

March 22, 1995

NOTE TO JEREMY BEN-AMI

FROM: Bob Pellicci (x5-4871)

RE: President Clinton's Article for the Washington Post

Attached is the markup of the draft article for the Washington Post regarding the White House Conference on Aging. The draft article reflects comments from the Department of Health and Human Services, the National Economic Council (Ellen Seidman), and OMB's offices of Economic Policy (Joe Minarik) and Human Resources (Ken Apfel).

Chris Jennings and Jennifer Klein had serious concerns regarding the article; they will give you their comments.

Note that the article needs a significant amount of editorial and stylistic changes. For example, we believe page 4, paragraph 2 should be rewritten to make it more "Presidential".

Please call me if you have any questions.

395 3924
Mellisa C. Cade
x56148

cc: Jim Murr
Janet Forsgren

MASTER

DRAFT

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S ARTICLE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

On May 3, 1995, I will address the formal opening of the last White House Conference on Aging of this century. This will be an historic and momentous event -- the gathering of 2,259 delegates and 250 observers from every corner of our country and the world to debate and discuss serious issues and produce resolutions to shape a national aging policy -- something our nation needs and deserves but has never had.

From the start, when we began planning this Conference more than a year ago, we looked for and quickly found momentum and spirit in the grassroots. Since February of 1994, when I called for the convening of the Conference, tens of thousands of people, many of them senior citizens but also people of younger generations, have organized and participated in more than 700 events across the land.

Those who gathered in forums, town meetings, roundtables, small and large meetings and activities of all kinds did so with a central purpose: to let the White House know what seniors and people of all generations think and feel about a host of issues. The messages are clear. I have heard and understood these concerns -- whether about health care, social services or crime, economic security or nutrition, employment or caregiving, transportation or volunteering. ~~elder women's concerns or the concerns of older veterans and minorities.~~

Our nation's more than 30 million senior citizens look to the future with optimism and enthusiasm, but they have serious

doubts, too -- especially about the quality of life they can expect for their grandchildren. ~~Seniors are concerned about what the future holds for themselves as individuals, but they have a broader, intergenerational view of the future, also.~~

have told us that they
Older Americans ~~want the same things we all want.~~ They want to be listened to and valued. They want to feel safe and secure in their homes and communities.

They want good services of many kinds, easily available to those who need them. *They want financial and health security.* They want a future of opportunity and possibility for their children, their grandchildren and their great-grandchildren.

~~Very assuredly, they want financial and health security, for themselves and younger generations.~~ At the 1995 White House Conference on Aging, there will be lively debate about many things, but, especially, about Social Security and Medicare.

I share the concerns of our senior citizens, and the concerns of all Americans, about the future of these two vital programs that make it possible for millions of people -- mothers, fathers, grandparents and great-grandparents -- to live in dignity. As President, I want to preserve and protect these programs for seniors of today and seniors of tomorrow -- my own baby boom generation and generations, like my daughter's, that will quickly follow.

I hear what seniors are saying about Social Security, and I agree. ~~Social Security cannot be used to balance our budget. Cuts are unconscionable.~~ If we must make changes to preserve

Social Security for future generations, let us do so sensibly and compassionately, taking to heart the promises our government has made to those receiving benefits and those still paying into the system.

I hear what millions of Americans are saying about Medicare, too. I am fighting with you and for you to protect health care for older Americans, disabled people and mothers and children. The \$500 million in cuts Republicans have proposed for Medicare and Medicaid will shift a staggering financial burden to Medicare beneficiaries and shrink benefits for mothers and children who depend on Medicaid for their health care. I have said many times, and I re-emphasize my position now: Medicare must not be used to pay for tax cuts ^{for the wealthy} ~~or deficit reduction~~. Any savings from Medicare must be used in the larger context of health care reform.

I want our country to gain control of the federal deficit, so we can leave behind a legacy of pride, not shame, for America's youth. We have made progress, but we cannot do much more without meaningful health care reform. Over the next five years, almost 40 percent of the growth in all federal spending will come from rising costs in federal health care programs -- primarily Medicare and Medicaid. We must contain costs, but we need to direct our energies toward health care reform -- not arbitrary cuts that will hurt the most vulnerable Americans first and everyone sooner or later.

Note: this paragraph and the preceding paragraph (as written) are inconsistent.

The first White House Conference on Aging convened by a Democratic President can reaffirm America's commitment to the preservation and protection of Social Security and Medicare. And it can give our country direction about something closely intertwined with economic and health security -- long term care.

Seniors are passionate about their independence. They want to age in place whenever possible -- in their own homes and communities. But our systems of health care and social services -- even the ways in which we have built our homes and structured our communities ~~are structured~~ -- make that simple wish impossible to achieve for many, difficult for all. I have some ideas, and I have proposed some. But I look to the Conference to offer workable, creative, long term solutions to our long term care dilemma.

The White House Conference on Aging comes at a time of enormous change and uncertainty in our country -- a time of diminishing resources, of a burgeoning older population that will rapidly grow larger, of changes in family structure and in the expectations we all have for the future. With its focus on policy and putting policy into action, the Conference can help us meet new challenges with new solutions.

