

FOIA MARKER

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Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records
Subgroup/Office of Origin: National Service
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Folder Title:
National Service Legislation - Potential Amendments

Stack:
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Row:
66

Section:
2

Shelf:
5

Position:
3

1. First Rough Draft Bus Plan.
2. State Structure Meetings
3. Private Sector
4. Regulations
5. Working Group Participants
6. National Service + REGO
7. State INFO DANA + GARY
8. Initial MEMO to TASKFORCE
9. TASKFORCE
10. Planning Documents

NATIONAL SERVICE LEGISLATION

This binder contains information regarding potential amendments on:

1. Means-testing
2. Diversity
3. Stipends, health care, child care
4. Cost (~~2-300,000~~)
5. Trigger Amendment
6. Benefit levels
7. National Service and veterans
8. Advocacy
9. Nondisplacement and union concurrence
10. Continued need for VISTA and CCC
11. Part-time service
12. Federal agencies
13. Formula funding
14. National priorities
15. Welfare and national service
16. Peace Corps and national service
17. The need for a new Corporation
18. Corporation personnel provisions
19. House Republican Conference Issue Brief
20. Ballenger amendments on union concurrence
21. Molinari amendment on stipends
22. Molinari trigger amendment

Additional material:

23. News clips
24. Endorsement from NGA
25. Letter from Marion Wright Edelman
re: means testing
26. Endorsement from NCEO
27. Lists of endorsements
28. Lists of cosponsors
29. Favorable editorials by Terrel Bell,
Thomas Ehrlich, and Les Lenkowsky
30. Information on conflict of interest

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Divider Title: _____ 1

MEANS-TESTING

NATIONAL SERVICE IS FOR EVERYONE

- National service is what its name says -- a service program to meet unmet needs, not just an education program. And service isn't just for the poor; it's for everyone. Americans should be able to serve regardless of race or economic background.

YOUNG PEOPLE WILL EARN THE AWARD THROUGH HARD WORK

- The educational award expresses the basic American idea that when you give something to your country, you should get something back in return. Just as a veteran or a participant in the Public Health Service Corps receives educational benefits based on service, regardless of his or her income, those who serve our country through the national service program should receive the educational award -- based on their work, not their background.

NATIONAL SERVICE SHOULD UNITE AMERICANS OF ALL BACKGROUNDS

- National service should unite Americans from diverse backgrounds for common purposes. In working side by side in the same program, different kinds of Americans can learn from one another, breaking down barriers and developing values to unite us. Means-testing would destroy the diversity that is central to the program.
- We're all equals and we should be treated that way. Everyone has something to give, and everyone should get the same thing in return.

THE ADMINISTRATION STRONGLY SUPPORTS MEANS-TESTED AID -- BUT THIS IS DIFFERENT

- The Administration strongly supports means-tested education aid; this program is different. The Administration has twice proposed full funding of the Pell shortfall, and it is working with the Labor/HHS Appropriations Subcommittee to restore cuts in campus-based aid.
- National service should be a broad-based program that involves Americans from all different backgrounds and delivers much-needed services. That's how it will win the support of American taxpayers.

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STIPENDS, HEALTH CARE, CHILD CARE

STIPENDS AND BENEFITS ARE NECESSARY FOR ORDINARY AMERICANS TO SERVE FULL-TIME

- Service should be for everyone, not just the wealthy. If they're going to serve, ordinary Americans need money to live on, health care to stay healthy, and child care to raise their children. National service is a full-time, long-term commitment, and you can't serve if you're sick, you can't eat, or you can't take care of your kids.
- We have had many successful service programs that offer modest stipends and benefits, ranging from the Civilian Conservation Corps in the New Deal to the Peace Corps and VISTA today.

THE BENEFITS ARE MODEST

- The stipend is based at the level VISTA volunteers receive, roughly minimum wage. The health and child care will involve basic benefits established by the Corporation. Nobody is going to get rich doing national service.
- The health and child care allowances are available only to those who do not otherwise have access to such services. The program will only pay benefits for those who need them.

CHILD CARE ENCOURAGES DIVERSITY

- The child care provision is necessary so that non-traditional students and disadvantaged young women with responsibilities for children can participate. It is flexible, so that service programs will not be forced to provide child care on their own. The child care is also fully paid by the federal government, so that it does not add an extra burden to programs, and so that parents are not discriminated against in participant selection.

