

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. note	POTUS to Ickes and Sosnick re: [Breaux] (1 page)	07/25/1996	Personal Misfile

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Staff Secretary
Todd Stern
OA/Box Number: 8116

FOLDER TITLE:

Chron Files: Thursday, July 25, 1996

2019-0774-S

rs3386

RESTRICTION CODES

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

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

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

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

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

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

Don
I'm sure
Evelyn mixed
something sounding
very similar
to this. What
was it?
T₁

Chron

HONORARY PARTICIPATION REQUEST

Please return to Room 457

Today's Date: July 23, 1996

96 JUL 25 P12:32

Date of Request: 6/5/96

Request for: POTUS

Type of Request: Honorary Chair

Requestor Name: The Honorable Charles S. Robb

Title: Executive Committee Chair

Organization: Jobs For America's Graduates, Inc.
Suite 200
1729 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2720

Contact Tel. #: 703/684-9479

Event Date: Beginning of December

Event Description: 1996 JAG Leadership Awards

Notes: Jobs for America's Graduates operates school-to-work programs for at-risk youth in 26 states. The awards dinner recognizes individuals and corporations that have demonstrated exemplary commitment to JAG programs across the country; Secretary Reich received an award in 1995. The group intends to invite the Vice-President to participate in some capacity once they receive a response from the President. Trish McNeil, Assistant Secretary of Education and Tim Barnicle, Assistant Secretary of Labor, are familiar with JAG and support this request.

The President should ACCEPT this request.

Recommendations:

TS _____ EL _____
(Unless otherwise noted, a yes answer
will automatically generate a message).

Comments:

Jobs for America's Graduates, Inc.

CHAIR

The Honorable George V. Voinovich
Governor/Ohio

CHAIR

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
The Honorable Charles S. Robb
U.S. Senator/Virginia

PRESIDENT

Mr. Kenneth M. Smith
Chairman & CEO/IM&D

TREASURER

Mrs. Carolyn Warner
Carolyn Warner & Associates

SECRETARY

Mr. John Holmeister
Vice President
AlliedSignal International

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Michael M. Arnold
Director of Investor Relations
AFL-CIO Investment Trusts

The Honorable Judith A. Billings
Superintendent of Schools/Washington

Mr. Linden S. Blue
Vice Chairman/General Atomics

The Honorable Christopher S. Bond
U.S. Senator/Missouri

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
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Mr. David Chew
Consultant

Mr. David F. Demarest, Jr.
Senior Vice President
Corporate Communications
Bank of America Corporation

Mr. Frank Doyle
Retired Executive Vice President/GE

Dr. Timothy Dyer
Executive Director
National Association of Secondary
School Principals

Mrs. Julie Nixon Eisenhower
Author

The Honorable Alexander A. Farrelly
Former Governor/U.S. Virgin Islands

The Honorable Lisa Graham
Superintendent of Public
Instruction/Arizona

Dr. William H. Gray, III
President/United Negro College Fund

Mr. Stephen G. Harrison
President & CEO/Lee Hecht Harrison

The Honorable James M. Jeffords
U.S. Senator/Vermont

Dr. William B. Keene
Superintendent Emeritus, Delaware
Department of Public Instruction

Ms. Patricia J. Malson
Vice President/Capital Cities/ABC, Inc.

Mrs. Catherine B. McKee
Corporate Vice President
Motorola Government and
Space Technology Group

The Honorable John R. McKernan, Jr.
Governor (1987-1995)/Maine

The Honorable Stephen Merrill
Governor/New Hampshire

The Honorable Wayne L. Mowatt
Commissioner of Education/Maine

Mr. George Perry
President & CEO
Siemens Automotive Corporation

Mr. Lawrence R. Phillips
Senior Human Resources Officer/Citicorp

The Honorable David Poythress
Commissioner of Labor/Georgia

The Honorable Marc Racicot
Governor/Montana

The Honorable John G. Rowland
Governor/Connecticut

Mr. Jack Sabater
Consultant

Dr. J. Theodore Sanders
President/Southern Illinois University

Mr. Ray Slavin
President & COO/Wonderware

Dr. Franklin L. Smith
Superintendent of Schools
District of Columbia

Mr. Lawrence J. Stupski
Vice Chairman
Charles Schwab Corporation

Mr. O. E. Wenzler
Consultant

The Honorable Pete Wilson
Governor/California

Mr. Ray Y. Yagoum
President/National Council of La Raza

June 5, 1996

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG), I am writing to invite you to be the Honorary Chair of the 1996 JAG LEADERSHIP AWARDS event that will take place in Washington, D.C. this December. I chair JAG's Executive Committee and am one of its founding members. JAG Board member, John J. McKernan, recognized your commitment to youth and school-to-work transition last May on the anniversary of the signing of the School-to-Work Opportunities Act and you have since honored the program with your personal endorsement.

Today JAG serves nearly 34,000 at-risk youth in 26 states across the country, making it the nation's largest and most consistently used model for school-to-work transition for at-risk youth. Over JAG's 16-year history, more than 175,000 at-risk youth have been served. Our goal is to see to it that JAG reaches 65,000 youth in 40 states by the year 2000. The enclosed briefing paper tells the story of JAG's impressive track record--at a cost of less than half the national average for similar programs.

JAG had an extremely good year in 1995, culminating in the first JAG LEADERSHIP AWARDS event that featured House Speaker Gingrich, Secretary of Labor Reich and Miss America 1996 as the keynote speakers. An additional 17 Members of Congress and nearly 500 corporate and education leaders joined us for this event. JAG enjoys broad bipartisan support and has received endorsements from every U.S. President since its inception.

Given your commitment to the youth of this country, I write in the hope that it will be possible for you serve as our Honorary Chair this year. Ken Smith, the President of JAG will be in touch with Paul Diamond to provide further information. I am, of course, always available to respond to any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

Charles S. Robb

Charles S. Robb
U.S. Senator

LEGAL COUNSEL

JESS HERRERA
Harbor Commissioner

Emerson
Aschbach
for
win
port of
hueneme
THE PRESIDENT HAS BEEN



7-25-96
OXNARD HARBOR DISTRICT, P.O. BOX 608, 105 E. PORT HUENEME ROAD
PORT HUENEME, CALIFORNIA 93044 (805) 488-3677 FAX (805) 488-2620

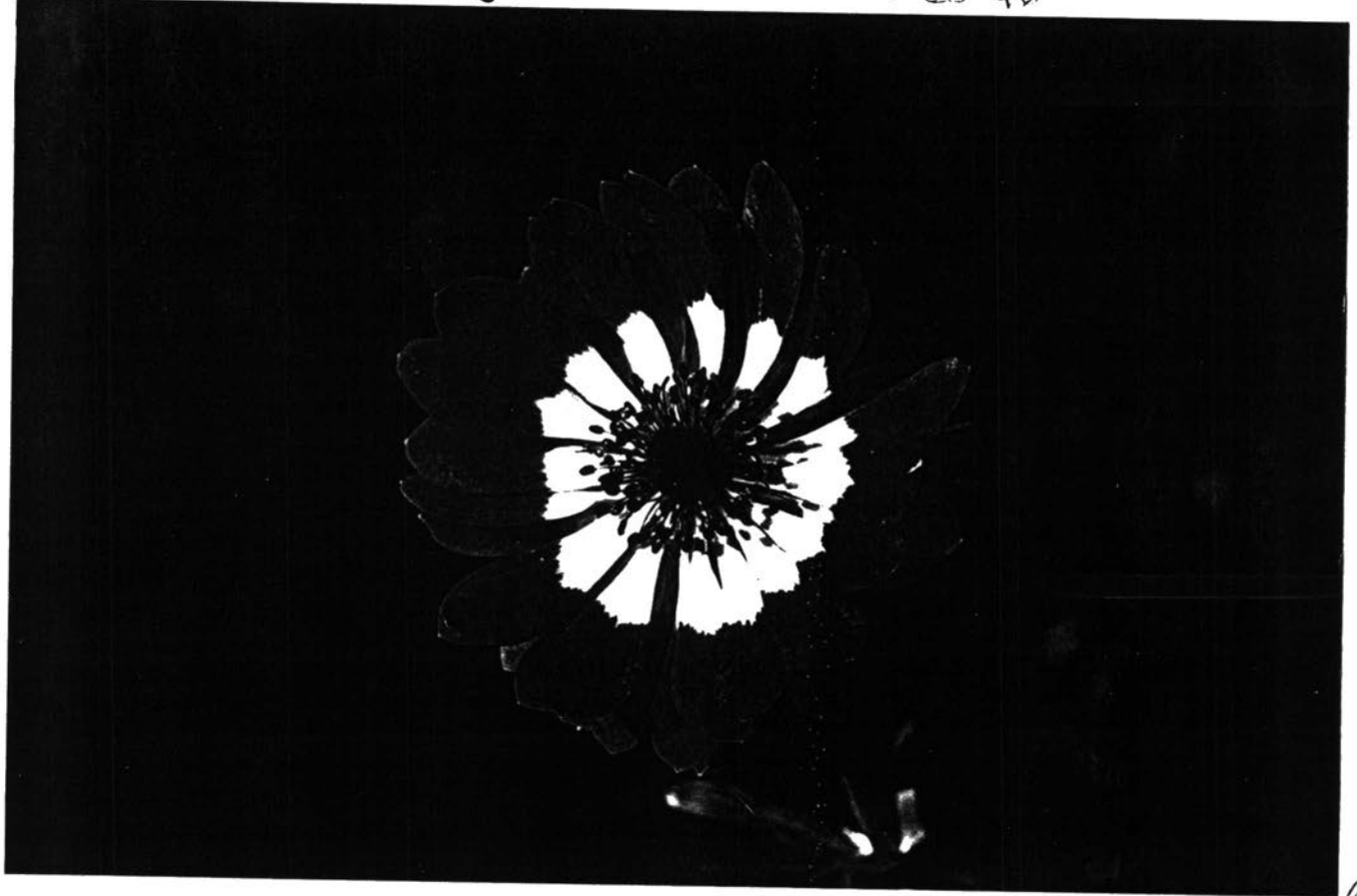
cc: Emerson
Chion

(do both sides of card)

BRAC PROCESS - 33 ACRES
350 MILLION POSITIVE
ECONOMIC IMPACT
NO COST PUBLIC USE CONVENIENCE

Do nice reply to me to sign - Be

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
7-25-96



L

To Dorkind For Reply

Dear Mr President,

7/22/96

I am not certain that you will actually get to see this card, but in the chance that you do (and I will have Betty to thank) I wanted to thank you for the opportunity to intern in cabinet affairs this summer. Until this point in my life I've been going through Duke University without really getting excited about what I wanted to do after my senior year is over in 1997, but working here, in the white house, has made me realize that I could really enjoy working in Government (and it would follow nicely from my public policy and US history double major). In fact, I have spoken with our friend Jack Quinn, about working at the convention before school starts up again. I really took a lot away from the talk you gave to all the interns about still feeling a calling to public service, and in many ways those words really started me thinking about what I could do for our amazing country and to prevent my generation from losing faith and "dropping the ball".