The Conference can make a difference in how Americans view aging and in the decisions we make as we age. It can bring us closer to each other as "generations aging together," in the words of the Conference theme.

It can energize us to see aging as personal and universal. It can encourage younger Americans to reach out and learn from seniors and to plan carefully for their own later years. Definitely, the Conference will educate all of us about the extraordinary abilities and potential of older Americans.

On May 2-5, when more than 2,500 delegates and observers gather in Washington for the 1995 White House Conference on Aging, they will do so with a common purpose: to influence the direction of national aging policy over the next 10 years. A call for an intergenerational policy -- one recognizing and promoting interdependence while protecting independence -- is certain to emerge. I have high hopes for the Conference and, because of my faith in all Americans, reason to believe my hopes will be realized.

SENIORS

"Our senior citizens have made us what we are."

- President Clinton
State of the Union, 1995

"My position is, I haven't and don't support cuts in Social Security, and I would support savings in the Medicare program only if they're used to advance the cause of health care."

- President Clinton
October 23, 1994

PROMOTING ECONOMIC SECURITY *People who work hard and play by the rules should be rewarded.*

- The Clinton Administration is committed to promoting economic security and opportunity across generations.
- **By strengthening and streamlining the program, we're working to bolster public confidence in Social Security.** The Administration is committed to preserving Social Security benefits; they should not be used to balance the budget. And, SSA continues to improve customer service and satisfaction through its 800 number, reducing the number of pending disability claims and mailing statements to Americans that let them know the amount of retirement benefits they can expect.
- **People deserve a pension system that they can rely on.** President Clinton signed the Retirement Protection Act in December 1994. Now, workers and retirees will be able to count on receiving the pensions they have earned.
- The President's Middle Class Bill of Rights allows people to set up an Individual Retirement Account and withdraw it tax-free for the cost of education... or first time home buying... or the care of a parent... or health care.
- President Clinton proclaimed the week of March 12 through March 18, 1995 "National Older Workers Employment Week." Together, we need to work to bring out the unique combination of knowledge, skills, insight and experience older workers offer.

THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION CONTINUES TO FIGHT FOR REAL HEALTH CARE REFORM *We remain firmly committed to guaranteeing health security to all Americans and to containing health care costs for families, businesses and federal, state and local governments.*

- In his December letter to the Congressional leadership, the President stated that this year, we can take the first steps. The Congress can, and should, reform the insurance market, make coverage affordable for, and available to, children; help workers who

lose their jobs keep their health insurance; level the playing field for the self-employed; and **help families provide long-term care** for a sick parent or a disabled child.

- We know that long-term care is of critical importance to the elderly. That's why we're proposing tax clarifications for private long-term care insurance and consumer standards for long-term care so that insurance policies are worth the paper they're written on.
- **We're fighting to protect health care for mothers, children, the disabled and aged Americans.** Republicans want to cut Medicare by about \$300 billion and federal Medicaid spending by at least \$180 billion to \$190 billion between now and 2002. These cuts will mean shifting a staggering financial burden to elderly and disabled Medicare beneficiaries; dropping coverage or shrinking benefits for mothers and children on Medicaid; and significant cuts in payments to hospitals, physicians and other providers.
- The Administration is working to make Medicare and Medicaid more responsive to the needs of beneficiaries and more efficient for taxpayers who support the program. We're proposing more managed care options to increase the choices beneficiaries have; not as a smokescreen for deep and arbitrary cuts. And, we're streamlining regulations and cutting paperwork.
- The President has consistently said that we cannot get a hold of the deficit without passing meaningful health reform. Over the next five years alone, almost 40 percent of the growth in total federal spending will come from rising costs in federal health care programs. We must contain costs in these programs. But we must do it as we reform our health care system as a whole -- not by arbitrarily cutting programs that serve the most vulnerable Americans.

A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE *The Administration is committed to fighting for a better quality of life -- safe streets, high-quality and affordable education for everyone, and making services available where they're needed most -- at the community level.*

- The Administration passed the smartest, toughest, and most comprehensive Anti-Crime bill in this country's history... a bill that provides police, prisons, punishment and prevention... so that the streets families live on are safer.
- President Clinton has signed the Student Loan Reform Act, Goals 2000, School-to-Work and expanded Head Start. His "Middle Class Bill of Rights" calls for tax cuts for parents trying to put their kids through school... and a \$500 tax cut for families with children under 13.
- **Promoting community service** 20,000 young people are volunteering their time to community service through the Administration's Americorps; some work with seniors in their community. And, Senior Corps programs like Foster Grandparent and the

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program boast 526,000 participants.

- **Making Government Smaller and Cutting Red Tape** The Administration has eliminated 102,000 jobs and continues to cut obsolete regulations; reward results, not red tape; take power away from federal bureaucracies and give it back to communities.