THE LEGISLATION SUPPORTS ALL FORMS OF SERVICE -- INCLUDING VOLUNTEERISM

- The proposal also supports a variety of traditional voluntary efforts. It includes support for K-12 service learning programs, which instill an ethic of service in youth that can last a lifetime. It includes assistance for the Points of Light Foundation, to extend its activities in support of volunteer service. And the legislation will support the senior volunteer programs, which involve retired seniors in service. In addition, some stipended participants in the new program will organize other volunteers who receive no support -- stimulating traditional volunteer service.
- National service won't "crowd out" voluntary efforts. What the program will do is to offer a new source of assistance to the voluntary sector; to build greater public-private partnerships; and to encourage Americans to support the non-profit sector, by making its efforts and its nonbureaucratic spirit the heart of the new initiative.

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COST

CONGRESS WILL DECIDE ANNUALLY ON FUNDING LEVELS

- The National Service Trust Act authorizes \$394 million for 1994 and "such sums" as may be appropriated language for the out-years. The program will grow as demand and capacity grow, at a level consistent with maintaining quality and keeping spending under control. National service won't continue unless it succeeds.
- Each year, the Congress will decide at what funding level -- if at all -- the program continues. The program will cost only as much as the Congress allows.
- \$7.4 billion figure represents the cumulative four-year budget authority projection in the President's FY 94 budget. This legislation does not authorize specific funding levels beyond FY 94.

\$394 MILLION IS A SIGNIFICANT BUT MODEST AND MANAGEABLE START

- A \$394 million authorization is large enough to start the program in a significant way (25,000 participants), but small enough to develop new high-quality programs.
- The time for pilots is past; the field and America's youth are now ready for a full-scale initiative. The 1990 National and Community Service Act started a variety of demonstration programs that have been tremendously successful, and VISTA has been working for more than two decades.
- There is so much that national service can do. The Ford Foundation has estimated that there are 3.5 million important jobs that could be filled through national service. Before the inauguration, the Commission on National and Community Service estimated that 25,000 participants is an achievable goal in the first year -- which this bill aims to reach.
- The Commission on National and Community Service, established by the 1990 Act, believes that 25,000 participants is an achievable goal in the first year. S. 919 will reach that goal.

NATIONAL SERVICE IS A VITAL INVESTMENT

- National service is an investment that pays the nation back in three different ways. It meets the unmet needs of our communities: fighting crime, reducing pollution, improving health and teaching our children. It provides valuable skills to participants. And it offers aid for education. The program has just as much in common with training programs or community development efforts as with education aid.
- National service also has other benefits that can't be quantified: building community by breaking down the barriers that divide us and uniting us in a common purpose, and teaching citizens responsibility -- and introducing young people to a lifetime of giving back to their communities.

"TRIGGER" AMENDMENT

NATIONAL SERVICE IS NOT JUST A HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM.

- National service is about more than paying for school; it's an investment in our communities to meet urgent unmet needs -- fighting crime, reducing pollution, improving health and teaching our children.
- It provides valuable skills to participants who will need to compete for jobs after school.
- It offers aid for education in return for a full service commitment, much as veterans receive the GI Bill benefits after completing military service.
- National service has one benefit that can't be quantified: restoring the spirit of community and reawakening the sense of citizenship in young Americans.

THE PRESIDENT REMAINS FULLY COMMITTED TO HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- The Clinton administration has diligently fought to reverse years of irresponsibility in the funding of Pell Grants. First, in his stimulus package and then, as an amendment to the budget, the President has proposed covering the \$2 billion shortfall he inherited.
- The Administration has worked to restore the cuts in campus-based programs, and most or all will be restored.
- Funding for this initiative has no direct impact on appropriations for the Pell program -- there is a link only in the sense that all spending priorities could be linked when choices are made.

A TRIGGER AMENDMENT MEANS GRIDLOCK

- A trigger amendment would delay a national service program indefinitely. But Americans want national service. A trigger is just more gridlock -- and we need to better.

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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

July 20, 1993

Honorable William Ford
Chairman
Committee on Education & Labor
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I am writing you in support of the President's National Service Initiative, H.R. 2010, which was favorably reported out of your Committee. As you know, the Department has been coordinating with the White House to ensure the greatest possible cooperation between military and civilian national service; we look forward to this coordination continuing. We would oppose any amendments to the legislation which would require any direct affiliation between these two types of service.

