

Chron



(202) 224-4524

FROM THE OFFICE OF

SENATOR
PAUL SARBANES

Maryland

Date Sent: July 10, 1996Time sent: 4:45p.m.ORIGINATOR Peter Marudas

THIS TRANSMISSION, WHICH CONSISTS OF THIS COVER PAGE AND
(2) ² ~~(3)~~ ^(Attachment) PAGES WHICH FOLLOW
SHOULD BE DELIVERED IMMEDIATELY TO

Mr. Todd SternFAX NUMBER (202) 456- 2215

96 JUL 10 P 5: 49

NOTES: Dear Todd,

Many, many thanks for facilitating the President's
greetings to those assembled at the environmental conference
sponsored by the Ecumenical Patriarch. The greetings made
quite an impression. I have another small request for a
generic presidential greeting addressed to the annual meeting
of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic
Diocese, which will be held next Tuesday in Scranton, PA.
I will be addressing the assembly's banquet and the head of

IF THERE ARE ANY DIFFICULTIES WITH THIS TRANSMISSION,

PLEASE CALL

AT

This was sent to DepSkunk
7-11-96

(202) 224-4524

FROM THE OFFICE OF

SENATOR
PAUL SARBANES**Maryland**

Date Sent: _____

Time sent: _____

ORIGINATOR

(continued from 1st page)**THIS TRANSMISSION, WHICH CONSISTS OF THIS COVER PAGE AND****PAGES WHICH FOLLOW
SHOULD BE DELIVERED IMMEDIATELY TO**Todd Stern**FAX NUMBER** _____

NOTES: the diocese, His Grace Bishop Nicholas, specifically
asked for a Presidential greeting. They are a relatively
small group of approximately 30-40,000 adherents, but
highly concentrated in the state of Pennsylvania.

If you need any further information, or have questions,
please do not hesitate to contact myself or my staff

assistant, Nicolas Tcharos, at (202) 224-4524.

Thank you for attention to this request.

Peter Mancoske**IF THERE ARE ANY DIFFICULTIES WITH THIS TRANSMISSION,****PLEASE CALL** _____**AT** _____

A G E N D AXVII DIOCESAN COUNCIL-SOBOR
July 14-17, 1996

Presiding: The Rt. Rev. Bishop Nicholas, Ruling Diocesan Bishop
Sunday, July 14, 1996

3:00-9:30 PM Registration of Delegates
7:30 PM Fellowship Buffet
8:30 PM Workshop: "The Evangelical Life - Scriptures
and the Orthodox Christian" -
Very Rev. David B. Sedor
10:00 PM Small Compline and Holy Confession in Chapel

Monday, July 15, 1996

8:00 AM Hierarchical Divine Liturgy in Chapel
Celebrant: His Grace, Bishop Nicholas
Homilist: His Eminence, Archbishop Anthony
10:00 AM Photograph of Sobor Delegates immediately
followed by brunch.
11:30 AM Convocation of the Council - First General
Session
Greeting by His Grace, Bishop Nicholas
Greetings by Representative of the
Ecumenical Patriarchate
Credentials Report
Election and Appointment of Secretaries
Appointment of Election Committee for
nominations to the Diocesan Board of
Trustees
Episcopal Report of His Grace, Bishop
Nicholas, on the State of the Diocese
Report of the Diocesan Treasurer -
Very Rev. Protopresbyter Ronald A. Hazuda
2:00 PM Break for Refreshments
2:30 PM Report to the Diocesan Financial Secretary -
Mr. Lou Mihalko
Report of the Diocesan Auditors -
Mr. Alex Breno
Report on Christ the Saviour Cathedral -
Very Rev. Protopresbyter John Yurcisin
Report on Christ the Saviour Seminary -
Very Rev. Protopresbyter Frank P. Miloro

The American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Diocese of the U.S.A.

Agenda (cont'd)

Report on The Church Messenger -
 Father John A. Baranik, Business Manager
 Very Rev. James S. Dutko, Editor

Report on Camp Nazareth -
 Father R. Michael Zak

5:30 PM Conclusion of First General Session
 6:30 PM Delegate Dinner with Speaker, Very Rev.
 Michael Conrad
 Clergy Wives Dinner
 Diocesan Clergy Conference and Dinner with
 Speaker, Father Bazyl Zawierucha
 10:30 PM Small Compline in Chapel

Tuesday, July 16, 1996

8:00 AM Divine Liturgy celebrated by the Diocesan
 Consistory
 9:00 AM Continental Breakfast
 10:00 AM Second General Session
 Nominations of Board of Trustees Members
 Proposals
 11:45 AM Singing of the Magnification of The Mother
 of God in the Chapel
 12:00 noon All-American Barbecue (Terrace)
 1:30 PM Third General Council Session
 Workshops:
 I. Diocesan Missions - Very Rev. Michael
 G. Dahulich and Rev. Dean John D.
 Lazarek
 II. Icons and the Orthodox Christian -
 Philip Zimmerman
 2:30 PM Proposal of Diocesan Budget, discussion
 and adoption
 4:30 PM Report on Clergy Pension Plan -
 Very Rev. Protopresbyter Ronald Hazuda
 Report on "Harvest 2000" -
 Very Rev. Michael G. Dahulich
 7:00 PM Grand Banquet
 10:30 PM Small Compline in Chapel

Wednesday, July 17, 1996

8:00 AM Divine Liturgy celebrated by Diocesan Deans
 9:00 AM Breakfast
 10:00 AM Fourth General Council Session
 Election of Lay Diocesan Trustees

The American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Diocese of the U.S.A.
 - - - - - Constantinople

Greetings: Mr. Peter Samilenko,
National Sr. ACRY

Greetings: Miss Sarah Pribish,
National Jr. ACRY

Unfinished business from Tuesday

Oath of Office of Lay Trustees

Appointments by His Grace

Conclusion of the Council

Meeting of the Diocesan Board of Trustees

12:30

NOTICE

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS THE AGENDA FOR THE "SOBOR",
HOWEVER, SPEAKERS FOR THE GRAND BANQUET HAVE NOT
BEEN FINALIZED. ENCLOSED MAP TO HELP YOU IN YOUR
TRAVEL PLANS. WE WILL BE FORWARDING YOU MORE
INFORMATION IN THE FOLLOWING WEEKS.

*The American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Diocese of the U.S.A.
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 11, 1996

Jeann -- (Wetzel) NSC

We really don't do special inscriptions like these except in rare circumstances for special presidential friends, etc. I would recommend that we have a standard inscription done such as "with appreciation." If Nancy would like it, I'll get the special one done for her parents.

Let me know how you want to proceed.
Thanks.