March 9, 1995

Prepared by: Lynn Margherio X65561

Washington Post April Insert
Robert Blancato
March 17, 1995
Draft

Two weeks before John Kennedy's inauguration as President, in January, 1961, President Dwight Eisenhower convened the first White House Conference on Aging. There were 16.5 million Americans over the age of 65 at that time, and health care, economic security, and housing topped the agenda. Thirty-four years later with a senior population twice that of 1961 and projected to double again by 2030, we are in the final stages of preparation for the fourth White House Conference on Aging and the last of this century.

The 1995 agenda, formed by over 900 public comments, is once again topped by health care, economic security, and housing. These issues continue to have the greatest immediate impact on the lives of seniors. But in spite of the recurrence of the major issues, the tenor of this White House Conference on Aging will be markedly different from past Conferences. Emphasis on the interdependence of generations and the responsibility of individuals to plan for changes that will occur throughout their lives, sets this Conference apart from its predecessors. The 1995 Conference is not so much a conference about the aged, as it is a conference about aging and nowhere is this better reflected than in the 1995 WHCoA theme "America Now and into the 21st Century: Generations Aging Together with Independence, Opportunity and Dignity."

President Clinton, on February 17, 1994, officially called for the 1995 White House Conference on Aging. That same day, in Tampa, Florida, over 100 people participated in a forum and focus group session discussing the challenges and concerns of aging. This gathering, the first of more than 750 pre-WHCoA events taking place at the local, state, regional and national levels, began a process dedicated not only to producing a comprehensive aging policy for the next ten years but also to creating a blueprint for its implementation.

The 1995 White House Conference on Aging, which will bring approximately 2200 delegates from across the country to Washington D.C. May 2-5, has been shaped by those who will be most affected by its results, namely those at the grass roots level. For the first time in White House Conference on Aging history the public was asked to comment on and revise both the conference theme and agenda. These public comments helped the WHCoA Policy Committee, chaired by Sen. David Pryor (D-AR), develop the theme and narrow the agenda from 19 major topics to four.

The four main topics on the agenda are: (1) Assuring Comprehensive Health Care Including Long Term Care, (2) Promoting Economic Security, (3) Maximizing Housing and Support Service Options, and (4) Maximizing Options for a Quality Life.

Over 60,000 people to date have participated in officially recognized WHCoA events, each helping to create the framework in which the delegates will work in May. The 1995 WHCoA Advisory Committee, a group of experts in the field of aging, are currently working to pare down the recommendations from the pre-Conference events into approximately 40 resolutions which the delegates will discuss, debate, modify and finally vote on in the final plenary session on May 5. Those resolutions approved by the delegates will form the foundation of the final report sent to Congress and the President.

Following the May 2-5 event in Washington, D.C., the WHCoA will once again reach out to the grass roots by sponsoring a number of post-Conference events at the local, state and federal levels designed to help implement the resolutions passed by the delegates. The public will once again be called upon to voice their concerns and suggestions as to how the resolutions may best be put into action by both the public and private sectors.

The similarity of this year's agenda to that of 1961 testifies to the steadfastness of the issues most deeply affecting seniors. The success of this conference will depend on its ability to deal effectively with these recurring issues by creating and implementing an aging policy that has the same resolve as the issues it seeks to address. It must be an aging policy which addresses these issues in a social and political context that accounts for changing family dynamics and reconfirms a commitment

to programs which provide for the health, economic and social well-being of our nation's seniors.

Such a policy is possible, but only with the participation and cooperation of all generations. The 1995 White House Conference on Aging provides an opportunity for young and old to discuss, debate, develop, and implement strategies to help all of us age with independence, opportunity and dignity. It is a unique opportunity to celebrate and learn from the accomplishments of the seniors of this country -- not only what they have done but what they are doing. For, it is this focus on productive aging that will best guide us as we come together for the 1995 White House Conference on Aging to craft an aging policy that will bring us into the next century.

DRAFT

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S ARTICLE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

On May 3, 1995, I will address the formal opening of the last White House Conference on Aging of this century. This will be an historic and momentous event -- the gathering of 2,259 delegates and 250 observers from every corner of our country and the world to debate and discuss serious issues and produce resolutions to shape a national aging policy -- something our nation needs and deserves but has never had.

From the start, when we began planning this Conference more than a year ago, we looked for and quickly found momentum and spirit in the grassroots. Since February of 1994, when I called for the convening of the Conference, tens of thousands of people, many of them senior citizens but also people of younger generations, have organized and participated in more than 700 events across the land.

Those who gathered in forums, town meetings, roundtables, small and large meetings and activities of all kinds did so with a central purpose: to let the White House know what seniors and people of all generations think and feel about a host of issues. The messages are clear. I have heard and understood these concerns -- whether about health care, social services or crime, economic security or nutrition, employment or caregiving, transportation or volunteering, older women's concerns or the concerns of older veterans and minorities.

Our nation's more than 30 million senior citizens look to the future with optimism and enthusiasm, but they have serious

JEN
This is the article
that needs significant
re-write.
Can you check
for
policy
Jen

doubts, too -- especially about the quality of life they can expect for their grandchildren. Seniors are concerned about what the future holds for them ~~themselves~~ as individuals, but they have a broader, intergenerational view of the future, also.