Finally, I wish to reiterate our view that the civilian national service program reflected by H.R. 2010 will not adversely impact military recruiting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Aspin".

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ADVOCACY

- Meeting unmet needs is the heart of the national service program, not advocacy. The legislation requires guarantees from all funded programs that they will "address unmet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs through services that provide a direct benefit to the community in which the service is performed."
- Programs that focus primarily on advocacy will not meet the primary goal of national service and will not be funded.
- In the course of their service, participants may develop strong beliefs on certain issues. They have a constitutional right to express those beliefs, and should not be forbidden from doing so.
- It isn't only the national service legislation that prohibits a focus on advocacy; the relevant tax law does as well. Since many programs will be sponsored by non-profit organizations, even programs that sought to focus on advocacy would be subject to strict limits on lobbying under the tax code.

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NONDISPLACEMENT AND UNION CONCURRENCE

NONDISPLACEMENT

- The key to national service is meeting unmet needs, providing services not currently provided. If national service displaces workers, then it's not providing new services, but just replacing old ones. That misses the whole point.
- National service is a way to do what we aren't doing now -- not a way to do the same things more cheaply.
- Those who oppose nondisplacement want national service to become a source of cheap labor that replaces long-term employees. They're fighting the American worker.
- National service is not permanent work -- it's for a year or two. National service participants won't be appropriate for the work of most long-term employees, anyway.

UNION CONCURRENCE

- There is a general rule requiring union consultation in setting up national service programs.
- In addition, in instances where an employer of unionized workers also sponsors national service participants to do the same work, union concurrence is required. The additional safeguard is important so that employers don't hire national service participants to do work that permanent workers would otherwise do.
- We want national service to become a permanent and important part of communities' strategies for meeting their needs. Those engaged in meeting those needs already, the labor unions, must be comfortable with the way that national service works.
- The best national service programs seek concurrence even when it isn't necessary -- because they want to become integral parts of communities, not enemies there.
- The alternative to working together is a cumbersome arbitration process that is often costly, slow and inconclusive.
- There is nothing unusual about requiring union concurrence. Senator Kassebaum's substitute includes the same provisions as our bill.

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VISTA AND CCC

VISTA WORKS

- This is not the right time to combine VISTA and other national service programs.
- We know that VISTA works. The new program still has to be set up. There's a Republican principle here -- "if it ain't broke, don't fix it."
- The VISTA program has a long, distinct and successful tradition of providing volunteer opportunities, primarily in small non-profit organizations, specifically in order to alleviate poverty.
- Low-income communities view the state offices that service the VISTA programs as important allies in the effort to provide for local needs.

VISTA AND NATIONAL SERVICE MAY BE COMBINED -- IN TIME

- The legislation gives the Corporation some authority to eliminate unneeded layers of bureaucracy while preserving the essential nature of most existing programs. In addition, the bill eliminates authorizations for three existing programs.
- In three years, it may make sense for Congress to consider further combining VISTA and the new program. Right now, though, it should be our priority to get the new program going.
- There is a precedent for a gradual approach. Three years ago, Congress created a new service program in a new Commission for National Service, requiring a study on integrating the two. Today, the integration is happening. Three years from now, the programs within these integrated entities may be combined as well.

THE CCC IS A TARGETED PROGRAM THAT'S GETTING GOING

- The CCC is designed to engage discharged military personnel and bases no longer in use in providing service opportunities for young people. Bases no longer in use and departing members of the Armed Forces will again become vital contributors to America through the CCC.
- The CCC is an important national priority -- meeting the needs of our youth with the talent and commitment of the military. The CCC will play an important role in the efforts of areas hard hit by defense conversion to lift up themselves and their country once again. It should be encouraged, not opposed.
- This legislation appropriates no new money for the CCC, but merely extends the existing \$20 million authorization for one more year so that the program can begin in earnest.

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PART-TIME SERVICE

SERVICE IS FOR EVERYONE

- Americans from all circumstances ought to be able to participate in national service. It ought to be an American program, not an elite program. For many hard-working Americans, a part-time option is the key to providing service opportunities.
- There's a strong precedent for stipended part-time service in the Senior Companion and Foster Grandparent programs. These enjoy widespread support.

