted food stamps for able-bodied childless adults to only 3 out of every 36 months, unless they were working. This move ignored the fact that finding a job often takes time. The budget bill provides nearly \$1 billion for an estimated 235,000 work slots over 5 years and food stamp benefits to those who are willing to work but, through no fault of their own, have not yet found employment.
- ✓ **ALLOWS STATES TO EXEMPT UP TO 15 PERCENT OF THE FOOD STAMP RECIPIENTS (70,000 Individuals Monthly) WHO WOULD OTHERWISE BE DENIED BENEFITS AS A RESULT OF THE "3 IN 36" LIMIT.**

AN HISTORIC BALANCED BUDGET: BUILDING ON THE PRESIDENT'S STRONG RECORD OF DEFICIT REDUCTION AND GROWTH

President Clinton has achieved a balanced budget agreement that includes critical investments in education, health care, and the environment while strengthening and modernizing Medicare and Medicaid -- just as he promised last year. This achievement finishes the job of balancing the budget, a key priority for the President since he took office.

ONLY FOUR YEARS AGO. In 1993, the President inherited a budget deficit of \$290 billion that was expected to explode to over one-half trillion dollars in 2002. A decade of large deficits had weakened the foundation of our economy and sapped our power and prestige abroad. Unemployment was 7.5% in 1992, and job growth was sluggish.

THE PRESIDENT PASSES HIS 1993 ECONOMIC PLAN. President Clinton addressed this problem of fiscal instability immediately on a pledge to cut the deficit in half. Working with Democrats in Congress, he implemented an economic program designed to reduce the deficit and to invest in critical priorities, such as education and training. *The 1993 economic plan has exceeded all expectations: the deficit has fallen by more than 75%, dropping for a likely fifth year in a row to \$67 billion or lower in 1997; equipment investment has been the strongest since Kennedy was President; the economy has produced over 12.5 million new jobs; and the unemployment rate this year is the lowest in 24 years.*

THE PRESIDENT ACHIEVES BIPARTISAN AGREEMENT TO FINISH THE JOB. The President began his second term determined to fulfill his goal of balancing the budget. As we head into the next century, this bipartisan agreement protects our priorities, solidifies the nation's economic foundation, restores faith in our ability to govern ourselves, and bolsters America's preeminent position in the world economy. The balanced budget agreement includes roughly \$900 billion in 10 year net deficit savings and delivers the first balanced budget in a generation.

The First Balanced Budget in a Generation*		
1993	\$310	\$255
1994	\$302	\$203
1995	\$301	\$164
1996	\$298	\$107
1997	\$347	\$67
1998	\$387	\$90
1999	\$429	\$90
2000	\$475	\$83
2001	\$521	\$53
2002	\$576	\$1 Surplus

BUDGET STAYS IN BALANCE. In addition to delivering a balanced budget in 2002, the budget agreement delivers budget surpluses for each of the second five years of the budget window, 2003-2007, putting the nation on a solid fiscal path at a critical time as the baby boom generation edges toward retirement.

Year	Surplus*
2003	\$5
2004	\$20
2005	\$24
2006	\$30
2007	\$34

* Numbers from the budget agreement. Final Budget numbers from reconciliation still being tallied.

The Balanced Budget Delivers a Mainstream, Middle Class Tax Cut

How Typical American Families Will Benefit

Example #1

Consider a family of four with an income of \$40,000 a year. The father is a carpenter who makes \$25,000, and the mother works at a local department store and makes \$15,000. They have two children, a son who is 14 and a freshman in high school and a daughter enrolled full-time in her first year at a state university. Her tuition is \$5,000 a year.

This family benefits from the tax cut in at least two ways. They will receive a child tax credit of \$500 for their son, plus a HOPE Scholarship of \$1,500 for their daughter. In total, they will receive a \$2,000 tax cut.

Tax Cut

Family of four with two children
aged 14 and 18 and \$40,000 income:

Child Tax Credit for 14 year old	\$500
HOPE Scholarship for 18 year old	<u>\$1,500</u>
Total tax cut:	\$2,000

* Tax Year 1999

Example #2

Consider a family of three making \$55,000 a year. The father has a degree in accounting and works for a local business in the accounting department. The mother works part-time at the local library. They have one daughter aged 7. The father would like to return to school to prepare for his CPA examination. He is going to attend the local liberal arts college. He has signed up for two courses with total tuition of \$4,000.

This family will receive a \$500 child tax credit for their daughter and an \$800 tuition tax credit to help pay for the father's course work.

Tax Cut

Family of three with one child
aged 7 and \$55,000 income:

Child Tax Credit for 7 year old	\$500
Tuition tax credit	<u>\$800</u>
Total tax cut:	\$1,300

* Tax Year 1999

Example #3

Consider a family of three making \$80,000 combined. They have a daughter who is 17 years old and is trying to decide where to go to college. She is leaning towards a private liberal arts school. Her parents are staring at tuition payments in excess of \$10,000 a year for four school years and wondering how they will pay for it.

This tax cut will help. Their daughter will be eligible for a \$1,500 HOPE Scholarship in each of her first two years in college. During her junior and senior years, she will be eligible for a tuition tax credit of \$1,000. (because four school years fall across five tax years she will be eligible for another \$1,000 in the fifth year).

<u>Year</u>	<u>Tuition Tax Credits</u>
1998	\$1,500 Hope Scholarship
1999	\$1,500 Hope Scholarship
2000	\$1,000 Tuition Tax Credit
2001	\$1,000 Tuition Tax Credit
2002	\$1,000 Tuition Tax Credit
Cumulative Tax Cut to Help Pay for Daughter's Education	\$6,000

Example #4

A single mother lives with her six year old daughter in California. She's been working as a bank teller for several years and her pay is now \$20,000 a year. Working towards becoming a loan officer, she is taking one course a semester towards a bachelor's degree. Her tuition is \$1,000. This family will receive a \$500 child tax credit for the daughter and a \$200 tuition tax credit.

Tax Cut

Family of two with one child
aged 6 and \$20,000 income:

Child Tax Credit for 6 year old	\$500
Tuition Tax Credit	<u>\$200</u>
Total tax cut:	\$700

* Tax Year 1999