Older Americans want the same things we all want. They want to be listened to and valued. They want to feel safe and secure in their homes and communities.

They want good services of many kinds, easily available to those who need them. They want a future of opportunity and possibility for their children, their grandchildren and their great-grandchildren.

Very assuredly, they want financial and health security, for themselves and younger generations. At the 1995 White House Conference on Aging, there will be lively debate about many things, but ~~also~~ especially about Social Security and Medicare.

I share the concerns of our senior citizens, and the concerns of all Americans, about the future of these two vital programs that make it possible for millions of people -- mothers, fathers, grandparents and great-grandparents -- to live in dignity. As President, I want to preserve and protect these programs for seniors of today and seniors of tomorrow -- my own baby boom generation and generations, like my daughter's, that will quickly follow.

I hear what seniors are saying about Social Security, and I agree. Social Security cannot be used to balance our budget. Cuts are unconscionable. If we must make changes to preserve

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- fed

Social Security for future generations, let us do so sensibly and compassionately, taking to heart the promises our government has made to those receiving benefits and those still paying into the system.

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^{approximately} The \$500 million in cuts Republicans have proposed for Medicare and Medicaid will shift a staggering financial burden to ^{elderly and disabled} Medicare beneficiaries, and shrink benefits for mothers and children who depend on Medicaid for their health care. I have said many

times, and I re-emphasize my position now: Medicare must not be used to pay for tax cuts ^{for the wealthy} or deficit reduction. Any savings from

~~these programs.~~ But we must do it as we reform our health care system. Medicare must be used in the larger context of health care reform. ^{Recognize the imperative of doing it in context of reforming our entire health care system.} as a whole -- not by arbitrarily cutting programs that serve the most vulnerable Americans. ^{Reducing growth is the outcome of the reform -- not slashing.}

I want our country to gain control of the federal deficit, ^{there, we did it} so we can leave behind a legacy of pride, not shame, for America's youth. We have made progress, but we cannot ^{really get a hold} do much ^{of the} more without meaningful health care reform. Over the next five years, almost 40 percent of the growth in all federal spending will come from rising costs in federal health care programs, ^{really get a hold} primarily Medicare and Medicaid. ~~We must contain costs, but we need to direct our energies toward health care reform -- not arbitrary cuts that will hurt the most vulnerable Americans first and everyone sooner or later.~~

Similarly, ~~we must~~ ^{it is} ~~that~~ ^{imp.} For all of us to understand that the Medicaid prog provides essential services to 3 vulnerable elderly disabled Amer, in addition to children. TO SPIRAZ

Part of health care reform - we
need to look @ long term
care

The first White House Conference on Aging convened by a Democratic President can reaffirm America's commitment to the preservation and protection of Social Security and Medicare. it can give our country direction about something closely intertwined with economic and health security -- long term care.

investments
for public
and private
insurance
with a goal
of providing
home & community
based
long term
care

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home & community
based
long
term
care
care
- std
for
private
policies
protect
consumers

The White House Conference on Aging comes at a time of enormous change and uncertainty in our country -- a time of diminishing resources, of a burgeoning older population that will rapidly grow larger, of changes in family structure and in the expectations we all have for the future. With its focus on policy and putting policy into action, the Conference can help us meet new challenges with new solutions.

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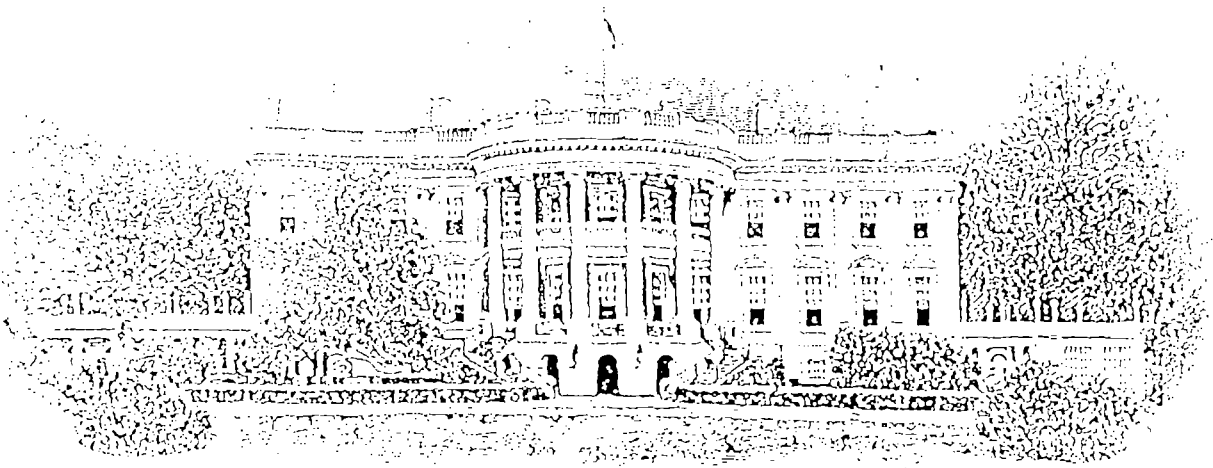


*** ACTIVITY REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO.	5239	
CONNECTION TEL		62878
CONNECTION ID		
START TIME	03/22 18:08	
USAGE TIME	01'55	
PAGES	6	
RESULT	OK	

The White House



DOMESTIC POLICY

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

TO: Gene Sperling

FAX NUMBER: 62878

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

FROM: Karen Guss

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 65603

FAX 62599

PAGES (INCLUDING COVER): 6

COMMENTS: Here is the article I spoke to Paul about
this afternoon. It is to be published right
before the White House Conf. on Aging (early May).