Todd

7/11/96

Kathy Bernat

8002

NEOB

from
Phil Kaplan8002
NEOBATTACHMENT A
DOE Draft Explanation

EXPLANATION

Since 1992, DOE has spent \$83 million to reimburse former and current DOE contractors for the costs of hiring lawyers and experts to defend class actions brought against these contractors for emotional distress and property damages (and in one case personal injury) allegedly resulting from radiation and toxic chemical releases at DOE weapons facilities. Settlements in these cases have totaled about \$22 million (of which about \$7 million has gone to plaintiffs' lawyers). Thus, of the \$105 million total spent so far to litigate and settle these cases, about \$90 million, or about 85% has gone to lawyers and experts, and only about 15% to the workers and community residents on whose behalf the suits were brought.

DOE's litigation management program has dramatically reduced contractor litigation costs for these cases, lowering the annual cost from \$24.4 million in FY 1992 to \$10 million in FY 1995. However, DOE's General Counsel's office does not anticipate further substantial reductions in the costs of defending these and similar cases. It also anticipates that some of the cases will result in settlements with or judgments against the contractor -- 25% to 30% of which will be paid to plaintiff's counsel.

The purpose of the DOE Occupational and Environmental Health Act is to end this expensive litigation exercise by substituting the government for the contractors as a defendant in these cases, and requiring the cases to be tried under the Federal Tort Claims Act, with the Department of Justice representing the government. The savings in litigation costs and in judgments and settlements, estimated to be about \$20 million per year, would be used to provide medical benefits and public health programs for workers and community residents impacted by the operation of DOE facilities.

The proposed bill would provide meaningful assistance to communities and workers affected by DOE's nuclear operations. First, the Department would establish a program to provide supplemental health insurance or medical benefits to employees who contract certain diseases and do not otherwise have insurance to cover such diseases. Second, the Department would issue guidance for contesting or settling workers' compensation awards and claims against contractors arising out of exposure to ionizing radiation or toxic substances. Third, the Secretary would establish a program for granting state public health agencies funds to provide for various forms of assistance for communities adversely affected by DOE's facilities. The money for these programs would be paid from savings resulting from the substitution of the United States for DOE contractors as a defendant in the class actions. The suits would proceed against the United States under the Federal Tort Claims Act, and the government would be represented by the Department of Justice. Consequently, the Department would no longer have to reimburse contractors to retain outside counsel to defend these cases.

In effect, the money saved from paying teams of lawyers would now inure to the benefit of those affected communities and workers.

If in any fiscal year Congress failed to appropriate the \$20 million necessary to fund the program, then the right to sue DOE contractors directly would be restored in the following year.

DOE Draft Bill

June 18, 1996 (10:03am)

A BILL

To amend the Department of Energy Organization Act to provide for a more effective occupational and environmental health program for workers and communities affected by the operation of Department of Energy defense nuclear facilities.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that this Act may be cited as the "DOE Occupational and Environmental Health Act".

Sec. 2. Title VI of the Department of Energy Organization Act is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

"OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

AT DOE defense nuclear facilities

"Section 663.(a) Purpose.—The purpose of this section is to reduce the cost of litigating radiation claims against DOE contractors and to use the funds saved thereby for occupational and environmental health programs for current and former workers at

DOE defense nuclear facilities and for residents of communities that may have been impacted by offsite releases of radiation from those facilities.

"(b)(1) Occupational Health Programs. --The Secretary shall by rule establish a program for providing supplemental health insurance or medical benefits to any qualifying DOE contractor employee who contracts a radiogenic illness or chronic beryllium disease, and who does not have, or who has exhausted, health insurance that covers such illness.

"(2) The Secretary shall prescribe guidelines for contesting or settling worker's compensation claims of and awards to DOE contractor employees that relate to exposure to radiation or toxic chemicals. Such guidelines shall take into account current scientific knowledge respecting the health effects of exposure to radiation and toxic chemicals, the uncertainties associated with the level of exposure and the consequent health effects, and the need for fair, expeditious and economical resolution of such claims.

"(c)(1) Community Health Programs.--The Secretary by rule shall establish a program for providing grants to state public health agencies in States in which DOE defense nuclear facilities are located for purposes of conducting environmental and occupational health programs in communities in which adverse health effects may have occurred by reason of the operation of DOE

defense nuclear facilities. Such grants may be used for program reasonably designed to improve public health in such communities, such as public health information, medical treatment, or medical surveillance.

"(2) Amounts appropriated to carry out this subsection shall be allocated by rule to each State in which DOE defense nuclear facilities are located in a manner that in the Secretary's judgment reflects the potential health risks within and outside the State associated with the operations of DOE defense nuclear facilities in such State. If operations of a DOE defense nuclear facility in a State result in potential adverse health effects in a contiguous State, the public health agency in the State in which the facility is located shall take reasonable steps to collaborate with the public health agency in such other State to ensure that the benefits of the program under this section are appropriately made available in other affected States.

"(d) Remedy against the United States.—

"(1) The Atomic Testing Liability Act ("ATLA") applies to a civil action for radiation liability based on acts or omissions of a DOE contractor indemnified for radiation liability under section 170d of the Atomic Energy Act or other law to the same extent such ATLA applies to a contractor described in subsection (b)(1)(A) or (B) of such ATLA.

"(2) This subsection does not apply —

"(A) to any extraordinary nuclear occurrence as defined in Section 11.j of the Atomic Energy Act, or

"(B) to civil actions commenced in a fiscal year following a fiscal year in which amounts authorized by subsection (f) are not appropriated.

"(e) Definitions.— For purposes of this section:

"(1) The term 'DOE contractor' means a cost reimbursement contractor to the Department or a predecessor agency (or a cost reimbursement subcontractor to such a contractor).

"(2) The term 'DOE contractor employee' means an employee or former employee of a DOE contractor.

"(3) The term 'qualifying DOE contractor employee' means a DOE contractor employee who was employed for more than two years at any DOE defense nuclear facility, or who was exposed to radiation at such a facility in excess of current exposure standards.

"(4) The term 'radiogenic illness' means an illness identified by the Secretary by rule that is associated with exposure to ionizing radiation of a type to which individuals may be exposed at DOE defense nuclear facilities.

"(5) The term 'DOE defense nuclear facility' as defined in Section 3163 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1993.

"(6) The term 'predecessor agency' means the Energy Research and Development Administration, the Atomic Energy Commission, and the Manhattan Engineer District.

"(7) The term 'radiation liability' means injury, loss of property, personal injury or death due to exposure to ionizing radiation.