INCLUDING PARENTS

- For Americans who are raising a family or holding down a job, full-time service at a low wage may be impossible. Yet these Americans have much to give and much to gain from service. They should be able to participate.

AND "NON-TRADITIONAL" STUDENTS

- "Non-traditional" students are now the norm at many schools: more than 40 percent of students are over 25 today, and more than 40 percent attend part-time. They will want to participate, serving part-time and attending classes part-time. Again, service is an important way that Americans can contribute to America and pay for school. In many ways, it's more fulfilling and more important than work-study programs. A part-time option should be available to these students.

NATIONAL SERVICE IS STILL DIFFERENT FROM VOLUNTARY WORK

- The legislation establishes a high threshold for part-time service, so that the kind of work that is occurring today on a voluntary basis will not become stipended. The bill allows 1700 hours of part-time service over two years -- or over three years in the case of students. That works out to 12 to 18 hours of service per week -- a major commitment that few can make without compensation.
- The legislation also gives the Corporation discretion to offer reduced educational awards for reduced periods of service, again ensuring that Americans from all backgrounds and circumstances are able to participate.
- We all support people who tutor or assist the elderly for a few hours each week. But this legislation won't pay for that kind of work -- only for a much larger time commitment.

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FEDERAL AGENCIES

- Federal agencies ought to be able to compete for funds like everyone else. They're not getting a set-aside in the legislation; they're just getting an opportunity to compete on their merits.
- Agencies aren't even eligible for the whole pot of money, but only for 30 percent of the Federal third with a 50 percent non-Federal match requirement.
- Agencies often have a great deal of experience in operating or developing service programs, yet their budgets are very limited these days. The Corporation can provide valuable start-up money for agency projects; no one expects the Corporation to support agency efforts for a long period of time.
- There will be no favoritism for agencies. They will have to succeed in the same competitive, impartial grant processes as other entities.

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FORMULA FUNDING

MORE FORMULA FUNDING MEANS LESS QUALITY SERVICE

- Competition is the key to creating strong incentives for excellence. States that meet vital needs with excellent programs will get more money; States that don't, won't.
- Notwithstanding the usual Republican rhetoric, increasing the formula allocation will turn national service into an entitlement for States, instead of a marketplace for quality.
- Formulas contributed to unpopular results in the CETA program, and they would do the same for national service.
- Currently, one-third of all funds go to States on a competitive basis; one-third to States on a competitive basis; and one-third to all other applicants on a competitive basis.
- The current allocation strikes the right balance between starting programs around the country and relying on States, and at the same time encouraging excellence and ensuring quality.

THE NATIONAL THIRD IS ESSENTIAL

- While State entities can compete for the final third of funds, these funds are also available to national non-profit organizations and federal agencies that are well-prepared to run successful programs. If we shut these entities out or reduce their ability to compete, we limit the quality of programming.

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NATIONAL PRIORITIES

- National service has to balance national direction against local control, establishing certain basic goals but enabling communities to put them to work creatively and effectively.
- National service needs a national face -- some shared features and goals across programs and across the country.
- The legislation allows the Corporation to set broad national priorities consistent with the Administration's domestic priorities -- like immunizing kids, or keeping schools safe. Without these kinds of shared goals, the program won't offer the recognizable results that American taxpayers demand; it also won't offer participants the sense of shared community that the program should provide.
- There is plenty of flexibility in the bill for States to establish their own goals and to develop programs that meet particular needs in diverse ways.
- The key is that there is a presumption of unity across programs.

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WELFARE AND NATIONAL SERVICE

- None of the benefits of national service is exempt from means-testing calculations for AFDC and food stamps. The awards and the stipend will count as income like the wages from any other job.
- VISTA exempts its stipends from needs calculations, and the original S. 919 did the same. The exemption was removed due to jurisdictional concerns and concerns that national service benefits not be treated differently from other earned income.
- There is a serious issue regarding the interaction of national service and welfare benefits. The issue should probably be addressed as part of welfare reform at a later date.
- The award does not count in the needs analysis for Pell Grants, so that the program does not discriminate against low-income participants. National service awards, which are earned, should not count against Pell Grants.
- Senator Kassebaum's substitute contains an interesting effort to address this issue. It allows welfare recipients, in lieu of a stipend, to earn \$250 (for full-time service) or \$125 (for part-time) each month that would not count against welfare benefits.