This draft was written by the Conference staff.
I've been asked to rewrite it by Fri. a.m. and I am
hoping to get your input. (Not: The handwritten corrections
are Jen Klein's). Thanks for yr. help. Karen

CROSS REF 46933
HR

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 9, 1995

Dear Pat:

Thank you for your letter of January 17. I thoroughly agree that when the public starts expressing greater confidence in Republicans than in Democrats to preserve and protect a program that is the quintessential Democratic achievement, we need to sit up and take notice.

Our party created Social Security, defended it through the years against a variety of Republican assaults, and needs now to make sure not only that the system continues to operate effectively but that the public understands our unwavering commitment.

We cannot let our party's greatest domestic achievement be destroyed by those who have never reconciled themselves to it. Social Security cannot be turned into welfare, nor can it be turned into a system so privatized that large numbers of its recipients must look to welfare. But most of all, we have to convince the next generation that it will be there when they retire and that our party will make sure of it. Your ideas will help to do that and I am grateful for them.

Your dedication to this issue is unmatched and I will continue to call upon your expertise. I encourage you to continue your discussions with Commissioner Chater on such matters as an improved Social Security card and annual statements.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



The Honorable Daniel Patrick Moynihan
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

- means test
- private pension system
- solvent, financially sound

Todd

Chris

me

~~Joe~~

Melanne

me

Carol

Todd

Bob Pellicci x54871

me / Todd

✓ Jeremy - tell re Carol, etc. me

George

Todd

Gene

Todd

Ken x54844

me

Ellen Seidman

me

Joe Minarik

me / Todd

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

**Legislative Reference Division
Labor-Welfare-Personnel Branch**

Telecopier Transmittal SheetFROM: **Melissa Cook**PHONE: **395-3924**DATE: 3/24/95

TIME: _____

Pages sent (including transmittal sheet): 7

COMMENTS:

Reviewed by: HHS (provided some comments but
+ heard from insufficient time for complete
dept. review.)

Office of Consumer Affairs

OMB/Health Division

OMB/~~IA~~ Human Resources Division
(Apfel)

CEA (Mazur)

OMB/Economic Policy Division
(Mirvis)

TO:

Karen
Guss

Didn't hear from: Nancy-Ann Min--deferred to her
staff
Chris Jennings
Jennifer Klein

Ellen ~~Seidman~~ Seidman

PLEASE CALL THE PERSON(S) NAMED ABOVE FOR IMMEDIATE PICK-UP.

Chuck Konigsberg

DRAFT
WASHINGTON POST APRIL INSERT
PRESIDENT CLINTON
March 24, 1995

On May 3, 1995, I will become the first Democratic President to convene a White House Conference on Aging. I look forward to addressing the more than 2,200 delegates and 250 observers from ~~around the country~~ *around the country* ~~cities and towns all over our Nation~~ who will travel to Washington to ~~play an important role in shaping~~ *help* a national aging policy. I have no doubt that the wealth of experience and wisdom of the participants will produce an exciting and productive Conference. ✓

I am especially pleased that the Conference is an example of government working together with ~~the people~~ *those* it serves. The public participated fully in developing the theme and the agenda of the Conference. Since February of 1994, when I called for the convening of this White House Conference on Aging, tens of thousands of Americans have participated in more than 700 forums, town meetings, roundtables and other events all over the country. ~~Through these events, seniors and younger people who care about them made their voices heard here in Washington.~~ *Centered on the issues that will be debated during the Conference.* ✓

Thanks to the wide participation in preconference events, we have already learned a great deal about the issues that are important to seniors. ~~And~~ although our Nation's more than 30 million senior citizens are generally optimistic about the future, they ✓

have serious concerns about what it will hold for them and for their children and grandchildren.

As I said in the State of the Union address, "Our senior citizens have made us what we are." When I made this statement, I was speaking not only of the hard work and sacrifices our parents and grandparents have made in the past, but also of the continuing contributions of our Nation's seniors. Seniors are contributing in the workplace, as caretakers^{giver}, as loving and supportive family members and friends, and as volunteers in Senior Corps programs and in thousands of other places -- including the White House.

But seniors have told us that they are concerned that the federal programs that make it possible for millions of older Americans to live in dignity -- programs that today's seniors supported for the benefit of ~~their~~ ^{will not be there for their children} ~~alder~~ ^{will be destroyed}. I recognize the vital role of these programs in the lives of our senior citizens. I am determined to preserve, protect and improve Social Security and health care services for today's senior citizens and for the generations that follow.