"(f) Funding.— There are authorized to be appropriated for each fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 1997, \$6,000,000 to carry out subsection (b), and \$14,000,000 to carry out subsection (c). Funds so appropriated shall be available without fiscal year limitation."

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

The bill, the "DOE Occupational and Environmental Health Act", amends the Department of Energy Organization Act by adding a new section 663 entitled "Occupational and Environmental Health Programs at DOE Nuclear Facilities," which provides as follows:

Purpose.

Subsection (a) states that the purpose of this section is to reduce the cost of litigating radiation claims against DOE contractors and to use the money thus saved for occupational and environmental health programs for workers and former workers at DOE nuclear facilities and for residents of communities that may have been impacted by offsite releases of radiation from those facilities.

Occupational Health Programs.

Subsection (b)(1) would require the Secretary of Energy to establish, through a rulemaking, a program to provide supplemental health insurance or medical benefits for any qualifying DOE contractor employee who contracts a radiogenic illness or chronic beryllium disease when such an employee does not have, or has exhausted, health insurance to cover such illness.

Subsection (b)(2) would require the Secretary of Energy to prescribe guidelines for contesting or settling worker compensation claims of DOE contractor employees that relate to alleged exposure to radiation or toxic chemicals. In prescribing the guidelines, the Secretary is to consider current scientific knowledge concerning the health effects of such exposure, uncertainties concerning the levels of exposure, and fair, expeditious and economical resolution of claims.

Community Health Program.

Subsection (c)(1) would require the Secretary of Energy to establish, through a rulemaking, a program to provide grants to state public health agencies in States in which DOE nuclear facilities are located to fund environmental and occupational health programs in communities that may have suffered adverse health effects as a result of the operation of such facilities.

Subsection (c)(2) would provide that the money appropriated to fund grants under subsection (c)(1) be allocated by rule to each state in which DOE nuclear facilities are located in a manner that the Secretary of Energy determines reflects the potential health risks associated with the operation of such facilities. Where operations of a DOE nuclear facility may affect contiguous states, subsection (c)(2) requires the public health agency in the state in which the facility is located to collaborate with the public health agency in the neighbor state to ensure that the benefits of this program are shared.

Remedy Against the United States.

Subsection (d)(1) would make the provisions of the Atomic Testing Liability Act (Section 3141 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1991) applicable to civil actions for radiation liability based on the acts or omissions of a DOE contractor who would be indemnified under Section 170d of the Atomic Energy Act (Price-Anderson) or under any other law. The effect of this subsection would be to substitute the United States as defendant for a covered contractor and to require an affected claim to proceed under the terms and conditions of the Federal Tort Claims Act.

Subsection (d)(2) would provide that subsection (d) not apply to any claim arising out of an extraordinary nuclear occurrence (as defined in the Price-Anderson Act) or to any civil action commenced in a fiscal year following a fiscal year in which the amounts authorized by subsection (f) have not been appropriated.

Definitions.

Subsection (e) would define for purposes of Section 663 the terms "DOE contractor," "DOE contractor employee," "qualifying DOE contractor employee," "radiogenic illness," "DOE nuclear facility," "predecessor agency," and "radiation liability."

Funding.

Subsection (f) would authorize to be appropriated, for each fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 1997, \$6 million to carry out Occupational Health Programs under subsection (b) and \$14 million to carry out Community Health Programs under subsection (c). Funds so appropriated would be available without fiscal year limitation.

July 11, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR ANDREW D. SENS
Executive Secretary
National Security Council

CC: TODD STERN
Staff Secretary

FROM: SARA EMERY *SE*
Deputy Executive Clerk

SUBJECT: Simple Resolution Received at the White House --
S. Res. 271

Attached for your information and appropriate action is a copy of S. Res. 271 -- a Senate resolution regarding continued sovereignty for Hong Kong.

Section 3 of this resolution directs that a copy be transmitted to the Secretary of State.

This resolution calls for the "...President and the Secretary of State [to] communicate to the People's Republic of China and to the Hong Kong Government and Legislative Council the full support of the United States Government and the people of the United States for Hong Kong's autonomy and the interest of the United States in full compliance by both the People's Republic of China and Great Britain with Joint Declaration as a matter of international law."

This non-binding simple Senate resolution, of course, does not carry the force of law and thus no action is required of the President.

Request that you transmit this copy to the Secretary of State.

United States Senate
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

July 9, 1996

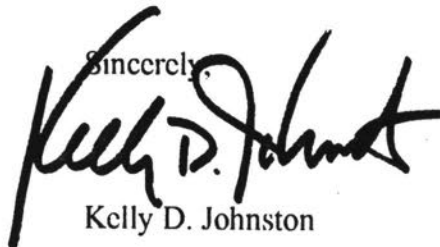
The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Section 3 of Senate Resolution 271, agreed to June 28, 1996, I am herewith transmitting two copies of the resolution and request that you forward one copy to the Secretary of State.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Kelly D. Johnston

Enclosure



In the Senate of the United States

June 28, 1996

Whereas under the Sino-British Joint Declaration on the Question of Hong Kong of 1984, the People's Republic of China will assume sovereignty over Hong Kong on July 1, 1997.

Whereas both the People's Republic of China and Great Britain committed themselves to the Joint Declaration's explicit provisions for Hong Kong's future;

Whereas the Joint Declaration is a binding international agreement registered at the United Nations that guarantees Hong Kong a "high degree of autonomy" except in defense and foreign affairs, an elected legislature, an executive accountable to the elected legislature, and an independent judiciary with final power of adjudication over Hong Kong law;

Whereas the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 expresses the support of the United States Congress for full implementation of the Joint Declaration and declared that—

(1) the United States has a "strong interest in the continued vitality, prosperity, and stability of Hong Kong";

(2) "the human rights of the people of Hong Kong are of great importance to the United States and are directly relevant to United States interests in Hong Kong";

(3) "a fully successful transition in the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong must safeguard human rights in and of themselves"; and

(4) "human rights also serve as a basis for Hong Kong's continued economic prosperity";

Whereas on September 17, 1995, the Legislative Council was elected for a 4-year term expiring in 1999;

Whereas the election of Hong Kong's legislature is the cornerstone of the principle that the people of Hong Kong shall enjoy "one country, two systems" after the Government of the People's Republic of China assumes sovereignty over Hong Kong; and

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China and its appointed Preparatory Committee have announced their intention to abolish the elected Legislative Council and appoint a provisional legislature: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That (a) the Senate finds that respect for Hong Kong's autonomy and preservation of its institutions will contribute to the stability and economic prosperity of the region and the United States has an interest in compliance with treaty obligations.