You probably don't remember shaking my hand with all the other interns but I told you about the movie "A Child's Wish" being completed at the end of July. I wanted to bring it over for you, but by the time I had a copy you were travelling. I'm sure you'll have a chance to see it soon, however. I am just sorry I couldn't meet you. My father and Irene Quinn really wanted hard to make this movie fabulous, and I don't think you'll be disappointed.

Thank you for taking the time to read this card and for caring about the

future generations of Americans gaining experience by working and interning here this summer.

Sincerely -
Michele Horowitz

P.S. I thank you were very classy to address the Presidential Scholars and I absolutely loved ~~your~~ your speech. I helped Kris Balderston from cabinet affairs on that event!!

also, this card is made from a photograph my mother took of the flowers in our yard. She is quite amazing!



CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

maison

and my

JOE BACA

ASSEMBLYMAN, SIXTY-SECOND DISTRICT
THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

7-25-96

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. Box 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0001
(916) 445-7454

DISTRICT OFFICE
201 N. "E" STREET
SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92401
(909) 885-BACA



cc. *Emerson*
Dorskind
Chron

(do both sides of card)

JIM DORSKIND:

PLEASE COORDINATE
THE REPLY.

Hon. Bill Clinton

*I would like to
invite you to play Golf
in San Bernardino.*

*Please let me know
if you are available?*

Printed on Recycled Paper

*Joe Baca
Assemblyman*



THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

7-25-96

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

July 24, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Robert E. Rubin *R.E.R.*
SUBJECT: Prepayment by Mexico

Summary

On July 25, we and the Mexicans will announce that their new loan will enable the Government of Mexico to make at least a \$6 billion repayment, two years ahead of schedule. With this prepayment, we will have gotten most of our money back, as well as \$1.2 billion in interest.

Background

A month ago I informed you that Mexico would be issuing a large new syndicated loan and would repay the Treasury with the proceeds. The market's reaction to this loan has been very strong. Originally set at \$3 billion, the offering has been rated "investment-grade," which has pushed it to at least \$5 billion. This amount may still be increased somewhat further, making it possible for Mexico to prepay at least \$6 billion of the \$10.5 billion still owed to the United States. We will know the precise amount on Thursday, and understand that President Zedillo would like to telephone you that morning to tell you this news. We expect to receive the prepayment in early August.

To finance this prepayment, Mexico will use the proceeds of the bank loan and another \$1 billion from other recent market financings. The combined payment will entail a "carve-out" (release) of some of the Mexican oil export revenues backing our financial support program; the balance of the U.S. swaps will remain fully protected. The share of oil proceeds carved-out would be less than the share of U.S. swaps prepaid, preserving adequate coverage of Mexico's remaining obligations.

Mexico will also announce that it will prepay \$1 billion to the IMF. We have consulted with IMF management and with our G7 allies regarding these developments. Some have expressed concern that the IMF's exposure is not being reduced proportionately along with ours. We have explained that the U.S. program was an extraordinary one crafted in an emergency, that the crisis has now passed, and that continuing IMF involvement is consistent with its role in the international financial system.

Handwritten notes:
\$6 JUL 24 13:58
Fy - see memo
on summary
w/ this
[Signature]

These early repayments come as more good news for both the U.S. and Mexico. While the effects of last year's recession are still being felt, Mexico's economy is once again growing. Mexico's international reserves have increased, and it can now refinance the emergency support package on more attractive terms. The U.S. is being repaid ahead of schedule and with interest earnings that so far have totaled \$1.2 billion. Our exports to Mexico, meanwhile, have been running at record levels this year. We will ensure that the public and interested Members of Congress are kept informed of these developments.

cc: Anthony Lake
Laura Tyson

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
DENI GASPARD
PRESIDENT
7-25-96

THE **AD** AGENCY INC.

THE AD AGENCY, INC.
CREATIVE MARKETING ADVERTISING DESIGN AND PUBLIC RELATIONS
8605 WESTWOOD CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 200, VIENNA, VIRGINIA 22182
TELEPHONE: (703) 821-2030 FACSIMILE: (703) 821-2032

*Schedule
See on back
we may be
unable to
run B2*

cc: Scheduling
Chen

(do both sides of card)

October 28, 1996
Women in Cable &
Telecommunications
Ctd. Tamm, Jane Fonda,
Larry King

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 24, 1996

MR. PRESIDENT:

This is the draft of the 1996
Democratic Platform which was
distributed to the drafting
committee.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

7-25-96
Todd Stern

BoReed
- 3 minor suggestions
- better ending
- our goal (Phe. for pos
Action -
Call him -
it's very good
BC

07/23/96 2:30pm

1996 PLATFORM

*** DRAFT ***

*** NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION ***

96 JUL 24 P2:00

INTRODUCTION

In 1996, America will choose the President who will lead us from the millennium which saw the birth of our nation, and into a future that has all the potential to be even greater than our magnificent past. Today's Democratic Party is ready for that future. Our vision is simple. We want an America that gives all Americans the chance to live out their dreams and achieve their God-given potential. We want an America that is still the world's strongest force for peace and freedom. And we want an America that is coming together around our enduring values, instead of drifting apart.

Today's Democratic Party is determined to renew America's most basic bargain: Opportunity to every American, and responsibility from every American. And today's Democratic Party is determined to reawaken the great sense of American community.

Opportunity. Responsibility. Community. These are the values that made America strong. These are the values of the Democratic Party. These are the values that must guide us into the future.

Today, America is moving forward with the strong leadership it deserves. The economy is stronger, the deficit is lower, and government is smaller. Education is better, families are healthier, and our streets are safer. There is more opportunity in America, more responsibility in our homes, and more peace in the world.

Today's Democratic party stands proudly on the record of the last four years. We are living in an age of enormous possibility, and we are working to make sure that all Americans can make the most of it. America is moving in the right direction.

Now we must move forward, and we know the course we must follow. We need a smaller, more effective, less bureaucratic government that reflects our time-honored values. The American people do not want big government solutions and they do not want empty promises. They want a course that is reasonable, help that is realistic, and solutions that can be delivered -- a moderate, achievable, common-sense agenda that will improve people's daily lives and not increase the size of government.

That is what today's Democratic Party offers: the end of the era of big government, a final rejection of the misguided call to leave our citizens to fend for themselves -- and bold leadership into the future: To meet America's challenges, protect America's values, and fulfill American dreams.

1 OPPORTUNITY

2 For 220 years, America has been defined by a single ideal: Opportunity for all who
3 take the responsibility to seize it. President Andrew Jackson put it best: We believe in equal
4 opportunity for all, and special privileges for none. The mission of the Democratic Party in
5 1996 is to ensure that the great American Dream of opportunity for all is within reach for all,
6 and that it travels with us, whole and intact, as we walk together into tomorrow.

7 **Economic growth.** Since Bill Clinton became President, America has seen an
8 explosion of job growth, economic renewal, and opportunity. The American people have
9 created 10 million new jobs. After trailing Japan for 14 years, America once again became the
10 world's leading manufacturer of automobiles in 1994, and remained number one last year.
11 The combined rate of inflation, unemployment, and mortgage interest rates is the lowest in
12 three decades. Now, 3.7 million more Americans own their own home, and Americans have
13 started a record number of new small businesses in each of the last three years.

14 In the 12 years before President Clinton took office, Republicans in the White House
15 allowed the deficit to spiral out of control, and ignored the economic interests of ordinary
16 Americans. Bill Clinton was determined to turn things around and move America in a new
17 direction. With his leadership, we put in place a comprehensive strategy for economic
18 growth. We fought to put America's economic house in order so private business could
19 prosper, because today's Democratic Party knows that the private sector is the engine of
20 economic growth. We worked to tap the full potential of a new global economy through open
21 and fair trade. We fought to invest in the American people so they would have the capacity to
22 meet the demands of the new economy. And we have invested in the roads, bridges, and
23 highways that are the lifelines of American commerce.

24 Democrats in Congress supported this course and America is better off because they
25 did. Republicans opposed our economic plan; America's economic growth over the last four
26 years makes it clear that they were wrong. Our strategy is in place, and it is working. We are
27 proud of our economic record over the last four years -- and we know that our record is a
28 record to build on, not to rest on. We have to move forward, to make sure that every
29 American willing to work hard has the opportunity to build a good life and share in the
30 benefits of economic success.

31 In the last four years we worked to get the American economy going: cutting the
32 deficit, expanding trade, and investing in our people. In the next four years we have to make
33 the new economy work for all Americans: balancing the budget, creating more jobs, making
34 sure all families can count on good health care and a secure retirement, and, most of all,
35 expanding educational opportunities so all Americans can learn the skills they need to build the
36 best possible future.