That means that I will fight to make sure that the Social Security system continues to operate effectively and that it is there for the next generation when they retire. We must not forget the commitment our government has made to present and future beneficiaries of ^{the} ~~this~~ long-standing ^{Social Security} ~~program~~. ~~And~~

Reverse
the order
of the 1st
2 sentences
of this
paragraph

~~Make~~ the Social Security Administration ^{(SSA) operates effectively and} ~~more responsive to those~~
~~it serves.~~ Today, the SSA ^{is} ~~continues to~~ ^{costly} ~~improving~~ its customer
^{For example, SSA is} services, becoming more accessible through its 800 number,
 reducing the number of pending disability claims, and mailing ✓
 statements to Americans that let them know the amount of
 retirement benefits they can expect.

Other programs seniors have told us are important to their well-being are federal health care programs. Although everyone recognizes the role Medicare plays in the health care of older Americans, it is important to understand that Medicaid also provides essential services to vulnerable elderly and disabled Americans. In fact, approximately two-thirds of all Medicaid expenditures are for services for the elderly and disabled.

Over the next five years, almost 40 percent of the growth in all federal spending will come from rising costs in Federal health ✓
 care spending. For the sake of our Nation's economic future, we must contain ~~costs~~ in these programs. ^{Costs} But we must recognize the ^{importance of doing this within}
~~imperative of doing so~~ in the context of reforming our entire health care system. ^{There are many aspects to real, meaningful health}
^{Care reform including reducing costs, improving access, and improving} ~~Reducing the growth of the cost of federal~~
~~health care programs will result from health care reform -- but~~ ^{Quality.} ✓
 We cannot allow our lawmakers to slash ~~these~~ programs in lieu of
 enacting needed reforms. And we must not permit Medicare and
 Medicaid to be sacrificed to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy.

, however,

Federal health care

As part of our efforts to reform our Nation's health care system, my Administration has worked to improve federal health care programs. We have increased efforts to combat fraud and abuse to make sure that tax dollars are used to provide health care services, better publicized the availability of Medicare-covered services like flu shots and mammograms, supported states in reforming their Medicaid programs, and worked to increase choices and ensure quality of care for Medicare beneficiaries. We look forward to hearing more from the Conference on Aging delegates about how to further improve these programs.

The White House Conference on Aging also provides an opportunity to tackle another difficult and critical aspect of health care reform -- long-term care. Seniors have told us how much they value their independence. They have shown us that our current health care and social service systems make it hard, and, in many cases, impossible, for senior citizens to remain in their own homes and communities. That is why I have called upon the Congress to work with me to help Americans provide long-term care for their sick or disabled family members. [↑] ~~That is why we need to look at investment in public long-term care insurance and at providing incentives for private insurance.~~ That is why we need consumer protection standards that will ensure that long-term care policies are worth the paper they are written on. I am confident that the Conference delegates will make an invaluable contribution towards resolving the issue of long-term care.

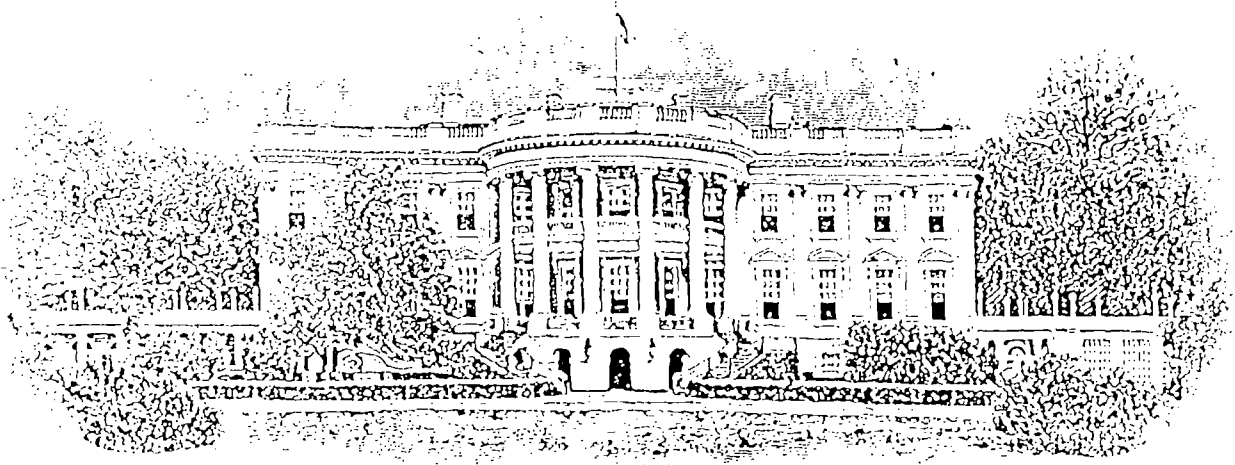
That is why we need to look at ways to ⁴ promote insurance for long-term care.

