

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001a. letter	Personal (Partial) (1 page)	09/16/1994	P6/b(6)
001b. note	Personal (Partial) (1 page)	10/07/1994	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Domestic Policy Council (Karen Guss)
OA/Box Number: 5931

FOLDER TITLE:

Phone Calls Made

2012-0820-S

ms479

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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To Denayer for R

ref. to SK

[001a]

P6/b(6)

P6/b(6)

Sept. 16, 1994

President & Mrs. Clinton

Having long been an admirer of your efforts to reform Health Care. I am writing to you on behalf of my husband **P6/b(6)** who has been diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor (Grade 4 Glioblastoma.) My husband is an engineer/scientist and renowned inventor who has devoted his life to his country and the pursuit of technology, both in the U.S. Air Force, and then as an engineer/scientist for Hughes Aircraft. He is a leading authority and innovator in the world on electro-optical thermal imaging systems. My husband has been named a national asset by the Hughes organization, and accordingly been inducted into the highly coveted **Hall of Fame**. He is now in need of his country's help in order to survive. Our three sons and I are writing to you because our mutual supporter, Robert King, knows that you could be of tremendous help to us.

There is a program called Boron Neutron Capture Therapy (BNCT) which is in the experimental stages at Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long Island. We have personally spoken to Dr. Bergland of Beth Israel Hospital in New York who is leading the experimental trials at Brookhaven. He has informed us that the FDA (Dr. Pat Love) has not yet approved use of the heavy water reactor in this treatment which must be used in my husband's case because of the depth of the tumor. A woman from Long Island has just undergone treatment for the same type of tumor at Brookhaven. However, she had to appear before a Congressional Committee to get special permission of a compassionate nature.

In view of this exception which has already been granted on a compassionate basis, on behalf of our family, the many employees of Hughes, and dignitaries in foreign governments that **P6/b(6)** has interfaced with in support of **American industry**, we are asking your support and intervention to make it possible for him to undergo this treatment. we are not asking for charity. Hughes has indicated they will do whatever it takes to help my husband. *(Under separate cover, a list of International dignitaries, corporate officers and business leaders is being prepared whom are in support of his cause.)* This treatment is immediately necessary for my husbands survival. **Please help save his life!** We shall always be grateful and indebted to you for your help, and may God bless you.

P6/b(6)

Get info on
why not FDA
approved.

FDA official

Susan Kummerer

1 301 443 3800

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To: File
From: Karen Guss
Date: Oct. 7, 1994
Re: [REDACTED] letter

[0016]

I spoke to Jim O'Hare, Assoc. Commissioner for Public Affairs and Dr. Pat Love at the FDA about the boron neutron capture therapy the [REDACTED] family was interested in obtaining for [REDACTED]. Mr. O'Hare and Dr. Love explained that the BNCT is so experimental that it has only been performed on one person in this country and it is not at all clear whether the therapy was at all successful. I asked for the number of a person at the FDA who the [REDACTED] could call. When I called Mrs. [REDACTED] she explained that, for various reasons, she was no longer trying to get BNCT for her husband. She asked me to let Mrs. Clinton know that she appreciated Mrs. Clinton's taking the time to look into this matter and to follow up on her letter.

- supportive - plans to
recession figure Healthright

HOMECARE

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR HOME CARE
519 C STREET, N.E., STANTON PARK
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002-5809
(202) 547-7424, FAX (202) 547-3540

KAYE DANIELS
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

VAL J. HALAMANDARIS
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HONORABLE FRANK E. MOSS
SENIOR COUNSEL

STANLEY M. BRAND
GENERAL COUNSEL

August 5, 1994

IR
S/

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
Old Executive Office Building, Room 100
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

Thank you again for taking time from your busy day to participate in our latest HealthRIGHT event, which took place today in the Ways and Means Committee hearing room. From all reports things went extremely well. All of the networks, plus CNN and MacNeil/Lehrer requested a copy of the video petition, which we presented. We hope that the result, once again, will be positive news coverage which will help bring about the enactment of true national health care reform.

When I returned to the office I received a rude shock. Our staff obtained a copy of the Mitchell bill and analyzed it carefully. The conclusion of our staff and members of our Government Affairs Committee is that the bill is inadequate -- marginal at best in terms of meeting the objective for which we have all worked so hard, namely universal coverage. We have even more problems with the treatment home care receives in the acute benefits provisions. Although home health is included in the standard benefits package, it can only be used when required as an alternative to institutionalization.

Even more serious from our point of view are massive cuts in Medicare, a disproportionate share of which would come from home care beneficiaries. We are still analyzing the proposal, but as we understand it, it contains the following provisions:

- A 20 percent co-payment in the Medicare home care program would be required. This provision would be particularly devastating. It would cut the home care program by approximately \$26 billion over a five year period. The burden of this provision would fall squarely on the shoulders of Medicare beneficiaries. Our members are concerned that this would add billions to their administrative costs at a time when their reimbursement rates are frozen or being reduced and that it will act as a significant disincentive to the use of home care benefits resulting in the end of increased program costs as individuals are kept longer than necessary in institutions.
- A continuation is proposed of an existing freeze on Medicare payments. Under current law, Medicare costs and related limits are updated each year with automatic increases put into effect which mirror increased costs related to inflation. Costs which have been frozen for the past two years would remain frozen at the 1993 level until July 1996.

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
August 5, 1994
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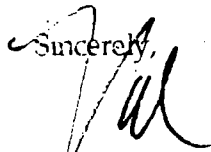
- A reduction in the Medicare cost limits is proposed to 100 percent of the median. Costs limits are currently set at 112 percent of the mean. This is slated to reduce Medicare benefits by at least \$4.2 billion over five years.

Unfortunately, the above information comes only one day after a report in the *Wall Street Journal* that the Clinton Administration has shifted \$250 billion in future Medicare spending away from home health agencies to hospitals as a means of enlisting the support of the American Hospital Association, as one of the so called "Four Horsemen" allied to bring about health care reform.

I have been around this city long enough not to believe what I read in the newspaper, but our members are extremely alarmed. You have been gracious enough to say on several occasions that no group has worked harder in the crusade and support of the President's health care reform plan than has the hospice and the home care industry. I know this is where your heart lies. The National Association for Home Care and our allied Center for Health Care Law, Hospice Association of America and HealthRIGHT organizations have done everything possible to assist you and the President. As you know, we have spent millions of dollars in a national advertising campaign and funded HealthRIGHT as a means of bringing real people with real problems to Washington to lobby the Congress, to support the President and increase pressure for health care reform.

The measures which are now being proposed by some people in Congress, supposedly with Administration support, appear to be punitive and discriminatory to home care providers and the millions of people they serve. I hope that we are wrong and that there is some misunderstanding on our part. I would like to emphasize the gravity of this matter by telling you it threatens our very support of current health care reform legislation.

It is my fondest wish to be able to use all of our energies and resources in support of health care reform over these coming weeks. We have worked so hard to assist you and the President in pursuit of common objectives. We would be extremely reluctant now to have to oppose the legislation. I am writing to ask your advice on how to proceed. May I ask your staff to set up a meeting for us to resolve this matter at the earliest opportunity with key White House staff to discuss this matter? We are asking for similar meetings with members of Congress.

Sincerely,


Val J. Halamandaris
President

cc: Melanne Verveer