37 *Balancing the budget.* For 12 years, Republicans hid behind rosy scenarios while

1 quadrupling the national debt. We knew this had to stop. In 1992, we promised to cut the
2 deficit in half over four years. We did. Our 1993 economic plan cut spending by over a
3 quarter trillion dollars in five years. The only deficit left today is interest payments on the debt
4 run up over the 12 Republican years before fiscal responsibility returned to the White House.
5 President Clinton is the first President to cut the deficit four years in a row since before the
6 Civil War.

7 Now the Democratic Party is determined to finish the job and balance the budget.
8 President Clinton has put forward a plan to balance the budget by 2002 while living up to our
9 commitments to our elderly and our children and maintaining strong economic growth. The
10 Republican Congress' own economists admit the President's plan will balance the budget by
11 2002. It cuts hundreds of wasteful and outdated programs, but it preserves Medicare and
12 Medicaid, it protects education and the environment, and it defends working families. The
13 President's plan reflects America's values. The Republican plan does not.

14 Today's Democratic Party believes we have a duty to care for our parents, so they can
15 live their lives in dignity. That duty includes securing Medicare and Medicaid, finding savings
16 without reducing quality or benefits, and protecting Social Security for future generations. The
17 Republican agenda rests on massive Medicare cuts, three times bigger than the largest
18 Medicare cuts in history, including new premium increases on seniors, and drastic changes to
19 Medicaid that will jeopardize the health care of children and seniors.

20 Today's Democratic Party believes that all children should have the opportunity to
21 make the most of their own lives. We believe that schools should be run by teachers and
22 principals, not by Washington. The Republican agenda slashes college scholarships and
23 college loans, cuts Head Start, and cuts funds to reduce class size and improve teacher
24 standards.

25 Today's Democratic Party believes we have a duty to preserve God's earth and
26 American quality of life for future generations. We are committed to reform, so that
27 environmental protection does not trap business in a tangle of red tape. The Republican
28 budget guts environmental protection.

29 Today's Democratic Party believes that working people should not be taxed into
30 poverty. The Republican budget raises taxes on millions of working families.

31 Today's Democratic Party believes that America must put our families first. The
32 Republican budget takes Big Bird away from 5-year-olds, school lunches away from 10-year-
33 olds, summer jobs away from 15-year-olds, and college loans away from 20-year-olds.

34 *Tax relief for working families and small businesses.* President Clinton and Democrats
35 in Congress expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit, cutting taxes to help 40 million
36 Americans in 15 million working families -- without a single Republican vote. The Dole-

1 Gingrich budget was designed to give a massive tax break to the wealthiest Americans, and
2 pay for it by raising taxes on ordinary Americans and slashing health care for the elderly.
3 America cannot afford to return to the era of something-for-nothing tax cuts and smoke-and-
4 mirrors accounting that produced a decade of exploding deficits. Today's Democratic Party is
5 committed to targeted tax cuts that help working Americans invest in their future, and we
6 insist that any tax cuts are completely paid for, because we are determined to balance the
7 budget.

8 We want to strengthen middle-class families by providing a \$500 tax cut for children.
9 We want to cut taxes to help families pay for education after high school and to guarantee the
10 first two years of college. We want people to be able to use their IRA's to buy a first home,
11 deal with a medical emergency, or provide for education. We want to cut taxes for small
12 businesses that invest in the future and set up pensions for their workers. And we want to cut
13 taxes for people who are self-employed and self-insured so their health care is more
14 affordable.

15 *Technology.* We know investments in technology drive economic growth, generate new
16 knowledge, create new high-wage jobs, build new industries, and improve our quality of life.
17 In the face of Republican efforts to undermine America's dedication to innovation, President
18 Clinton and the Democratic Party have fought to maintain vital investments in science and
19 technology. We remember that government investment in technology is responsible for the
20 computer, for jet aircraft, and for the Internet -- no investments have ever paid off better, in
21 jobs, in opportunity, or in growth.

22 We support government policies that encourage private sector investment and
23 innovation to create a pro-growth economic climate, like a permanent research and
24 development tax credit. We want technology to create jobs and improve the quality of life for
25 American workers. President Clinton and Vice President Gore fought for and, the President
26 signed, a sweeping telecommunications reform bill that will unleash the creative power of the
27 information industry to create millions of high-wage American jobs. As we enter the 21st
28 century, we will continue to invest in world-class research and development, advanced
29 technologies in transportation, information, and other industries, and agricultural and
30 environmental research in partnership with American business. We are working to reinvent
31 the national laboratories and revitalize America's space program.

32 *Creating jobs through trade.* We believe that if we want the American economy to
33 continue strong growth, we must continue to expand trade, and not retreat from the world.
34 America's markets are open to the world, so America has a right to demand that the world's
35 markets are open to our products. American products are the best in the world. When
36 American workers and American companies have the chance to compete around the world, we
37 do not take second place.

38 In the last four years, the Clinton-Gore Administration has signed over 200 trade

1 agreements, including NAFTA and GATT, to open markets around the world to American
2 products, and create more jobs for the people who make them here at home. We have put in
3 place the most sweeping agreements to lower foreign trade barriers of any administration in
4 modern American history; including over 20 such agreements with Japan alone -- and American
5 exports to Japan in the sectors covered by those agreements have increased by 85 percent. All
6 over the world, barriers to American products have come down, exports are at an all time high --
7 and we have created over one million high-paying export-related jobs.

8 In the next four years, we must continue to work to lower foreign trade barriers; insist
9 that foreign companies play by fair rules at home and abroad; strengthen rules that protect the
10 global economy from fraud and dangerous instability; advance American commercial interests
11 abroad; and ensure that the new global economy is directly beneficial to American working
12 families. As we work to open new markets, we must continue to guarantee that all trade
13 agreements include standards to protect children, workers, and the environment. We must ensure
14 adequate trade adjustment assistance and education and training programs to help working
15 families compete and win in the global economy.

16 **Education.** Today's Democratic Party knows that education is the key to opportunity.
17 In the new global economy, it is more important than ever before. Today, education is the
18 fault line that separates those who will prosper from those who cannot. President Clinton and
19 Democrats in Congress have spared no effort over the last four years to improve the quality of
20 American education and expand the opportunity for all Americans to get the education they
21 need to succeed.

22 Every step of the way, we have been opposed by Republicans intent on cutting
23 education. Now, they want to cut education from Head Start through college scholarships.
24 They want to make borrowing for college more difficult for millions of students.

25 Today's Democratic Party will stand firmly against the Republican assault on
26 education. Cutting education as we move into the 21st century would be like cutting defense
27 spending at the height of the Cold War. We must do more to expand educational opportunity -
28 - not less.

29 *Strengthening public schools.* We increased Head Start funding to expand early
30 education for more children who need it. We passed Goals 2000 to help schools set high
31 standards, and find the resources they need to succeed: the best books, the brightest teachers,
32 the most up-to-date technology. We restructured federal education programs and eliminated
33 federal regulations to give local schools, teachers, and principals the flexibility and help they
34 need to meet those standards. We've worked to make sure our children have the best teachers
35 by expanding teacher education. We applaud the work of state and local Democrats to develop
36 innovative solutions to make sure our children get the best possible education.

37 In the next four years, we must do even more to make sure America has the best public

1 schools on earth. If we want to be the best, we should expect the best: We must hold students,
2 teachers, and schools to the highest standards. Students should be required to demonstrate
3 competency and achievement for promotion or graduation. Teachers should be required to
4 meet high standards for performance and be rewarded for the good jobs they do -- and there
5 should be a fair, timely, cost-effective process to remove those who do not measure up. And
6 we should get rid of the barriers that discourage talented young people from becoming teachers
7 in the first place. We should not bash teachers. We should applaud them, and find ways to
8 keep the best teachers in the classroom. Schools should be held accountable for results. We
9 should redesign or shut down schools that fail. We should expand public school choice, but
10 we should not take American tax dollars from public schools and give them to private schools.
11 We should promote public charter schools that are held to the highest standards of
12 accountability and access. And we should continue to ensure that America provides good
13 education to children with disabilities, because high-quality public education is the key to
14 opportunity for all American children.

15 *Teaching values in schools.* Today's Democratic Party knows our children's education
16 is not complete unless they learn good values. We applaud the efforts of the Clinton-Gore
17 Administration to promote character education in our schools. Teaching good values, strong
18 character, and the responsibilities of citizenship must be an essential part of American
19 education.

20 *Safe schools and healthy students.* If young people do not have the freedom to learn in
21 safety, they do not have the freedom to learn at all. Over the last four years, we have worked
22 hard to keep schools safe and drug-free, and students healthy. When Senator Dole and
23 Speaker Gingrich led Republican efforts to cut school safety funding, President Clinton and
24 Democrats in Congress wouldn't let them get away with it. When Senator Dole and Speaker
25 Gingrich led Republican efforts to destroy the nation's school lunch program, President Clinton
26 and Democrats in Congress stopped them cold. Now, we must launch a major rebuilding effort
27 to make sure our children go to school in high-quality facilities where they can learn. We
28 must help schools set the highest standards for good behavior and discipline in the classroom.
29 Children cannot learn -- and teachers cannot teach -- without order in the classroom.

30 *Technology in the classroom.* We must bring the 21st century into every classroom in
31 America. There is a vast realm of knowledge waiting for our children to tap into. Computers
32 are powerful tools to teach students to read better, write better, and understand math.
33 President Clinton and Vice President Gore understand that technological literacy is essential to
34 success in the new economy. The only way to achieve that for every student is to give them
35 all access to a computer, good software, trained teachers, and the Internet -- and President
36 Clinton and Vice President Gore have launched a partnership with high-tech companies,
37 schools, state, and local governments to wire every classroom and library to the Information
38 Superhighway by the year 2000.