This issue as well as the others I have discussed here are often lumped together as "seniors' issues." But seniors have reminded us that they are personally affected by many of the same concerns about personal and economic security as are younger citizens. And they have shown us that "seniors' issues" are everyone's issues -- not only because those of us who are not yet senior citizens will, God willing, become senior citizens, but because older Americans are an integral part of our families and our communities. Similarly, older Americans are concerned about issues that, at first glance, affect only younger people -- issues like public education, student loans, job training, and health care and nutrition for pregnant women and children. We have heard repeatedly from older Americans that what they want is a future filled with opportunity for their children, for their grandchildren and for the young people in their communities. The Conference theme, "generations aging together," is a wonderful expression of the fact that we share one another's lives and the fate of our Nation.

Lately, I've been speaking about a New Covenant -- a partnership between our government and the American people that recognizes that every citizen has the right and responsibility to reach their full potential, and to give something back to society in return. The New Covenant is a crucial element of my vision for a better America, and seniors play an important part. Our government must provide seniors with the opportunity to continue

to lead independent and productive lives, and in turn our senior citizens have a great deal to contribute to younger generations of Americans and to our Nation as a whole. Participants in the White House Conference on Aging -- of all ages -- will make a tremendous contribution when they gather here in Washington and put their creativity, experience, wisdom and energy to work shaping a national aging policy that will benefit us all.

The White House



DOMESTIC POLICY

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

TO: Gene Sperling

FAX NUMBER: 62878

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 65807

FROM: Karen Guss

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 65603

PAGES (INCLUDING COVER): 7

COMMENTS: Gene - If you want something
changed, try Elaine Dalpiaz at the WH

Conf. on Aging. Her # is 245-7832 and
her assistant is Brian Preston (245 0105).

Karen

DRAFT
WASHINGTON POST APRIL INSERT
PRESIDENT CLINTON
March 24, 1995

On May 3, 1995, I will become the first Democratic President to convene a White House Conference on Aging. I look forward to addressing the more than 2,200 delegates and 250 observers from around the country who will travel to Washington to help shape a national aging policy. I have no doubt that the wealth of experience and wisdom of the participants will produce an exciting and productive Conference.

The Conference is an example of government at its best: working together with the people it serves. The public participated fully in developing the theme and the agenda of the Conference. Since February of 1994, when I called for the convening of this White House Conference on Aging, tens of thousands of Americans have participated in more than 700 forums, town meetings, roundtables and other events all over the country centered on the issues that will be debated during the Conference.

Thanks to the wide participation in preconference events, we have already learned a great deal about the issues that are important to seniors. Although our nation's more than 30 million senior citizens are generally optimistic about the future, they have serious concerns about what it will hold for them and for their children and grandchildren.

As I said in the State of the Union address, "Our senior citizens have made us what we are." When I made this statement, I was speaking not only of the hard work and sacrifices our parents and grandparents have made in the past, but also of the continuing contributions of our nation's seniors. Seniors are contributing in the workplace, as caregivers, as loving and supportive family members and friends, and as volunteers in Senior Corps programs and in thousands of other places -- including the White House.

But seniors have told us that they are concerned that the federal programs that make it possible for millions of older Americans to live in dignity -- programs that today's seniors supported for the benefit of their elders -- will be destroyed. I recognize the vital role of these programs in the lives of our senior citizens. I am determined to preserve, protect and improve Social Security and health care services for today's senior citizens and for the generations that follow.

This year, we mark the sixtieth anniversary of Social Security, the single most important step our nation has taken to ensure the economic security of our senior citizens. We must never forget the commitment we have made to present and future beneficiaries of this long-standing program. I will fight to make sure that the promise of this program is fulfilled for this generation and for generations to come.

The Social Security Administration operates effectively and is continuously improving its customer service. For example, SSA is becoming more accessible through its 800 number, reducing the number of pending disability claims, and mailing statements to Americans that let them know the amount of retirement benefits they can expect.

Seniors have also stressed to us the importance to their well-being of federal health care programs. Although everyone recognizes the role Medicare plays in the health care of older Americans, it is important to understand that Medicaid also provides important services to vulnerable elderly and disabled Americans. In fact, approximately two-thirds of all Medicaid expenditures are for services for the elderly and disabled.

Over the next five years, almost 40 percent of the growth in all federal spending will come from rising costs in federal health care spending. For the sake of our nation's economic future, we must contain costs in these programs. But we must recognize the imperative of doing so in the context of reforming our health care system. This is why I have consistently opposed deep and arbitrary cuts in programs serving our elderly that do not address the underlying problems of our health care system. And it is why I have consistently stated that I will not permit Medicare to be sacrificed to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy.

As part of our efforts to reform our nation's health care system, my Administration has worked to improve federal health care programs. We have increased efforts to combat fraud and abuse to make sure that tax dollars are used to provide health care services, better publicized the availability of Medicare-covered services like flu shots and mammograms, supported states in reforming their Medicaid programs, and worked to increase choices and ensure quality of care for Medicare beneficiaries. We look forward to hearing more from the Conference on Aging delegates about how to improve these programs further.