(b) It is the sense of the Senate that (1) the People's Republic of China and the United Kingdom should uphold their international obligations specified in the Joint Declaration, including the commitment to an elected legislature in Hong Kong after June 30, 1997; (2) the establishment of an appointed legislature would be a violation of the Joint Declaration, and the People's Republic of China should allow the Legislative Council elected in September 1995 to serve its full elected term; and (3) the President and the Secretary of State should communicate to the People's Republic of China and to the Hong Kong Government and Legislative Council the full support of the United States Government and the people of the United States for Hong Kong's autonomy and the interest of the United States in full compliance by both the People's Republic of China and Great Britain with the Joint Declaration as a matter of international law.

SEC. 2. As used in this resolution, the term "Joint Declaration" means the Joint Declaration of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Question of Hong Kong, done at Beijing on December 19, 1984.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the President and the Secretary of State.

Attest:



Secretary.



96 JUL 9 P3:27
STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LANSING

JOHN ENGLER
GOVERNOR

June 28, 1996

Through info
Jenny
7/9/9
Send to Dorland
for reply?

Yes ☒
No ☐

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Coordinate w/ ~~State~~
Rahm & Dennis Bink
C.

Dear Mr. President:

I have received your letter of April 9, 1996, regarding the Jacob Wetterling Act. I heartily agree that the protection of our families and children is a responsibility deserving of our best efforts. Positive steps have been taken in Michigan to deter violent sex offenders. In 1993, work began on legislation to address this emotionally charged issue. Professionals from law enforcement, mental health, and child advocacy groups carefully crafted a statute which balances the needs of the community with the rights of the individual. While the costs for implementation of this legislation were significant, they were quickly justified when the alternatives were considered.

The Sex Offender Registration Act, Public Act 295 of 1994, was passed with bipartisan effort through the Michigan Legislature and forwarded for my signature. I signed this important legislation into law, secure in the knowledge it was in the best interests of the citizens of Michigan.

With your support, Congress has now directed all states to adopt legislation consistent with the requirements of the Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Act. This Act, while similar in intent to Michigan's law, places additional restrictions, administrative burdens, and significant costs on our state. I have serious reservations that the additional measures required by this Act will produce positive benefits in proportion to the increased investment, as the costs of compliance would require that resources sorely needed for other programs be diverted.

Personnel assigned to the Michigan State Police Investigative Resources Section have conducted an analysis of the Justice Department's Final Guidelines for implementation of the Jacob Wetterling Act and estimate the cost of implementation to be a minimum of \$526,500 annually. While your letter

The President
Page 2
June 28, 1996

indicates the Act "provides financial incentives" for compliance, it fails to impart the full significance of the issue. The Act does not provide funds for compliance with its provisions, but would withhold funds already designated for the war on crime.

I firmly believe that the Michigan Legislature knows best what our citizens need and how to provide it. Michigan, like many other states, has established an effective program for addressing this emotional issue. Absent federal monies to defray the costs, I cannot agree that compliance with the Jacob Wetterling Act is the most appropriate course for this state to follow. When the final guidelines are applied, I hope due consideration is given to those states which have already accepted their duties and faced this issue, balancing costs and benefits in the best interests of their citizens.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Engler', is written over the typed name and title.

John Engler
Governor

JE/elh

96 JUL 10 AM 1:14

26 June 1996

MEMORANDUM TO STAFF SECRETARY

From: Harold Ickes (H)

Re: Note to the President from Ohio State Senator
Dennis J. Kucinich.

While in Cleveland on 22 June with the President, Ohio State Senator Dennis J. Kucinich, who is running for Congress in the 10th cd on the west side of Cleveland, gave me the attached note to the President and talked to me about the important need of registering at least 10,000 people in the 10th district on the west side of Cleveland in which he is a Congressional candidate. I assume some note will be sent to him.

7-10-96

Todd -

Send to Stacy Forster
for reply?

Yes ☒

No ☐

C.

West side
presented
10 is not filed to
renewed 10,000
He has 700
replied



DENNIS J. KUCINICH

STATE SENATOR

Need over on higher issues
OHIO SENATE
STATE HOUSE
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215-4276
614/466-5123

LEGISLATIVE AIDES
TONY CELEBREZZE
AMY ROHLING

(H) 216 252-9000

Dear Mr. President - 6/22/96
Cleveland's West Side
is under-registered
by 10,000. You and I both
have a 4-1 margin in this
area. A word from the top
would probably add a few
thousand votes to your margin.

Regards, Dennis Kucenich

06/28/96

ROB Leflar letter to POTUS

Phil asked to check on POTUS' note to McGinty "Did I do letter to him?"

7:15 PM I called RM

7:50 PM Lee Johnson called me back and said he did not locate any response by the POTUS to this man; but he wanted to check further on Monday, 07/01.

What he did find was a letter Rob Leflar wrote to FLOTUS on 5/11 that the POTUS saw and POTUS wrote a note on to K.McGinty that said "Pls review and call me about this"

LEE JOHNSON WILL BRING A COPY OF THE 5/11 FLOTUS LETTER AND LET US KNOW IF HE HAS FOUND ANYTHING ON MONDAY.

S

7/1 Phil ATTACHED is the FLOTUS memo POTUS wrote on. That's all Lee could find

S.

7/11

Make sure Jim Dorskind
gets copy -- POTUS
wants to do letter to

Leflar -- Jim should
coordinate with CEEQ Phil



ROBERT B LEFLAR
~~Associate~~ Professor of Law
Adjunct Associate Professor
of Medical Humanities (UAMS)

School of Law
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701

Office Tel. (501) 575-2709 • Home Tel. (501) 443-5121 • Fax (501) 575-2053
RBLEFLAR@MERCURY.UARK.EDU

COPY SENT
TO MCGINTY

SIERRA CLUB



To K McCouby
Is USFWS showing up?
PC

ARKANSAS CHAPTER

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

6/24/96

TO: President Clinton
FROM: Rob Leflar
DATE: June 6, 1996
RE: Buffalo River Logging

The Sierra Club would welcome your directing Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman's attention to the importance of preserving the Buffalo National River from pollution caused by logging and roadbuilding activities permitted by the U.S. Forest Service in the Buffalo National River watershed. Please consider having Secretary Glickman order the Forest Service to stop logging in the Buffalo watershed until pending litigation is resolved.

The Forest Service has recently signed contracts with private loggers for intensive logging in the Buffalo River watershed. The Arkansas Chapter of the Sierra Club, joined by the Newton County Wildlife Association and the State of Arkansas, has filed an action in federal district court to enjoin the USFS-permitted timber sales until the Forest Service prepares the legally required management plans under the National Wild & Scenic Rivers Act. Fishery and forestry experts have testified that the planned logging has the potential to foul the river.