39 *Preparing students for jobs.* We passed School-to-Work so young people can learn the

1 skills they need to get and keep high wage jobs. The Republican Congress is trying to destroy
2 it, and we pledge to stop them. We want to keep working with the private sector, to
3 encourage community partnerships that build the bridge between a good education and a good
4 job.

5 *Higher education for all Americans.* Finally, we must make sure that every American
6 has the opportunity to go to college. Higher education is the key to a successful future in the
7 21st century. The typical worker with a college education earns 73 percent more than one
8 without. America has the best higher education in the world. We do not need to change it --
9 we need to make it available for all Americans. Our goal must be nothing less than to make
10 the 13th and 14th years of education as universal as the first 12.

11 Over the last four years, the Democratic Party under President Clinton has put an
12 unprecedented college opportunity strategy in place: We reformed the student loan program, to
13 make college more affordable for 5.5 million students -- and we saved money for the taxpayers
14 by eliminating the middleman, cutting red tape, and cutting the cost of student loan defaults in
15 half. We have expanded Pell Grant college scholarships for deserving students. And the
16 President's national service program has already helped 45,000 Americans earn money for
17 college by helping their communities.

18 *Tax cuts for college.* Over the next four years, we want to go even further: We should
19 expand work-study so one million students a year can work their way through college by the
20 year 2000. We should let people use money from their IRA to help pay for college. We should
21 give a \$1000 honor scholarship for the top 5 percent of graduates in every high school. And
22 we must make 14 years of education the standard for every American. The Democratic Party
23 wants to create a \$10,000 tax deduction for families to help pay for education after high
24 school. And we want to create a \$1,500 tax cut for Americans, modeled after Georgia's
25 successful HOPE scholarships, to guarantee the first year of tuition at a typical community
26 college, and the second year if individuals earn it by maintaining a B average. No tax cut will
27 do more to raise American incomes than a tax cut to pay for college.

28 **Economic security for American families in the 21st century.** In the old economy,
29 most workers could count on one job for life. They knew that hard work was rewarded with
30 raises and steady jobs; they were confident the company would take care of them, their
31 families, their health, and their retirement. Success was tied to the success of their employer:
32 sacrifice when times were tough and a share in the wealth when times were good. In the new
33 economy, the rules have changed. We need to find new ways to help working families find
34 economic security: better training to help workers learn skills to get new and better jobs; the
35 security of good health care and safe pensions so they can take care of themselves and their
36 families. This is a challenge that American workers and managers are ready to face, and the
37 Democratic Party will continue to tackle.

38 *Rewarding work.* We honor work in America. Americans work hard, and they have a

1 right to expect that work will pay. We want to continue reversing the trend of the eighties, so
2 all Americans benefit from continued economic growth and rising wages. President Clinton
3 and Congressional Democrats fought for and won the largest expansion of the Earned Income
4 Tax Credit in history, a tax cut for 15 million working families, because no parent who takes
5 the responsibility to work full time should have to raise children in poverty. The President,
6 with Democrats in Congress, fought and defeated fierce Republican opposition, led by Senator
7 Dole and Speaker Gingrich, to raise the minimum wage to \$5.15 an hour, because the
8 minimum wage should be a wage you can live on. We want to strengthen families, and we
9 challenge the private sector to help their workers earn enough to support a family.

10 *Health care.* The Democratic Party is committed to ensuring that Americans have
11 access to affordable, high-quality health care. We have expanded the Women, Infants, and
12 Children program that provides prenatal and early childhood nutrition, so that all eligible
13 women, infants, and children will have access to the health and nutrition services they need.
14 We established a comprehensive effort to immunize children, after defeating Republican
15 opposition led by Senator Dole. Last year, the percentage of two-year-olds in America who
16 were fully immunized reached an historic high.

17 The Clinton-Gore Administration has dramatically shortened the approval process for
18 new lifesaving drugs at the Food and Drug Administration and will continue to work to
19 streamline the process further; we have paid special attention to women's health issues,
20 including a 65 percent increase for breast cancer research; and we have made AIDS research,
21 prevention, and treatment a top priority, increasing funding by almost 40 percent, including
22 more than doubling the Ryan White Care Act to help care for people with AIDS. We are
23 committed to finding a cure for breast cancer and AIDS, and doing more to help all Americans
24 live longer, healthier lives.

25 The Democratic Party is proud that we held the line against the Republicans' mean-
26 spirited Medicare and Medicaid cuts that would risk the health care of millions of Americans,
27 from infants to seniors. Senator Dole voted against Medicare when it was first created, and
28 now Republican leaders want Medicare to "wither on the vine." The Dole-Gingrich Medicare
29 plan would put millions of our parents into a second class health care system for the first time
30 in their lives, and we will not stand for it. The Dole-Gingrich Medicaid plan would end the
31 guarantee to meaningful health benefits for millions of children, older Americans, and people
32 with disabilities. The Democratic Party wants America to preserve and strengthen Medicare
33 and Medicaid, so we honor our values and protect the health of our children, parents, and
34 grandparents, ensuring they can get the health care they need, from doctors' visits to long-term
35 care.

36 In 1993 -- without a single Republican vote -- President Clinton and Democrats in
37 Congress extended the Medicare Trust Fund into the 21st century. We have given states
38 more flexibility to run their Medicaid programs more efficiently and expand coverage, while
39 maintaining the guarantee of meaningful benefits. When these plans are implemented, two

1 million more Americans will have health insurance because of them. We have given Medicare
2 beneficiaries more health plan choices and increased benefits. We have cracked down on
3 health care waste, fraud, and abuse, saving more than \$15 billion in three years. Now we
4 must finish the job -- we can balance the budget while we preserve and strengthen Medicare
5 and Medicaid, protecting millions of middle class families from being overwhelmed by health
6 care costs for their parents, children, or family members with disabilities.

7 We must move forward to reform our health care system to stop insurance companies
8 from denying coverage to families where one member has a preexisting condition, and we
9 must make sure that people can take their health insurance with them when they change jobs.
10 No more Americans should have to turn down a better job because they would lose their health
11 care if they took it. As we take steps to ensure that Americans have access to quality,
12 affordable health care, we should start by making sure that people get help paying premiums
13 so they do not lose health care while they're looking for a new job. We support expanded
14 coverage of home care, hospice, and community-based services, so the elderly and people with
15 disabilities of all ages can live in their own communities and as independently as possible.

16 *Retirement.* Over the last four years, President Clinton took strong steps to protect the
17 pensions of more than 40 million workers and retirees by fixing the federal pension insurance
18 system and demanding that companies fund their retirement plans fully. We established a
19 nationwide retirement protection program to protect workers' 401K retirements savings from
20 fraud and abuse. We recognize the unique concerns of women when it comes to preparing for
21 retirement have worked to protect women's pension rights.

22 Over the next four years, we want to take further steps to make sure that Americans
23 who have worked hard for their whole lives can enjoy retirement in the dignity and security
24 they have earned. We want to make sure people can carry their pensions with them when they
25 change jobs, protect pensions even further, and expand the number of workers with pension
26 coverage. Democrats created Social Security, we oppose efforts to dismantle it, and we will
27 fight to save it. We must ensure that it is on firm financial footing well into the next century.
28 We call on Republicans to put politics aside and join us in a serious bipartisan effort to make
29 sure that Social Security will continue to provide true security for future generations, as it has
30 done for millions of older Americans for decades.

31 *Training.* We must do more to make sure all Americans have the skills they need to
32 compete. We want a G.I. Bill for Workers to transform the confusing tangle of federal
33 training programs into a simple job-training skill grant that will go directly to unemployed
34 workers so they will be able to get the training that is right for them. We want to strengthen
35 training opportunities for people with disabilities, so they can learn the skills they need to live
36 independent, productive lives.

37
38 *Standing up for working Americans.* We nearly doubled funding for the dislocated
39 worker program and launched special projects to help workers displaced by base closures,

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1 natural disasters, and mass layoffs. We are reforming OSHA so it can do a better job to
2 protect worker safety with less red tape, and we continue to oppose Republican efforts to gut
3 it. We beat back efforts to undermine workers' rights to form and join unions and to
4 dismantle the enforcement powers of the National Labor Relations Board. We vigorously
5 oppose Republican efforts to pass Right-to-Work legislation, and to undermine collective
6 bargaining through the TEAM Act. We are working to eradicate sweatshops in the U.S.
7 apparel industry by stepping up enforcement and public education. We oppose the hiring of
8 permanent workers to replace lawful economic strikers; we support the President's action to
9 stop the government from requiring goods and services from companies that do so; and we
10 support legislation to prohibit the permanent replacement of lawfully striking workers. We
11 believe in equal pay for equal work and pay equity.

12 *Promoting economic growth and opportunity for all Americans.* We know that it is
13 good for America when small, minority, and women-owned businesses have the opportunity to
14 grow and prosper. These business-owners create new jobs, expand opportunities, and serve as
15 powerful role models for young people. Over the last four years, the President has
16 transformed the Small Business Administration to eliminate burdensome paperwork and deliver
17 real assistance to entrepreneurs as they work to start or expand their businesses. The
18 President ordered all federal agencies to comply with laws designed to ensure that small,
19 minority, and women-owned businesses can compete for their fair share of procurement
20 dollars.

21 *Corporate citizenship.* Employers have a responsibility to do their part as well.
22 President Clinton and the Democratic Party stand on the side of working families. We believe
23 that values like loyalty, fairness, and responsibility are not inconsistent with the bottom line.
24 We call on our corporate leaders to invest in the long-term, by providing workers with good
25 wages and benefits, education and training, and opportunities for greater involvement in
26 company decision making. As workers increase their productivity, employers should make
27 sure they share in the benefits of the good years, as well as the burdens of the bad ones.
28 Employers should respect the commitment of workers to their families, and should work to
29 provide good pensions and health care. When CEOs put their workers and long-term success
30 ahead of short-term gain, their workers will do better and so will they.