The White House Conference on Aging also provides an opportunity to tackle another difficult and critical aspect of health care reform -- long-term care. Seniors have told us how much they value their independence. They have shown us that our current health care and social service systems make it hard, and, in many cases, impossible, for senior citizens to remain in their own homes and communities. That is why I have called on Congress to work with me to help Americans provide long-term care for their sick or disabled family members. That is why we need to look at ways to promote insurance for long-term care. That is why we need consumer protection standards that will ensure that long-term care policies are worth the paper they are written on. I am confident that the Conference delegates will make an invaluable contribution towards resolving the issue of long-term care.

This issue as well as the others I have discussed here are often lumped together as "seniors' issues." But seniors have reminded us that they are personally affected by many of the same concerns about personal and economic security as are younger citizens. And they have shown us that "seniors' issues" are everyone's issues -- not only because those of us who are not yet senior citizens will, God willing, become senior citizens, but because older Americans are an integral part of our families and our communities. Similarly, older Americans are concerned about issues that, at first glance, affect only younger people -- issues like public education, student loans, job training, and health care and nutrition for pregnant women and children. We have heard repeatedly from older Americans that what they want is a future filled with opportunity for their children, for their grandchildren and for the young people in their communities. The Conference theme, "generations aging together," is a wonderful expression of the fact that we share one another's lives and the fate of our nation.

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to lead independent and productive lives. In turn, our senior citizens have a great deal to contribute to younger generations of Americans and to our nation as a whole. Participants in the White House Conference on Aging -- of all ages -- will make a tremendous contribution when they gather here in Washington and put their creativity, experience, wisdom and energy to work shaping a national aging policy that will benefit us all.



*** ACTIVITY REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO. 5308

CONNECTION TEL 62215

CONNECTION ID

START TIME 03/24 17:55

USAGE TIME 03'15

PAGES 7

RESULT OK



*** ACTIVITY REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO.	5309	
CONNECTION TEL		62878
CONNECTION ID		
START TIME	03/24 17:59	
USAGE TIME	02'02	
PAGES	7	
RESULT	OK	

DRAFT
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March 24, 1995

On May 3, 1995, I will become the first Democratic President to convene a White House Conference on Aging. I look forward to addressing the more than 2,200 delegates and 250 observers from cities and towns all over our Nation who will travel to Washington to play an important role in shaping a national aging policy. I have no doubt that the wealth of experience and wisdom of the participants will produce an exciting and productive Conference.

~~I am especially pleased that~~ ^{at its best} the Conference is an example of government working together with the people it serves. The public participated fully in developing the theme and the agenda of the Conference. Since February of 1994, when I called for the convening of this White House Conference on Aging, tens of thousands of Americans have participated in more than 700 forums, town meetings, roundtables and other events all over the country. Through these events, seniors and younger people who care about them made their voices heard here in Washington.

Thanks to the wide participation in preconference events, we have already learned a great deal about the issues that are important to seniors. And although our [N]ation's more than 30 million senior citizens are generally optimistic about the future, they

have serious concerns about what it will hold for them and for their children and grandchildren.

As I said in the State of the Union address, "Our senior citizens have made us what we are." When I made this statement, I was speaking not only of the hard work and sacrifices our parents and grandparents have made in the past, but also of the continuing contributions of our ^[7]Nation's seniors. Seniors are contributing in the workplace, as caretakers, as loving and supportive family members and friends, and as volunteers in Senior Corps programs and in thousands of other places -- including the White House.

But seniors have told us that they are concerned that the federal programs that make it possible for millions of older Americans to live in dignity -- programs that today's seniors supported for the benefit of their elders -- will be destroyed. I recognize the vital role of these programs in the lives of our senior citizens. I am determined to preserve, protect and improve Social Security and health care services for today's senior citizens and for the generations that follow.

This year, we mark the sixtieth anniversary of Social Security, the single most important step our nation has taken to ensure the well-being of all senior citizens. ~~That means that~~ I will fight to ^{ensure} ~~make sure~~ that the Social Security system continues to operate effectively and ~~that it is~~ there for the next generation when they retire. We must ~~not~~ ^{we have} never forget the commitment ^{our government has} made to present and future beneficiaries of this long-standing program. And we can

this promise of this program is fulfilled for this generation and for generations to come

make the Social Security Administration more responsive to those it serves. Today, the SSA continues to improve its customer service by becoming more accessible through its 800 number, reducing the number of pending disability claims and mailing statements to Americans that let them know the amount of retirement benefits they can expect.

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As part of our efforts to reform our Nation's health care system, my Administration has worked to improve federal health care programs. We have increased efforts to combat fraud and abuse to make sure that tax dollars are used to provide health care services, better publicized the availability of Medicare-covered services like flu shots and mammograms, supported states in reforming their Medicaid programs, and worked to increase choices and ensure quality of care for Medicare beneficiaries. We look forward to hearing more from the Conference on Aging delegates about how to further improve these programs.

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