We had a half-win, half-loss in Judge Bill Wilson's court in April. Judge Wilson found that the USFS had violated the National Wild & Scenic Rivers Act, and stated that there could be a substantial likelihood of irreparable harm from logging in the Buffalo River watershed, but he declined to issue a preliminary injunction against the timber sales. His decision is on appeal to the 8th Circuit. (The attached two memos from U of A environmental law professor John Harbison set out the basic issues in the lawsuit for your reference.) Now the Forest Service is proceeding with the logging projects. Local citizens last week peacefully sat in front of bulldozers at a logging site; one was arrested; and a local botanist was beaten and hospitalized.

Please ask Secretary Glickman to consider directing the Forest Service voluntarily to suspend the Buffalo River watershed timber sale program until the agency complies with the law. This action would provide further proof of your Administration's commitment to protection of the nation's beloved natural treasures.

Feel free to contact me, Professor Harbison (501/575-7642), Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund attorney Steve Volker (415/627-6700), or Arkansas assistant attorney general Charlie Moulton (501/682-8090) for further information.



Memorandum

To: Rob Leflar
From: John Harbison
Re: Buffalo Watershed Litigation
Date: June 3, 1996

This is an update on my memorandum of May 10th concerning *Newton County Wildlife Ass'n v. U.S. Forest Service* and *Arkansas v. U.S. Forest Service*. Judge Wilson's temporary stay of his decision not to issue a preliminary injunction expired on May 3rd. Final briefs in the appeal to the Eighth Circuit of Judge Wilson's decision on the preliminary injunction request are due July 23rd.

Immediately after the expiration of the stay, the Forest Service signed contracts for the sale of timber on approximately 300 acres in the Buffalo headwaters, the first of a series of proposed sales from the Junction and Sandy Springs projects. Around May 15th, the purchaser entered the sale area and started logging operations. The prediction in my earlier memorandum that the Forest Service would move quickly to get timber out of the woods has proven to be accurate. In the transcript of the evidentiary hearing on the preliminary injunction request, Judge Wilson states that the Forest Service is in violation of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and that there could be a substantial likelihood of irreparable harm from logging in the Buffalo watershed. I suspect that the Forest Service wants to log as-much as possible before Judge Wilson converts these findings to a formal order.

On May 30th, about 20 people sat in front of bulldozers and skidders at the site of the West Fork sale, a part of the Sandy Springs project. The Newton County sheriff came to the scene, arrested Herb Culver, a member of the Newton County Wildlife Association, and charged him with criminal trespass, a misdemeanor. He has been released on his own recognizance. On May 31st, the Forest Service published a closure order for all uses except logging for approximately 16 square miles in the Buffalo headwaters area and brought in federal law enforcement personnel. There have been no additional arrests, though one demonstrator has filed an assault charge against a federal officer with regard to an incident that occurred that morning. I do not know the details. I have been told that the Newton County Wildlife Association plans to continue its protests.

SIERRA CLUB



ARKANSAS CHAPTER

TO: Hillary Rodham Clinton
FROM: Rob Leflar
DATE: May 11, 1996
RE: Buffalo River

The Sierra Club would welcome your directing Agriculture Secretary Dan Glicksman's attention to the importance of preserving the Buffalo National River from pollution caused by logging and roadbuilding activities permitted by the U.S. Forest Service in the Buffalo National River watershed.

The Forest Service still allows intensive logging in the Buffalo River watershed, which has the potential to foul the river. The Arkansas Chapter of the Sierra Club, joined by the Newton County Wildlife Association and the State of Arkansas, has filed an action in federal district court to enjoin the USFS-permitted timber sales until the Forest Service prepares the legally required management plans under the National Wild & Scenic Rivers Act.

We had a half-win, half-loss in Judge Bill Wilson's court in April. Judge Wilson found that the USFS had violated the National Wild & Scenic Rivers Act, but he declined to issue a preliminary injunction against the timber sales. His decision is on appeal to the 8th Circuit. The attached memo from U of A environmental law professor John Harbison sets out the basic issues in the lawsuit for your reference.

Please ask Secretary Glicksman to consider directing the Forest Service voluntarily to suspend the Buffalo River watershed timber sale program until the agency complies with the law. Feel free to contact me, Professor Harbison (501/575-7642), Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund attorney Steve Volker (415/627-6700), or Arkansas assistant attorney general Charlie Moulton (501/682-2007) for further information.



TO: Rob Leflar
FROM: John Harbison
DATE: May 10, 1996
RE: Buffalo Watershed Litigation

Newton County Wildlife Ass'n v. U.S. Forest Service and *Arkansas v. U.S. Forest Service* are consolidated actions to protect the Buffalo River watershed from logging proposed by the U.S. Forest Service. The Buffalo is of incalculable value to the people of Arkansas and the nation. The Buffalo National River was made the nation's first National River by an Act of Congress in 1972 "for the purpose of conserving . . . an area containing unique scenic and scientific features." In 1991, it was designated an Extraordinary Resource Water by the State of Arkansas, the highest ranking of stream quality under Arkansas law. In 1992, Congress included reaches of the Buffalo River and Richland Creek, the Buffalo's largest tributary, in the National Wild and Scenic River System.

The statute required the Forest Service to adopt comprehensive management plans to protect these stream segments by September 30, 1995. To date, USFS has not done so. Instead, the Forest Service has proposed several large timber sales in the Buffalo watershed. These lawsuits seek to enjoin four of these timber sales¹ until the Forest Service prepares the required management plans and remedies other alleged violations of federal and state law, including claims brought under the National Environmental Policy Act, the Clean Water Act, and the National Forest Management Act. In addition to these four sales, there are several others on the planning horizon under the Forest Service's Buffalo Headwaters Project.

The gravamen of the plaintiffs' complaint is that these sales threaten to harm the Buffalo watershed before the required planning takes place. The National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires the Forest Service to administer each designated stream segment "in such manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused it to be included" in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Instead, the Forest Service seems determined to log as much of the watershed as possible before adopting the required management plan intended by Congress to ensure that these values are protected. The complaint and accompanying affidavits allege that the proposed logging would substantially impair the scenic beauty, high water quality, solitude and other outstanding natural values of the Buffalo watershed.

¹ The Sand Gap timber sale is a proposal to log 418 acres in the Upper Richland Creek watershed adjacent to the Richland Creek Wild and Scenic River and upstream of the Richland Creek Wilderness and Buffalo National River. Similarly, the Round Hill sale would log 282 acres in the Richland Creek watershed; the Sandy Springs sale would log 1,892 acres in the Little and Big Buffalo watersheds, near the Buffalo headwaters; and the Junction sale would log 440 acres in three contiguous drainages in the watershed: Smith, Thomas, and Stepp Creeks.