31 32 RESPONSIBILITY

33 Today's Democratic Party knows that the era of big government is over. Big
34 bureaucracies and Washington solutions do not have the real answers to today's challenges. We
35 need a smaller government . . . and we must have a larger national spirit. Government's job
36 should be to give people the tools they need to make the most of their own lives. Americans must
37 take the responsibility to use them, to build good lives for themselves and their families. Personal
38 responsibility is the most powerful force we have to meet our challenges and shape the future we
39 want for ourselves, for our children, and for America.

Handwritten note: "Go to the small business - support them" with an arrow pointing down.

1 **Fighting crime.** Today's Democratic Party believes the first responsibility of
2 government is law and order. Four years ago, crime in America seemed intractable. The
3 violent crime rate and the murder rate had climbed for seven straight years. Drugs seemed to
4 flow freely across our borders and into our neighborhoods. Convicted felons could walk into
5 any gun shop in the country and buy a handgun. Military-style assault weapons were sold
6 freely. Our people didn't feel safe in their homes, walking their streets, or even sending their
7 children to school. Under the thumb of special interests like the gun lobby, Republicans talked
8 tough about crime but did nothing to fight it.

9 Bill Clinton promised to turn things around, and that is exactly what he did. After a
10 long hard fight, President Clinton beat back fierce Republican opposition, led by Senator Dole
11 and Speaker Gingrich, to answer the call of America's police officers and pass the toughest
12 Crime Bill in history. The Democratic Party under President Clinton is putting more police on
13 the streets and tougher penalties on the books; we are taking guns off the streets and working
14 to steer young people away from crime and gangs and drugs in the first place. And it is
15 making a difference. In city after city and town after town, crime rates are finally coming
16 down.

17 *Community policing.* Nothing is more effective in the fight against crime than police
18 officers on the beat, engaged in community policing. The Crime Bill is putting 100,000 new
19 police officers on the street. We deplore cynical Republican attempts to undermine our
20 promise to America to put 100,000 new police officers on the street. We pledge to stand up
21 for our communities and stand with our police officers by opposing any attempt to repeal or
22 weaken this effort. But we know that community policing only works when the community
23 works with the police. We echo the President's challenge to Americans: If 50 citizens joined
24 each of America's 20,000 neighborhood watch groups, we would have a citizen force of one
25 million strong to give our police forces the backup they need.

26 *Protecting our children, our neighborhoods, and our police from criminals with guns.*
27 Bob Dole, Newt Gingrich, and George Bush were able to hold the Brady Bill hostage for the
28 gun lobby until Bill Clinton became President. With his leadership, we made the Brady Bill
29 the law of the land. And because we did, more than 60,000 felons, fugitives, and stalkers
30 have been stopped from buying guns. President Clinton led the fight to ban 19 deadly assault
31 weapons, designed for one purpose only -- to kill human beings. We oppose efforts to restrict
32 weapons used for legitimate sporting purposes, and we are proud that not one hunter or
33 sportsman was forced to change guns because of the assault weapons ban. But we know that
34 the military-style guns we banned have no place on America's streets, and we are proud of the
35 courageous Democrats who defied the gun lobby and sacrificed their seats in Congress to make
36 America safer.

37 Today's Democratic Party stands with America's police officers. We are proud to tell
38 them that as long as Bill Clinton and Al Gore are in the White House, any attempt to repeal
39 the Brady Bill or assault weapons ban will be met with a veto. We must do everything we can

1 to stand behind our police officers, and the first thing we should do is pass a ban on cop-killer
2 bullets. Any bullet that can rip through a bulletproof vest should be against the law; that is the
3 least we can do to protect the brave police officers who risk their lives to protect us.

4 *Tough punishment.* We believe that people who break the law should be punished, and
5 people who commit violent crimes should be punished severely. President Clinton made three-
6 strikes-you're-out the law of the land, to ensure that the most dangerous criminals go to jail for
7 life, with no chance of parole, and signed a law to limit appeals. We established the death
8 penalty for nearly 50 violent crimes, including murder of a law enforcement officer. We
9 provided almost \$8 billion in new funding to help states build new prison cells so violent
10 offenders serve their full sentences. We call on the states to meet the President's challenge
11 and guarantee that serious violent criminals serve at least 85 percent of their sentence. The
12 American people deserve a criminal justice system in which criminals are caught, the guilty
13 are convicted, and the convicted serve their time.

14 *Fighting youth crime and violence.* Nothing we do to fight crime is more important
15 than fighting the crime and violence that threatens our children. We have to protect them from
16 criminals who prey on them -- and we have to teach them good values and give them
17 something to say yes to, so they stay away from crime and trouble in the first place.

18 The Democratic Party understands what the police have been saying for years: The best
19 way to fight crime is to prevent it. That is why we fought for drug-education and gang-
20 prevention programs in our schools. We support well thought out, well organized, highly
21 supervised youth programs to provide young people with a safe and healthy alternative to
22 hanging out on the streets. We made it a federal crime for any person under the age of 18 to
23 carry a handgun except when supervised by an adult. It is why Democrats fought to pass, and
24 President Clinton ordered states to impose, zero tolerance for guns in school, requiring schools
25 to expel for one year any student who brings a gun to school.

26 At the same time, when young people cross the line, they must be punished. When
27 young people commit serious violent crimes, they should be prosecuted like adults. We
28 established boot camps for young non-violent offenders. If Senator Dole and the Republicans
29 are serious about fighting juvenile crime, they should listen to America's police officers and
30 support the steps Democrats have taken, because they are making a difference, and then they
31 should join us as we work to do more.

32 We want parents to bring order to their children's lives and teach them right from
33 wrong, and we want to make it easier for them to take that responsibility. We support schools
34 that adopt school uniform policies, to promote discipline and respect. We support community-
35 based curfews to keep kids off the street after a certain time, so they're safe from harm and
36 away from trouble. We urge schools and communities to enforce truancy laws: Young people
37 belong in school, not on the street.

1 We also know that we must do everything we can to help families protect their
2 children, especially from dangerous criminals who have made a dark habit of preying on
3 young people. Study after study shows that sex offenders are likely to repeat their crimes again
4 and again. Under President Clinton, we have taken strong steps to help keep children safe.
5 We required every state in the country to compile a registry of sex offenders. The President
6 signed Megan's Law to require that states tell a community whenever a dangerous sexual
7 predator enters its midst. We support the President's directive to the Attorney General, calling
8 on her to work with the states and Congress to develop a national sex offender registry. This
9 will ensure that police officers in every state can get the information they need from any state
10 to track sex offenders down and bring them to justice when they commit new crimes.

11 *Battling illegal drugs.* We must keep drugs off our streets and out of our schools.
12 President Clinton and the Democratic Party have waged an aggressive war on drugs. The Crime
13 Bill established the death penalty for drug kingpins. The President signed a directive requiring
14 drug testing of anyone arrested for a federal crime, and he challenged states to do the same for
15 state offenders. We established innovative drug courts which force drug users to get treatment or
16 go to jail. We stood firm against Republican efforts to gut the Safe and Drug Free Schools effort
17 that supports successful drug-education programs like D.A.R.E. The Clinton Administration
18 went to the Supreme Court to support the right of schools to test athletes for drugs. The
19 President launched Operation Safe Home to protect the law-abiding residents of public housing
20 from violent criminals and drug dealers who use their homes as a base for illegal activities. We
21 support the President's decision to tell those who commit crimes and peddle drugs in public
22 housing: You will get no second chance to threaten your neighbors; it is one strike and you're
23 out. We are making progress. Overall drug use in America is dropping; the number of Americans
24 who use cocaine has dropped 30 percent since 1992. Unfortunately casual drug use by young
25 people continues to climb. We must redouble our efforts against drug abuse everywhere,
26 especially among our children.

27 Earlier this year, the President appointed General Barry McCaffrey to lead the nation's
28 war on drugs. General McCaffrey is implementing an aggressive four part strategy to reach
29 young children and prevent drug use in the first place; to catch and punish drug users and dealers;
30 to provide treatment to those who need help; and to cut drugs off at the source before they cross
31 the border and pollute our neighborhoods. But every adult in America must take responsibility to
32 set a good example, and to teach children that drugs are wrong, they are illegal, and they are
33 deadly.

34 *Ending domestic violence.* When it strikes, nothing is a more dangerous threat to the
35 safety of our families than domestic violence, because it is a threat from within.
36 Unfortunately, violence against women is no stranger to America, but a dangerous intruder we
37 must work together to drive from our homes. We know that domestic violence is not a
38 "family problem" or a "women's problem." It is America's problem, and we must all fight it.
39 The Violence Against Women Act in the 1994 Crime Bill helps police officers, prosecutors,
40 and judges to understand domestic violence, recognize it when they see it, and know how to

1 deal with it. In February, the President launched a 24 hour, seven-day, toll-free hotline so
2 women in trouble can find out how to get emergency help, find shelter, and report abuse to the
3 authorities. The number is 1 800 799-SAFE. Everyone who knows it should pass it on to
4 anyone who might need it. Every American must take the responsibility to stop this terrible
5 scourge. As we fight it, we must remember that the victims are not to blame. This is a crime
6 to be punished, not a secret to be concealed.

7 We must do everything we can to make sure that the victims of violent crime are
8 treated with the respect and the dignity they deserve. We support the President's call for a
9 constitutional amendment to protect the rights of victims. We believe that when a plea bargain
10 is entered in public, a criminal is sentenced, or a defendant is let out on bail, the victims ought
11 to know about it, and have a say. A constitutional amendment is the only way to protect those
12 rights in every courtroom in America.