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NATIONAL SERVICE/PEACE CORPS FACT SHEET

- During his presidential campaign, candidate John F. Kennedy often challenged students to give two years of their lives to help people in need. In one impromptu address at 2 a.m. at the University of Michigan, Kennedy asked students if they would be willing serve if he created that opportunity. Within weeks, thousands of students had signed a petition asking for the establishment of such a program.

Similarly, when President Clinton mentioned his intention to create a national service program during his campaign, he received his most enthusiastic applause. Within weeks of his inauguration, the President received over 7 thousand letters from young Americans eager to serve in their communities through the national service program.

- On March 1, 1961 President Kennedy signed an Executive Order creating the Peace Corps. On the 32nd anniversary of this day, President Clinton challenged America's youth to serve in a "domestic Peace Corps" as he introduced the national service initiative at Rutgers University.

- In its first year, the Peace Corps selected just over 1000 volunteers. At its peak, in the late sixties, there were 16 thousand Peace Corps volunteers around the world. Today, roughly 6000 are serving. The national service initiative aims to include 25,000 participants in its first year and 150,000 by 1997.

- In his last State of the Union address, Kennedy said that no amount of dollars could win a war against poverty in the world since "in the end the crucial effort is one of purpose, requiring not only the fuel of finance but the torch of idealism."

National service creates an opportunity for Americans to direct their energy, enthusiasm and idealism toward meeting our nations unmet needs in the critical areas of education, the environment, public safety, and health and human services.

- One goal of the main goals of the Peace Corps is to foster understanding among Americans and other world cultures. Similarly, national service will promote understanding by placing Americans of different cultural backgrounds side-by-side in the delivery of service to our diverse nation's communities. In a column in the Los Angeles Times, Christopher Matthews wrote of national service, "It forces you, against all your timidity, to deal one-on-one with people who were placed on this Earth in very different circumstances than you."

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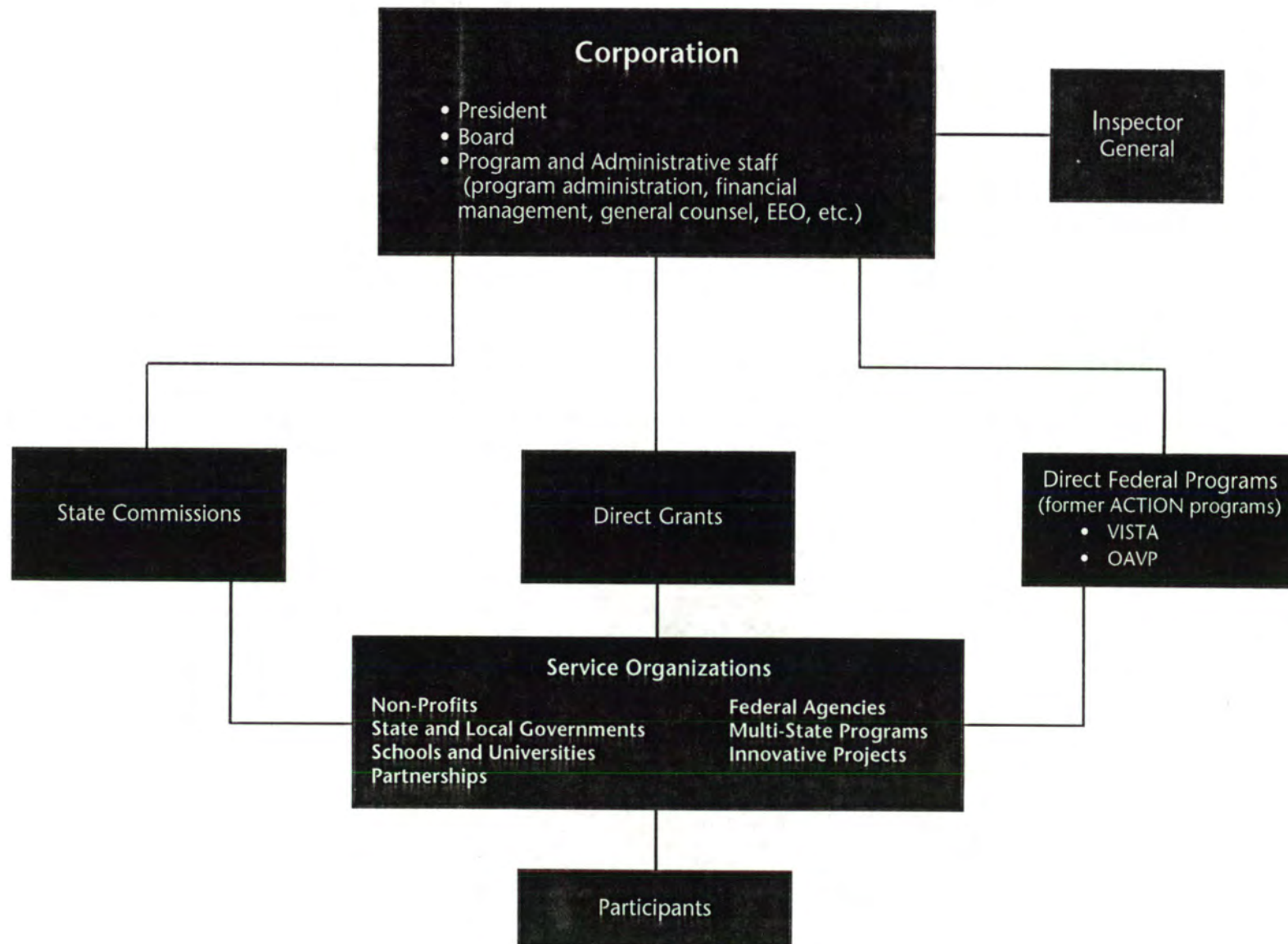
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THE NEED FOR A NEW CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE

- **The Corporation for National Service will incorporate many of the already existing government-sponsored service programs.** It's part of reinventing government. The legislation combines the two federal agencies which run the largest number of service programs -- the Commission on National and Community Service and the ACTION agency -- into a flexible new entity. This approach will allow us to streamline programs, reduce bureaucracy, and make national service more efficient and effective.
- **The corporation will serve as a clearing house for information on all existing federally-sponsored service initiatives.** By keeping track of all initiatives going on, whether part of the national service program or not, the corporation will help departments avoid duplication, reduce waste, and coordinate efforts whenever it is appropriate.
- **We've learned that no one government program can solve all of society's problems.** When the Peace Corps was created no one argued that all USAID programs should be eliminated. Peace Corp and USAID programs complemented each other but they were not interchangeable. They approached problems differently and served different needs. National service is going to be a domestic Peace Corp. The same lessons, as far as the program's relationship to many existing department-sponsored initiatives, holds true today.
- **Building an ethic of service is a complex and encompassing task.** No single agency could administer all service-related activities effectively. Departments should continue to promote employee volunteerism. Local school districts should continue to ask parents to get involved in school life. And every government entity in the nation should look for ways to involve citizens in the process of rebuilding their communities. National service cannot instill a sense of civic responsibility upon the American citizenry alone.

H.R. 2010
National Service Trust Act of 1993
Budget and Flow of Federal Funds



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**RESPONSE TO
HOUSE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE
ISSUE BRIEF ON NATIONAL SERVICE**

- Not a direct lending bill. The bill contains no "Title 3" introducing direct lending. That is separate legislation.
- Not a multi-billion dollar authorization. The legislation does not authorize \$7.4 billion or 100,000 participants. It does provide for a three-year authorization of \$394 million in 1994 (enough for 25,000 participants) and such sums in subsequent years. Congress will determine appropriations levels and participation rates on an annual basis.
- Not an entitlement. Nothing in the national service program creates any entitlement. No one is entitled to participate in the national service program. No program is entitled to receive funds; all programs will be selected on a competitive basis, and grants will be re-evaluated at least every three years, with special emphasis on ability to raise non-Federal funds. The Administration never proposed an entitlement, and the Committee never considered creating one.
- No \$20,000 benefits. Participant benefits are worth less than \$15,000. Participants will earn the VISTA subsistence allowance (\$7,400), a \$5,000 educational award, and health and child care when necessary.
- Lower benefits than military service. The compensation package for national service was developed in consultation with veterans' organizations and Veterans Committee Chairman Sonny Montgomery, who is an original cosponsor of H.R. 2010. For two years of military service, a member of the military receives a \$10,500 post-service benefit -- higher than the \$10,000 from civilian service. In addition, members of the Armed Forces receive compensation that averages well above the minimum wage.
- Support from Unions. Among other unions, AFSCME, AFT, and FOP have endorsed the legislation. Nondisplacement and consultation requirements will ensure that national service meets needs not being met by unionized and other wage-earning employees.
- Not simply an education program. The Administration strongly supports need-based aid; national service was not budgeted through reductions in need-based programs, and Congress has decided that it will be funded in the VA/HUD Appropriations Subcommittee, not Labor/HHS with Pell and other education programs. The national service program has provisions to ensure low-income participation, but it has broader goals as well: building citizenship by bringing diverse Americans together; offering an award by virtue of service, not income status; and meeting community needs that education programs cannot meet.
- Streamlined government. The legislation combines two federal agencies into one, reducing administrative overhead and focusing funds in communities. (3 into 1)
- Fair, practical participant selection. A lottery is impractical, since programs will have different requirements and participants different interests. Programs will select participants on a nondiscriminatory basis; those that engage in wrongdoing will be decertified immediately.