After a hearing on the preliminary injunction, Judge Bill Wilson agreed with the plaintiffs that the Forest Service was in violation of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. He nevertheless declined to issue an injunction, noting that the timber industry would be harmed and that he felt constrained to defer to the agency's expertise. Subsequently, however, he issued a stay, *sua sponte*, allowing the plaintiffs to appeal to the Eighth Circuit his decision not to enjoin the logging activities.

The case is in an unusual posture. Judge Wilson has indicated that he believes that the Forest Service's derelictions are unlawful and his stay has much the same effect as the preliminary injunction sought by the plaintiffs. However, the plaintiffs must now persuade the Eighth Circuit that equities favor cessation of logging until the Forest Service has complied with Wild and Scenic Rivers Act planning requirements. If this fails, my understanding, from talking with Forest Service officials, is that the agency intends immediately to resume logging in the watershed, despite being clearly in violation of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act's planning requirements. I surmise that the Forest Service's impatience to proceed may be driven by the fact that they would be hard pressed to justify timber sales of the volume proposed under a Wild and Scenic Rivers management plan that takes wild and scenic river values seriously. I have advised the plaintiffs that if the Eighth Circuit lifts Judge Wilson's stay (and a preliminary injunction does not issue), they should publicly appeal to the Forest Service to voluntarily suspend the Buffalo timber program until the agency complies with the law.

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HARRISON AR
PERMIT NO. 265

(From Newton County Wildlife Association newsletter, May 1996)

BUFFALO NATIONAL RIVER HEADWATERS UNDER ASSAULT

In 1973 the NPS designated the Buffalo River of the Arkansas Ozarks as our nation's first National River (the BNR). Approximately 140 miles of the BNR, from its mouth at the White River up to the BNR headwaters are currently federally protected. Five wilderness areas around the River provide further protection for the corridor. However for the past 10 years the USFS has been actively involved in clearcutting, herbiciding, and roading throughout the entire BNR Headwaters.

Presently, the BNR headwaters are home to thousands of species of plants and animals, old growth forests, springs, and sparkling mountain streams. Rare and endangered plants and animals seek shelter and habitat within the lush headwaters forests surrounding the highest point in the Ozarks.

Now the USFS is planning more timber sales (around 900 acres), and more roads (around 15 miles), in the BNR headwaters. We do not believe that the USFS has been managing these lands in the best interests of the public, nor in the best interests of these headwaters themselves. Our concerns include:

- Management plans must analyze past activities within the watershed including estimates of accumulated tons of sediments that have run off into the BNR from past roading and timbering activities in the headwaters. (See attached map)
- Biological inventories must be completed prior to any more watershed disturbances. The American people have the right to know, and the USFS has the responsibility to inform us, what the present public resources are before they are irreversibly altered.
- The USFS plans include the 11,000 acre Upper Buffalo Wilderness area as well as ONF lands out of the headwaters watershed as part of the project area study. By including these outside lands, expected impacts are averaged over a larger area and appear to be diminished. *The actual project area is the entire watersheds of the three creeks which come together to form the Buffalo River and consists of no more than 12,000 acres.*
- These proposed USFS plans call for 12.8 miles of road reconstruction and 2.2 miles of new roads in this 12,000 acre study area. The 12.8 miles of road reconstruction is actually about 12.8 miles of new roads, since the USFS claims as roads old overgrown tracks that have not been used for 60 years. USFS regulations allow classification as reconstructed if the new road is anywhere within 1/4 mile of the original roadbed! Management plans must study road density and environmental impacts from such expanded human access and examine alternatives to decrease the actual headwaters road densities.
- Presently there is widespread illegal motorized access, (around the Buffalo Creek Wild and Scenic River corridor), as well as illegal trash disposal, and uncontrolled grazing in the BNR headwaters. Present management plans must viably address these continuing watershed problems.
- Management plans for the BNR headwaters must be compatible with, and add value to, NPS BNR management plans. Present headwaters recreational activities of hiking, backpacking, mountain biking, horseback riding, camping, and hunting should be expanded and must not be compromised.
- Management plans must include old-growth protected habitat in conjunction with buffers and corridors for interior forest species protection, migration, and expansion.
- An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should be conducted examining various management alternatives and their effects and consequences for all USFS activities (cumulative and comprehensive), within the BNR watershed. (The USFS currently manages 28% of the BNR watershed).

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4318

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

Sheila Jackson Lee

M.C.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

7-11-96

President Bill Clinton
The White House

From
Presented
Garcia



~~Sent to District~~

yes Congress

~~yes~~ 1
~~no~~ 2

BAPTIST MINISTERS ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON AND VICINITY

REVEREND J. J. ROBERSON
President

July 9, 1996

REVEREND N. S. BROWN
President Emeritus

REVEREND W. H. DUDLEY
Vice President Emeritus

REVEREND W. E. GIBBS
Executive Vice President

REVEREND M. L. JACKSON
Vice President

REVEREND T. WASHINGTON
Vice President

REVEREND E. HARRIS
Vice President

REVEREND F. N. WILLIAMS, SR.
Vice President

REVEREND R. R. HARTWELL
Vice President

REVEREND I. HOLMES
Vice President

REVEREND J. J. BOLDREAU
Vice President

REVEREND J. C. GIBBS
General Secretary

REVEREND A. C. COOPER
Recording Secretary

REVEREND S. COMPTON, SR.
Corresponding Secretary

REVEREND E. L. BIBLE
Financial Secretary

REVEREND C. H. HOWARD
Treasurer

REVEREND J. F. JAMES
Assistant Treasurer

THE HONORABLE BILL CLINTON
WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
7-11-96

Dear Mr. President:

We the members of the Baptist Ministers Association of Houston & Vicinity, an organization which has been involved in the civil rights movement for over sixty-five years, and have continued to carry the banner and fight for those who have been unable to fight for themselves, are now appealing for your help and support!

As you know, many congressional districts across the South, which have provided diverse representation for all people, have been challenged and ruled unconstitutional, including our own historic 18th Congressional District. These districts have played an important role and have provided representation and leadership and now that process is being undermined.

We cannot afford to have time rolled back to the era of "Jim Crowism" when those who were not able to be represented will again be without representation. We urge you to take a public stance and provide much needed support in fighting for our districts. We believe that your public support will enhance the message across the country that we as Democrats are truly committed to equal representation for "all" people as protected under the Constitution of the United States.

We have asked Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee to deliver this letter due to the urgency of time and we look forward to your support and response in the near future.