13 **Immigration.** Democrats remember that we are a nation of immigrants. We recognize
14 the extraordinary contribution of immigrants to America throughout our history. We welcome
15 legal immigrants to America. We support a legal immigration policy that is pro-family, pro-work,
16 pro-responsibility, and pro-citizenship, and we deplore those who blame immigrants for economic
17 and social problems. But today's Democratic Party also believes that we must remain a nation
18 of laws. We cannot tolerate illegal immigration and we must stop it. For years before Bill
19 Clinton became President, Washington talked tough but failed to act. In 1992, our borders
20 might as well not have existed. The Southwest border was under-patrolled, and what patrols
21 there were, were under-equipped. Drugs flowed freely. Illegal immigration was rampant.
22 Criminal immigrants, deported after committing crimes in America, returned the very next day
23 to commit crimes again.

24 President Clinton is making the Southwest border a place where the law is respected
25 and drugs and illegal immigrants are turned away. We have increased the Border Patrol by
26 over 40 percent; in El Paso, our Border Patrol agents are so close together they can see each
27 other. Last year alone, the Clinton Administration removed over 11,000 illegal workers from
28 jobs across the country. Just since January of 1995, we have arrested more than 1,700
29 criminal aliens and prosecuted them on federal felony charges because they returned to
30 America after having been deported.

31 However, as we work to stop illegal immigration, we call on all Americans to avoid
32 the temptation to use this issue to divide people from each other. We deplore those who use
33 the need to stop illegal immigration as a pretext for discrimination. And we applaud the
34 wisdom of Republicans like Mayor Giuliani and Senator Domenici who oppose the mean-
35 spirited and short-sighted effort of Republicans in Congress to bar the children of illegal
36 immigrants from schools -- it is wrong, and forcing children onto the streets is an invitation for
37 them to join gangs and turn to crime. Democrats want to protect American jobs by increasing
38 criminal and civil sanctions against employers who hire illegal workers, but Republicans continue
39 to favor inflammatory rhetoric over real action. We will continue to enforce labor standards to

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1 protect workers in vulnerable industries. We continue to firmly oppose welfare benefits for illegal
2 immigrants. We believe family members who sponsor immigrants into this country should take
3 financial responsibility for them, and be held legally responsible for supporting them.

4 **Welfare reform.** Today's Democratic Party knows there is no greater gap between
5 mainstream American values and modern American government than our failed welfare system.
6 When Bill Clinton became President, the welfare system undermined the very values -- work,
7 family, and personal responsibility -- that it should promote. The welfare system should reflect
8 those values: we want to help people who want to help themselves and their children.

9 Over the past four years, President Clinton -- acting alone -- has dramatically transformed
10 the welfare system. He has freed 40 states from federal rules and regulations so they can reform
11 their welfare systems. The Clinton Administration has granted 67 waivers -- more than twice as
12 many waivers as granted in the Reagan-Bush years. For 75 percent of all Americans on welfare,
13 the rules have changed for good already, and welfare is becoming what it should be: a second
14 chance, not a way of life. Welfare rolls are finally coming down -- there are 1.3 million fewer
15 people on welfare today than there were when President Clinton took office in January 1993.

16 The President has also taken strong executive action to make sure that the welfare system
17 strengthens families and demands responsibility. He ordered states to require minor mothers to
18 stay in school and turn their lives around so they can get a job and get off welfare for good. He
19 also directed states to require mothers to help identify and find absent fathers so we can make
20 them pay the child support they owe. He challenged all states to require teen mothers to live at
21 home or with a responsible adult. And the President fought to make sure that poor children get
22 health care and nutrition to meet their basic needs.

23 Now we must finish the job, and pass national welfare reform. Unfortunately, the plan
24 proposed by Senator Dole and Speaker Gingrich was weak on work and tough on children. That
25 is the wrong approach. We should be tough on work and demand responsibility, but we should
26 not punish children for their parents' mistakes. A real bipartisan welfare reform plan should
27 require that, anyone on welfare who can work, goes to work. And we should provide child care
28 and health care so parents can work. We should impose strict time limits so that no one who can
29 work can stay on welfare forever. We should require minor mothers to live with their parents or
30 another responsible adult. If the Republican Party puts politics aside, we can finish the job
31 President Clinton started, and end welfare as we know it across America. Passing legislation is
32 not enough; we should make sure people get the skills they need to get jobs, and that there are
33 jobs for them to go to so they leave welfare and stay off. Welfare reform should put more people
34 to work and move them into the economic mainstream, not take jobs away from working families.

35 *Child support.* Nobody has the right to walk away from the responsibility to care for his
36 or her children. If you owe child support, paying it fully and promptly is just the first step in living
37 up to your responsibility as a parent. The Clinton Administration has made a determined effort to
38 crack down on deadbeat parents, collecting a record \$11 billion in 1995 through tough

for more

1 to expand opportunity, not bureaucracy. We have worked hard over the last four years to rein in
2 big government, slash burdensome regulations, eliminate wasteful programs, and shift problem-
3 solving out of Washington and back to people and communities who understand their situations
4 best.

5 In the last four years, President Clinton, working with the National Performance Review
6 chaired by Vice President Gore, has cut the federal government by almost 240,000 positions,
7 making the smallest federal government in 30 years. The federal government is eliminating 16,000
8 pages of outdated and unnecessary regulations, has abolished 179 programs and projects, and
9 saved taxpayers billions of dollars. The President fought for and signed unfunded mandates
10 legislation. This stops Congress from requiring state and local governments to implement
11 expensive policies without providing any means to pay for them, and encourages better
12 partnerships and more balance of resources and responsibilities. After presidents since Ulysses S.
13 Grant tried to get the line-item veto and failed, President Clinton signed landmark legislation that
14 will give the President this powerful tool to cut pork-barrel spending from bills passed by
15 Congress.

16 For years, Republicans talked about making government smaller while letting it grow --
17 Democrats are doing it. For years, Republicans talked about cutting the deficit while letting it
18 climb -- Democrats are doing it. For years, Republicans talked about shifting power back to
19 states and communities -- Democrats are doing it. For years, Republicans talked about making
20 government more businesslike and efficient -- Democrats are doing it. Democrats are bringing
21 responsibility back to Washington. In the last two years, Republicans under Senator Dole and
22 Speaker Gingrich shut the federal government down in an irresponsible attempt at partisan
23 blackmail. Democrats under President Clinton said, and America agreed: Partisan threats are no
24 way to run a government. Nobody should ever shut down the government again. The Republican
25 shutdown cost the taxpayers \$1.4 billion. Democrats believe government should work better and
26 cost less -- not work less and cost more.

27 The Republican shutdown was an affront to the hardworking public servants in our cities,
28 towns, states, and nation who devote their lives to improving life in our country. Thanks to them
29 our streets are safer, our water is cleaner, and our nation is secure. Front-line federal workers
30 committed to providing quality services have joined the President's efforts to make government
31 work better for the American people. With their help, we are saving money for the taxpayers and
32 improving services for our people.

33 In the last four years, we have transformed the Federal Emergency Management Agency
34 from an outdated bureaucracy into a swift and effective agent of relief for victims of earthquakes,
35 floods, hurricanes, or other disasters. Americans with life-threatening diseases like cancer and
36 AIDS gain access to new drugs faster, because the Food and Drug Administration has streamlined
37 its approval process, become more flexible in certifications, and eliminated unnecessary
38 paperwork. The Small Business Administration has eliminated half of its regulations, cut loan
39 applications as long as 100 pages down to one, and doubled its loan volume -- all helping

1 Americans to produce record numbers of small businesses in each of the last three years.
2 American homebuyers are saving an average of \$1,000 in closing costs because the Department of
3 Housing and Urban Development has eliminated paperwork and other unnecessary burdens.

4 Over the next four years, the Democratic Party will continue to make responsibility the
5 rule in Washington: cutting bureaucracy further, improving customer service, demanding better
6 performance, holding people and agencies accountable for producing the best results, ensuring all
7 Americans have access to high quality public services, and forging new partnerships with the
8 private sector including small, minority- and women-owned businesses, and with state and local
9 governments.

10 **Political reform.** Today's Democratic Party knows we have a responsibility to make
11 our democracy work better for America, by limiting the influence of special interests and
12 expanding the influence of the American people. Special interests have too much power in the
13 halls of government. They often operate in secret and have special privileges ordinary
14 Americans do not even know exist. Elections have become so expensive that big money can
15 sometimes drown out the voices of ordinary voters -- who should always speak the loudest.

16 Shortly after Bill Clinton took office, he implemented the toughest ethics code on
17 executive officials in history: Senior appointees are barred from lobbying their own agencies
18 for five years after they leave, and they can never lobby for foreign governments. After years
19 of Republican delay, Democrats passed and the President signed the Motor Voter Bill to make
20 it easier for people to participate in our democracy and exercise their civic responsibility in the
21 voting booth. The President led the fight to repeal the tax loophole that let lobbyists deduct
22 the cost of their activities, and prevailed. In 1995, after a Republican filibuster, Congress
23 finally answered the President's call to stop taking gifts, meals, and trips from lobbyists; to
24 bring lobbyists out from dark rooms and into the bright light of public scrutiny by requiring
25 full disclosure; and to apply to itself the laws that apply to the rest of the country.

26 But we must take further strong action. The President and the Democratic Party
27 support the bipartisan McCain-Feingold campaign finance reform bill. It will limit campaign
28 spending, curb the influence of PACs and lobbyists, and end the soft money system. Perhaps
29 most important of all, this bill provides free TV time for candidates, so they can talk directly
30 to citizens about real issues and real ideas. Unfortunately, Republicans in Congress will not
31 even let this bill come up for a vote. We call on them to stop stonewalling. It is time to take
32 the reins of democracy away from big money and put them back in the hands of the American
33 people, where they belong. We applaud efforts by broadcasters and private citizens alike, to
34 increase candidates' direct access to voters through free TV.

35 Finally, we believe all Americans have a right to fair political representation --
36 including the citizens of the District of Columbia which deserves statehood. We recognize the
37 existing status of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the strong economic relationship
38 between the people of Puerto Rico and the United States. We pledge to support the right of the

1 people of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to choose freely, and in concert with the U.S.
2 Congress their relationship with the United States, either as an enhanced commonwealth, a state
3 or an independent nation.