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RESPONSE TO BALLENGER AMENDMENTS STRIKING UNION CONCURRENCE AND ROLE

- Mr. Ballenger's amendments would strike the parts of the legislation requiring union consultation and, in certain instances, concurrence. There is a general rule requiring union consultation in setting up national service programs. In addition, in instances where an employer of unionized workers also sponsors national service participants to do the same work, union concurrence is required.

UNION CONCURRENCE WILL ENSURE THAT SERVICE MEETS UNMET NEEDS

- National service has to meet unmet needs -- which means it simply can't displace existing workers. If national service does, it's not doing what it's supposed to. The union role protects the program's main idea -- meeting unmet needs.
- These safeguards are important because we want national service to become a permanent and important part of communities' strategies for meeting their needs. Those engaged in meeting those needs already, the labor unions, must be comfortable with the way that national service works.

WORKING TOGETHER IS THE BEST WAY TO GET THINGS DONE

- The best national service programs seek concurrence even when it isn't necessary -- because they want to become integral parts of communities, not enemies there.
- The alternative to working together is a cumbersome arbitration process that is often costly, slow and inconclusive.
- There is nothing unusual about requiring union concurrence. Senator Kassebaum's substitute includes the same provisions as our bill.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST IS NOT AN ISSUE

- Concurrence is limited only to particular placements where the risk of displacement is highest.
- Concurrence cannot be used to ensure that particular programs are funded.
- The broader consultation requirement likewise cannot lead to the funding of any particular programs.

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RESPONSE TO MOLINARI AMENDMENT ELIMINATING STIPENDS

STIPENDS AND BENEFITS ARE NECESSARY FOR ORDINARY AMERICANS TO SERVE FULL-TIME

- Service should be for everyone, not just the wealthy. If they're going to serve, ordinary Americans need money to live on, health care to stay healthy, and child care to raise their children. National service is a full-time, long-term commitment, and you can't serve if you're sick, you can't eat, or you can't take care of your kids.
- We have had many successful service programs that offer modest stipends and benefits, ranging from the Civilian Conservation Corps in the New Deal to the Peace Corps and VISTA today.
- The stipend is based at the level VISTA volunteers receive, roughly minimum wage. The health and child care will involve basic benefits established by the Corporation. Nobody is going to get rich doing national service.
- The health and child care allowances are available only to those who do not otherwise have access to such services. The program will only pay benefits for those who need them.
- These benefits are not controversial. Senator Kassebaum's substitute includes them.

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RESPONSE TO MOLINARI "TRIGGER" AMENDMENT

NATIONAL SERVICE ISN'T JUST EDUCATION AID AND SHOULD NOT BE STALLED FOR IT

- National service is about more than paying for school; it's an investment in our communities to meet urgent unmet needs -- fighting crime, reducing pollution, improving health and teaching our children. It provides valuable skills to participants who will need to compete for jobs after school. And it has one benefit that can't be quantified: restoring the spirit of community and reawakening the sense of citizenship in young Americans.
- The Clinton administration has diligently fought to reverse years of irresponsibility in the funding of Pell Grants. First, in his stimulus package and then, as an amendment to the budget, the President has proposed fully covering the \$2 billion shortfall he inherited. Opposition to the stimulus package is the reason that there is still a shortfall.
- The Administration has worked to restore the cuts in campus-based programs, and most or all will be restored.
- A trigger amendment would delay a national service program indefinitely. But Americans want national service. A trigger is just more gridlock -- and we need to better.