Respectfully,

Rev. J. J. Roberson
Rev. J. J. Roberson,
President

We the undersigned in attaching our names to this document would like to see the President to continue to speak out on this issue of saving these majority-minority districts throughout this election season. Looking forward with Godly anticipation for promising results.

Rev M. Z. Ford
 Rev Wiley Foster
 Rev James Atkins
 Hyman A. Smith M.D.
 Rev L. L. Smith
 Rev. H. M. Chitt
 Rev. V. Leonard L. Keys
 Rev. Robert Boyd
 Rev. R. T. W. Stewart
 Rev. G. C. Barker
 Rev. H. Kromer
 Rev. R. C. Wetton
 Rev. W. C. Hewitt
 Rev. Raymond Groves Jr.
 Rev. Arthur Harris
 Rev. Larry Lewis
 Rev. Israel Dixon Jr.
 Rev. J. D. Anderson
 Rev. Samuel Compton Sr.
 Rev. A. L. Richmond

Rev. M. L. Spivey
 Rev. D. B. Smith Jr.
 Rev. Daniel E. Henry
 Rev. J. D. Foley

We the undersigned in attaching our names to this document would like to see the President to continue to speak out on this issue of saving these majority-minority districts throughout this election season. Looking forward with Godly anticipation for promising results

Rev. J. H. Robinson
Rev. J. N. Williams, II
Rev. John C. Gibbs
Rev. V. F. Hayes
Rev. W. E. Gibbs
" M. G. Profit
W. H. Dudley
Rev. R. E. Daniels
Rev. F. C. [unclear]
Rev. Robert Sanford Jr.
Rev. M. P. Bland
Pastor A. R. Young
Rev. J. B. Johnson
Rev. C. C. [unclear]
Rev. [unclear]
Rev. W. J. Parker
Rev. Z. L. Williams Jr.
Rev. Eric B. [unclear]
Rev. H. Smith
Rev. [unclear]
Pastor J. A. M. Co

We the undersigned in attaching our names to this document would like to see the President to continue to speak out on this issue of saving these majority-minority districts throughout this election season. Looking forward with Godly anticipation for promising results.

Rev John C. Gibbs

Rev Kenneth W. Brumfield

Rev. M. I. Jones

Rev. W. L. Jones

Rev Antonio Turner Jr

Rev. S. D. Swain - Pastor Holy Bible M.B.C.
5011 Wirth Rd Hou. Tx 77024

Pastor Penny Davis
Jordan Grove M.B.C.

Rev. Essie Harris

Pastor George L. Lunny, Jr

*duplicate***TRENT LOT**

96 JUL 11 48:13

UNITED STATES SENATOR
SENATE MAJORITY LEADER**MISSISSIPPI**Telecopier: 202/224-⁴639

Phone: 202/224-3135

TO:

BETTY

COMPANY:

FROM:

CHRISTINE MCCABE*Send to Legislative
Affairs**✓ yes**- NO*

MESSAGE:

PLEASE GET TO THE PRESIDENT
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!Thank you!P.S. You're from Mississippi? ✓

TELECOPIER #:

456-6703

NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover sheet)

If there are any problems receiving this message, please call 202/224-3135,
and ask for: _____The Capitol, S230
Washington, D.C. 20510

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 10, 1996

President Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C

Dear Mr. President:

A sizable bipartisan majority in the Congress has taken action on a bill to make health care more available and affordable for millions of Americans.

We stand on the threshold of enacting such a law. The compromise bill we have developed provides for portability of health insurance, a demonstration of medical savings accounts, tough anti-fraud and abuse measures, and a series of changes to make health care more available and affordable, including an 80% tax deduction to help the self-employed get access to health care insurance.

This compromise has been endorsed by the American Farm Bureau Federation, the National Federation of Independent Businesses, the American Hospital Association, the American Medical Association, the Independent Insurance Agents of America, Communicating with Agriculture, the Chamber of Commerce, and many other non-partisan groups.

As you are aware, as a result of the many discussions with you, members of your Administration, and Congressional Democrats, we have made many significant concessions in order to win bipartisan support for this legislation. These concessions include eliminating medical malpractice reform and small business purchasing arrangements for health insurance and substantially scaling back the House-passed medical savings account provision. We are confident this compromise bill can be passed by an overwhelming bipartisan vote in both the House and the Senate.

Mr. President, we know of your personal involvement in the development of this bill and, in particular, the medical savings account demonstration. In our view, the latest medical savings account demonstration compromise that Senate Majority Leader Lott offered to you on June 27 was very generous and would be broadly supported by Republicans and Democrats alike. We hope you would respond to Senator Lott and accept this offer.

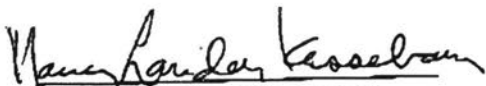
It is our understanding that the Senate Majority Leader is eager to name conferees so we can proceed to the next step in the advancement of this important legislation -- a conference of House and Senate Republicans and Democrats who will debate the entire bill. We hope you will use your influence to assist in the passage of this legislation by opposing any delay or filibuster either to name conferees or to bring the bill to a final vote.

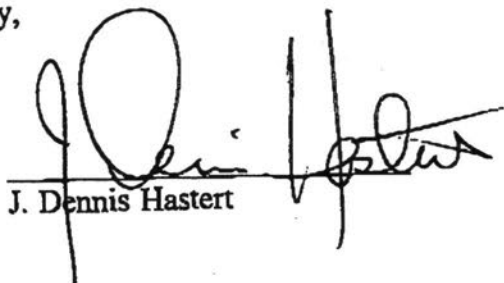
President Clinton

Page 2

With your help, this bipartisan health care compromise can be on your desk for signature in a matter of days if you want it to be.

Sincerely,


Nancy Landon Kassebaum


J. Dennis Hastert

LARRY C. WALLACE

June 14, 1996

96 JUL 11 A8:14

Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The President of The United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

I want to express to you and Hillary my sincere appreciation for the invitation to the arrival ceremonies and the state dinner for the President of Ireland. Your hospitality and friendship extended to Ireland's President would have warmed the heart of every Irishman around the world.

As you know, I have been to Tunisia a number of times at the invitation of President Arafat. While there someone always pleads the case of Tunisia and what a strong friend the nation is to the United States. I enclose a copy of such correspondence. Like Ireland, everyone wants us to acknowledge and reaffirm our friendship to them.

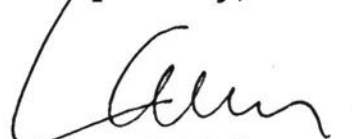
You are a wonderful President and I am as proud of you as anything or anyone that I have ever been associated with. I am always anxious to help you whenever you need a good volunteer.