4 **SECURITY, FREEDOM, AND PEACE**

5 The firm, sustained use of American might and diplomacy helped win the greatest victory
6 for freedom in this half-century -- the end of the Cold War. But to meet the challenges of
7 this new era of promise and peril, America needed leadership that was able to see the contours of
8 the new world -- and willing to act with steadiness, strength, and flexibility in the face of change
9 to make the most of it.

10 President Clinton and Vice President Gore have seized the opportunities of the post Cold
11 War era. Over the past four years, their leadership has made America safer, more prosperous, and
12 more engaged in solving the challenges of a new era.

13 Four years ago, thousands of Russian nuclear weapons were aimed at American cities.
14 Today, not a single Russian missile points at our children, and through the START treaties, we
15 will cut American and Russian nuclear arsenals by two-thirds from their Cold War height.

16 Four years ago, the forces of reform in the former Soviet Union were embattled. Today,
17 U.S. initiatives are helping democracy and free markets take root throughout the region, Russian
18 troops are out of the Baltics, and democracy has triumphed in Russia's elections.

19 Four years ago, the Middle East process had not moved beyond a set of principles, and
20 there were no signs of peace in Northern Ireland. Today, in the Middle East we have seen real
21 agreements toward peace, and handshakes of history, and the people of Northern Ireland have
22 seen a cease-fire and the first negotiations among the parties.

23 Four years ago, the North Koreans were operating a dangerous nuclear program. Today,
24 that program is frozen, under international inspection, and slated to be dismantled.

25 Four years ago, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization -- the bulwark of Western security
26 during the Cold War -- was losing direction and support. Today, NATO is keeping the peace in
27 Bosnia with its Partnership for Peace allies and, as a result of American leadership, preparing to
28 welcome new members from Central Europe.

29 Four years ago, America stood aloof as war and genocide spread through the former
30 Yugoslavia. Today, thanks to NATO airstrikes, American diplomacy and the deployment of
31 troops from the U.S. and other nations, the war has stopped and Bosnia has its first real chance
32 for a lasting peace.

1 Four years ago, dictators ruled in Haiti, abusing human rights and leaving hundreds of its
2 citizens desperate to flee to our shores. Today, the dictators are gone, democracy has been
3 restored, and Haiti's mass-exodus has stopped.

4 Four years ago, South Africa was struggling under political violence associated with
5 apartheid. Now, following the 1994 elections -- which the United States strongly supported --
6 there is a national unity government and South Africa is free and democratic.

7 Four years ago, there was good reason to worry that the world was dividing into separate,
8 isolated, regional trading blocks. Today, thanks to Clinton Administration efforts to find new
9 markets for American products and strengthen our existing ties, America's relations with our
10 trading parties around the world are stronger than ever. We applaud efforts like the Summit of
11 the Americas, the Asian Pacific Economic Council meetings, and, especially, the extraordinary
12 leadership of Commerce Secretary Ron Brown on behalf of American industry and workers
13 everywhere. Ron Brown will always be remembered with great pride and the deepest gratitude by
14 the Democratic Party and by all Americans.

15 The Clinton-Gore Administration's record of leadership has deterred America's
16 adversaries and earned respect from our allies and partners. The Dole-Gingrich Congress and the
17 Republican Party have a different approach to America's security. Too often they would force
18 America to go it alone -- or not at all. Their shortsighted approach has cut resources for
19 diplomacy that could strengthen our security, and reflects an inadequate understanding of the
20 threats and opportunities of this new era.

21 Today's Democratic Party is unwilling to surrender to the voices of retreat and
22 indifference. We believe the only way to ensure America's security and prosperity over the long
23 run is to continue exerting American leadership across a range of military, diplomatic, and
24 humanitarian, challenges around the world. Led by President Clinton and Vice President Gore,
25 today's Democratic Party has set a far reaching agenda to strengthen our security, and promote
26 peace and freedom.

27 **Strengthening our security.** The highest imperative for our security is the protection of
28 our people, our territory, and our key interests abroad. While both parties share a commitment to
29 strong security, there is a real difference. The Republican desire to spend more money on defense
30 than the Pentagon requests cannot obscure their inability to recognize the challenges of a new era
31 and build the balanced defenses we need to meet them.

32 Today's Democratic Party is committed to strengthening our military and adapting it to
33 new challenges; reducing the threat of weapons of mass destruction; and meeting new challenges
34 to our security such as terrorism, international crime, and drug trafficking.

35 *Strengthening our military.* Over the past four years, the Administration has undertaken
36 the most successful restructuring of our military forces in history. Even as the size of our forces

1 has decreased, their capabilities, readiness and qualitative edge have increased. The
2 Administration has ensured that America is prepared to fight alongside others when we can, and
3 alone when we must. We have defeated attempts to cut our defense budget irresponsibly. Three
4 times in three years, President Clinton has increased defense resources -- a total of almost \$50
5 billion -- for readiness, force modernization, and quality of life improvements. We will continue
6 our work to ensure that the men and women who wear American uniforms receive adequate pay
7 and support, including: childcare, housing, and access to quality health care for themselves and
8 their families. The Administration defense plan reverses the downward trend in procurement with
9 a 40% real increase for weapons modernization by 2001. At the same time, as part of its
10 reinventing government program, the Administration has fundamentally reformed government
11 procurement rules in order to get the most for our money.

12 Repeatedly during the past four years -- from the Persian Gulf to Bosnia -- our men and
13 women in uniform have proven they are the best trained, best equipped, best prepared fighting
14 force in the world. The Democratic Party is committed to build on this record by fully funding the
15 Pentagon's 5-year defense plan; undertaking a second fundamental review of our defense
16 structure; finding new ways for our service branches to work jointly to increase our war fighting
17 capabilities; and ensuring that our troops can dominate the battlefield of the future.

18 We honor America's veterans; they put their lives on the line to protect our way of life and
19 promote our values around the world. Today's Democratic Party will stand by America's duty to
20 our veterans. President Clinton and Vice President Gore have fought hard to protect veterans'
21 benefits; to expand disability benefits for Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent Orange;
22 aggressively responding to veterans of the Persian Gulf War suffering from undiagnosed illnesses;
23 promoting veterans employment; and improving and strengthening the medical system of the
24 Veterans' Administration.

25
26 *Reducing the threat of weapons of mass destruction.* Strengthening our security also
27 requires an aggressive effort against weapons of mass destruction -- nuclear, chemical, and
28 biological -- and their means of delivery. From the nuclear weapons programs in Iraq and North
29 Korea to the Sarin gas attack in the Tokyo subway, our nation has seen that this threat is clear
30 and present. To meet it, we must seize the opportunities presented by the end of the Cold War to
31 cut weapons of mass destruction stockpiles while working to prevent lethal weapons and
32 materials from falling into the wrong hands.

33 President Clinton and Vice President Gore have pursued the most far reaching arms
34 control and non-proliferation agenda in history. They negotiated an agreement to end the
35 targeting of Russian nuclear missiles on American cities and citizens. They ratified START II
36 which, along with START I, will reduce Russian and American arsenals by two-thirds. They
37 prevented the breakup of the Soviet Union from yielding three new nuclear weapons states, by
38 convincing Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan to give up their nuclear weapons. They secured the
39 indefinite and unconditional extension of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. They acted to
40 freeze North Korea's nuclear program.

1 The Democratic Party supports efforts to sign a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty this year
2 and to bring it into force as soon as possible. We support immediate ratification of the Chemical
3 Weapons Convention -- delayed too long by the Dole Senate. We support full funding of the
4 Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction program to ensure that nuclear materials in the former
5 Soviet Union do not fall into the wrong hands. We support vigilant efforts, in cooperation with
6 the Republic of Korea, Japan, and others, to ensure North Korea fully abides by its agreements to
7 dismantle its nuclear program, and we support the Administration's vigorous efforts to prevent
8 Iraq, Iran, and other dangerous states from acquiring or developing weapons of mass destruction.

9 The Democratic Party is committed to a strong and balanced National Missile Defense
10 program. The Administration is spending \$3 billion a year on six different systems to protect our
11 troops in the field and our allies from short and medium range missiles. To prepare for the
12 possibility of a long range missile attack on American soil by a rogue state, the Clinton
13 Administration is committed to developing by the year 2000 a defensive system that could be
14 deployed by 2003, well before the threat becomes real. The Democratic Party opposes the
15 Republican NMD plan -- spending up to \$60 billion on a revival of the Star Wars program that
16 would force us to choose a costly system today that could be obsolete tomorrow. The
17 Republican plan would waste money, weaken America's defenses and violate existing arms
18 control agreements that make us more secure. It is the wrong way to defend America.

19 *Meeting new challenges.* Today's Democratic Party knows that stronger security requires
20 vigorous efforts to address the new dangers of this era. Chief among these are the interwoven
21 threats of terrorism, drug trafficking, and international crime. We have seen the terrible toll they
22 have exacted -- the murder of American soldiers in their barracks in Saudi Arabia and of innocent
23 civilians on buses in Israel; corruption and crime from the former Soviet Union to Latin America.
24 We know these vicious criminals pay no heed to borders; we have seen firsthand the awful, evil
25 work of the forces of terror at the World Trade Center and in Oklahoma City. And we know all
26 too well the havoc drugs wreak when they cross our borders and flow through our
27 neighborhoods.