From The Oval
Send to NSC 7-11

✓
— yes

— No

Respectfully,


Larry C. Wallace



Raghib el Chammah

June 10, 1996

Mr. Larry C. WALLACE
425 West Capitol
Suite 3801
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Larry,

The next opportunity that you have to visit with President Clinton, I hope that you convey to him the sincere effort being made by the Government of Tunisia to strengthen American-Tunisian relationships.

You were involved in a very important development of the Mid-East peace process: Tunisia's recognition of Israel and the exchange of diplomats. I am sure your President knows that this was a very difficult situation for Tunisia. The Libyan regime to the south and the Algerian Islamic-military turmoil to the north-west, place Tunisia in a very difficult and dangerous neighborhood. Tunisia stands like a beacon of hope for democracy and freedom.

Tunisia is a solid and faithful friend of the United States. The Government does not expect American help or assistance for being a good and longterm friend. On the other hand, the United States should seize the opportunity to make a meaningful investment in the future of Tunisia. May I suggest the following :



.../...

Encourage cultural exchanges
Encourage American private investment
Wave military debt

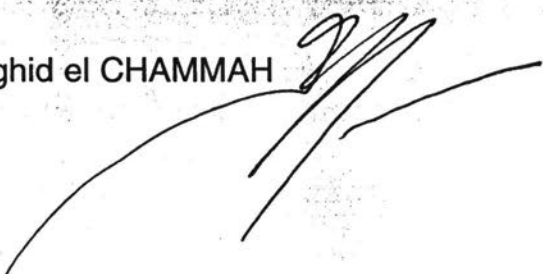
Tunisia has always promptly paid its debt to the United States and will continue to do so. However, a voluntary waiver of the debt would be very appropriate and in line with similar accommodations for Israel, Egypt and Jordan.

As a husband of an American citizen and a father of two American children, I sincerely hope that the United States will seize this opportunity to demonstrate its friendship to Tunisia by showing its commitment to freedom and democracy in the Mediterranean and North Africa. The real winner in such an approach will be the citizens of the United States.

I hope you can accept my invitation to travel to Tunis for a briefing with senior officials at the Carthage Presidential Palace. Please convey my best wishes and respect to President Clinton.

Sincerely Yours

Raghid el CHAMMAH

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several sweeping, connected strokes, is positioned to the right of the name Raghid el CHAMMAH.



96 JUL 19 AIO: 51

July 3, 1996

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States

Dear Mr. President:

I want to report to you that the 16th National Veterans Wheelchair Games is going well here in Seattle.

We have a record number of veterans and sponsors participating in this year's Games. Their inspiring athletic performances will continue through this July 4th week.

All will gather at the State Convention Center Saturday, July 6 at 6:30 p.m. for closing ceremonies which I will attend along with Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jesse Brown.

It would be a most fitting conclusion to this great American event to have you call and address the participants directly over our public address hookup.

Arrangements for that can be made through the National Veterans Wheelchair Games Media Center, 206-233-0391 or 0474.

Short of that, your written message to the athletes could be read at the closing ceremonies. Thanks for your support.

Your Friend,

Rose
Roosevelt Grier

rec'd July 8

from oval 7-9-96

To Dorskind for Reply?

yes ☒ *No* ☐



FAX TRANSMISSION

FROM

Name: Roosevelt Grier
Phone: 206-233-0391
Fax #: 206-233-9376

TO

Name: Betty Currie
Phone: _____
Fax #: 202-456-6703

This Fax includes 1 pages including this cover.

Comments:



Presented by the
Paralyzed Veterans of America and the Department of Veterans Affairs



7-11

Sinel to Dorskind

✓ yes — NO

and coordinate $\frac{8}{2}$

✓ / NBC



Representative
JOHN E. MILLER
P.O. BOX 420
MELBOURNE, ARKANSAS 72556-0420



96 JUL 11 5 48:13 F A R K A N S A S

House of Representatives

DISTRICT 6
Part of Baxter County
Part of Fulton County
Part of Independence County
Izard County

Should do so
Eng to reply
a so
COMMITTEES
CHAIRMAN
Joint Budget
MEMBER
Revenue and Taxation
Insurance and Commerce
Joint Committee on Energy
They are all
He President

June 28, 1996

The President of the United States
White House
Washington, D.C. 20500-2000

Dear Bill:

I have tried not to bother you during your presidency with my ideas and concerns because I think you know me well enough to know how I stand on most issues.

This letter is not concerned about issues, it is concerned about what I feel to be a very inequitable provision in the IRS Code on retirement. Their rule states that no retirement benefits can be paid which would exceed the last three year average salary.

I am currently serving my 38th year and really feel that I have given full time effort to a part time job. If total reimbursement could be counted to include per diem as well as salary, then I would not have a complaint. I am not fussing about the compensation because I knew how much it was when I sought office. However, I thought I knew what the law provided on retirement benefits during that same period of time, but this has been changed by federal law.

We were forced to change Arkansas law to adhere to the IRS regulation so that the retirement funds would continue to be exempt from federal taxes. Congress, both Democrats and Republicans, has supported past legislation to change this regulation as it relates to state legislators, but due to other provisions in the tax acts that were passed, the President, even though he supported this provision vetoed the legislation. Ernest Cunningham, John Paul Capps, Ode Maddox, and I would like an appointment to meet with you at the White House to discuss this in detail, if necessary.

Senators Bumpers and Pryor, Representatives Lincoln, Dickey and other Arkansas legislators said that they agree with some less restrictive provisions in the IRS Code. When we adopted the Arkansas law, we made a provision that it would comply with the federal regulation.

Former Speaker

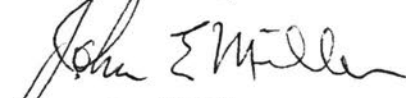
The President of the United States
June 25, 1996
Page Two

I hope that you can find the time to take care of this, but if you can't I will still support you and your administration, including Hillary, who is one of the brightest personalities we have had in the history of our great nation.

You have both held your cool with your heads high not stooping to retaliatory activities that would degrade the image of the office of the President. We know that the office is more important than some of the petty politics that your opposition and the late night television junk programs are projecting the office to be. I tell my Sunday School class almost every Sunday that the most important aspect of Christian life is what Christ said to the question, "What is the greatest Commandment?" - "Love God", and the second is likened to it - "Love your neighbor as thyself." This is the basis of all Christianity.

I believe that you are doing an outstanding job and I wish I could visit with you on a daily basis. Not that you need my advice, but so I could have a better understanding so that I can make a better explanation of your administration to those people who are criticize.

Your friend,



John E. Miller

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