28 The Clinton-Gore Administration has mounted the most aggressive effort in American
29 history to combat terrorism, drug trafficking, and international crime. We captured and convicted
30 the perpetrators of the World Trade Center bombing. We enacted a strong new anti-terrorism
31 law, in spite of foot dragging by the Republican Congress. We convened an historic summit of
32 Mideast leaders at Sharm el-Sheik to coordinate anti-terrorism efforts, and made anti-terrorism a
33 centerpiece of the 1996 G-7 summit. We imposed strong sanctions against states that sponsor
34 terrorism, including Iran, Iraq, Libya, and Sudan, and made clear to Syria that normal relations
35 depend on concrete steps to end its support for groups involved with terrorism. We opposed
36 irresponsible cuts to U.S. intelligence programs and supported efforts to reorganize and
37 strengthen the full range of intelligence agencies and programs. We opened FBI centers to
38 provide anti-crime and anti-terrorism training. We made Colombia ineligible for most American
39 assistance after that country's leadership failed to cooperate with American anti-narcotics efforts.

1 Today's Democratic Party is determined to keep the war on global terrorism, narcotics,
2 and crime at the center of our security agenda. We will seek increased cooperation from our
3 allies and friends abroad in fighting these threats. We will continue to work aggressively to shut
4 off foreign drug flows, eradicate foreign drug crops, and assist countries that demonstrate active
5 cooperation.

6 **Promoting peace and democracy.** Today's Democratic Party knows that peace and
7 democracy are products of decisive strength and active diplomacy. That diplomacy must protect
8 our interests while also projecting our values. The Republican Party too often has neglected
9 diplomatic opportunities, slashed the budgets necessary for diplomatic successes, and overlooked
10 the importance to our own security of democracy and human rights abroad. At its core, the
11 Republican Party is locked in a Cold War mentality, and lacks a coherent strategy to nurture and
12 strengthen the global progress toward peace and democracy.

13 The Democratic Party believes a key to strengthening peace is stable and peaceful
14 relations among the world's major powers. That has been the driving force behind much of the
15 Clinton-Gore Administration's work, from its peace initiative in Bosnia to new security
16 agreements with Japan. We are committed to promoting democracy in regions and countries
17 important to America's security, and to standing with all those willing to take risks for peace,
18 from the Middle East to Northern Ireland. And we are committed to doing it with all the tools we
19 have: with diplomacy where possible, with force where necessary, and working with others where
20 appropriate -- our allies, willing partners, the U.N. and other security organizations -- to share the
21 risks and costs of our leadership.

22 *Europe and the former Soviet Union.* Today's Democratic Party knows that the security
23 of Europe remains a vital American interest. We applaud the Clinton-Gore Administration's
24 efforts to foster a peaceful, democratic and undivided Europe -- including expanded support for
25 reform in former communist states; dramatically increased assistance to Ukraine; the Partnership
26 for Peace program of military cooperation with Europe's new democracies; its steady, determined
27 work to add new Central European members to NATO in the near future; and its efforts to
28 resolve regional disputes such as between Greece and Turkey. We support continued efforts to
29 secure a just and lasting peace in Bosnia, Northern Ireland and Cyprus. We are committed to the
30 success of independence in Ukraine and the Baltics. And we support the continuing evolution of
31 a prosperous and peaceful Russia. And as part of our effort to support we will pursue a
32 relationship in which we seek cooperation when we can, and frankly express disagreements where
33 they exist, such as on Chechnya.

34 *Asia.* We know that many of America's most pressing security challenges and most
35 promising commercial opportunities lie in the Asia Pacific region. The Democratic Party applauds
36 the important new security charter with Japan, the Administration's close cooperation with the
37 Republic of Korea toward the goal of a unified and non-nuclear peninsula, and the deployment of
38 an American naval task force to the Taiwan Straits to ensure that China's military exercises did
39 not imperil the security of Taiwan or the region. The Party supports the Administration's policy

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1 of steady engagement to encourage a stable, open and prosperous China -- a China that respects
2 human rights throughout its land and in Tibet, that joins international efforts against weapons
3 proliferation, and that plays by the rules of free and fair trade. Today's Democratic Party strongly
4 supports continued American troop presence in East Asia and efforts to promote increased
5 regional security. And we are committed to building long-term relationships with India, Pakistan,
6 and others in South Asia in order to advance America's diverse interests in that region, from
7 democracy and commerce to nuclear non-proliferation.

8 *The Middle East.* President Clinton has overseen a remarkable record of achievement
9 toward peace and security in the Middle East -- the Israeli-Palestinian accords; the peace
10 agreement between Israel and Jordan; new regional security and investment summits; Israel's
11 increased acceptance throughout the Middle East and the world; the dual containment of Iraq and
12 Iran. The Democratic Party is committed to help build on this record, knowing that peace and
13 security are indivisible. The Democratic Party remains committed to America's long-standing
14 special relationship with Israel, based on shared values, a mutual commitment to democracy and a
15 strategic alliance that benefits both nations. Jerusalem is the capital of Israel and should remain
16 an undivided city accessible to people of all faiths. We also support close ties with states and
17 peoples in the Arab and Islamic world committed to non-aggression and willing to take risks for
18 peace.

19 *Latin America.* The Clinton-Gore Administration forged an historic partnership with the
20 democracies of the Western Hemisphere -- and now every country in the Hemisphere is a
21 democracy except Cuba -- reflected in the 1994 Summit of the Americas. Because democratic
22 stability and prosperity in the countries to our south are in their interest and ours, President
23 Clinton took bold steps to bolster Mexico's economy when it was threatened by crisis; worked to
24 resolve internal and border conflicts in the Hemisphere; joined with regional partners to combat
25 narcotics trafficking; and maintained a tough embargo against Cuba while reaching out to its
26 people. The Democratic Party is committed to consolidating democracy, stability, and open
27 markets throughout the hemisphere.

28 *Africa.* The Clinton Administration championed South Africa's democratic transition;
29 supported Africa's many emerging democracies and led international efforts to speed the return of
30 democracy in Nigeria; helped save countless lives in Somalia, Rwanda, and elsewhere through
31 conflict resolution, removal of land mines, and humanitarian relief; and took steps to help sub-
32 Saharan Africa's 700 million people develop into strong economies and markets. The Democratic
33 Party believes that continuing to help the people of Africa nurture their continent's extraordinary
34 potential and address its serious problems is both the right thing to do and profoundly in
35 America's interest.

36 *Promoting democracy.* America remains a beacon of hope to all who cherish democracy
37 and human rights, and America's security benefits from the enlargement of the community of
38 market democracies. The Clinton-Gore Administration has actively promoted the consolidation
39 and spread of democracy and human rights: in Russia and throughout the former Soviet Union,

1 Central Europe, Latin America, Asia and Africa. President Clinton directed Vice President Gore
2 to lead bi-national efforts to establish trading relationships to help promote democracy in three
3 strategic areas: Russia, South Africa, and Egypt. The Democratic Party supports the aspirations
4 of all those who seek to strengthen civil society and accountable governance. To this end, we
5 support continued funding for the National Endowment for Democracy, Radio Free Europe/Radio
6 Liberty, the Asia Pacific Network, Radio Marti and other efforts to promote democracy and the
7 free flow of ideas.

8 *Resources for diplomacy.* There is a price to be paid for America's security and its
9 leadership in world affairs -- and the Republican Party now refuses to pay that price. Even though
10 less than one percent of the federal budget goes to foreign policy spending, the Republican Party
11 has savaged our diplomatic readiness, defaulted on treaty obligations to pay dues to the United
12 Nations, slashed assistance to the poorest and most vulnerable populations on earth, and pushed
13 the United States to dead last among developed nations in the global fight against starvation,
14 infant mortality, natural disasters and environmental degradation and other worldwide problems.
15 The Democratic Party understands that these efforts strengthen our security and express our
16 values, and strongly supports the Clinton-Gore Administration's work to ensure adequate
17 resources for American foreign policy.

18 COMMUNITY

19 Across America, in far too many places, the bonds of community that tie us together and
20 remind us that we rise or fall together, have too often frayed. Today's Democratic Party believes
21 we must reawaken the strong sense of community that has helped America to prosper for 220
22 years. America is uniquely suited to lead the world into the 21st century because of our great
23 diversity and our shared values. We must never let our differences divide us from each other;
24 instead we must come together on a new common ground, based on the enduring values we
25 share. When Americans work together -- in our homes, our schools, our houses of worship, our
26 civic groups, our businesses -- we can meet any challenge, and realize every dream.

27 **Putting families first.** The first and most sacred responsibility of every parent is to
28 cherish our children and strengthen our families. The family is the foundation of American life.
29 After 12 years of all family-values-talk and no family-values-action by the Republicans, President
30 Clinton took office determined to put families first. We support the fundamental themes of the
31 Families First Agenda -- promoting paycheck, health care, retirement, and personal security;
32 creating greater educational and economic opportunity; and requiring greater responsibility from
33 individuals, businesses, and government.

34 *Standing up for parents.* In the first month of Bill Clinton's Presidency, the Democratic
35 Party ended eight years of Republican gridlock and enacted the Family and Medical Leave
36 Act. Americans blessed with a new child or troubled by a family health crisis can no longer be
37 forced to choose between their families and their jobs. A bipartisan panel reported that 12

1 million workers have already been able to live up to their family obligations without risking
2 their jobs. And almost 90 percent of businesses found that complying with this law cost them
3 little or nothing. Despite how important this is to American families, Senator Dole led
4 Republican opposition to it and still insists it was wrong. This law is good for families, it is
5 good for America, and it would not be the law today without the Democratic Party.

6 Now we want to take the next step. We believe parents should be able to take unpaid
7 leave from work and choose flex time so they can do their job as parents: to do things like go to
8 parent-teacher conferences or take a child to the doctor. We support tax credits to encourage
9 adoption, because every child deserves a mother and father who will love them and raise them.

10 *Responsible entertainment.* President Clinton and Vice President Gore have led the fight
11 to help parents control what their children see on television. Because of their leadership, Congress
12 passed a law requiring all new televisions to include a device called a V-chip that will block
13 violent programs when it is activated by an adult. Senator Dole likes to talk about TV violence,
14 but when it came time to act, he stood with a small minority to oppose the bipartisan V-chip bill.
15 The President achieved a breakthrough agreement with the media and entertainment industries to
16 develop a rating system for TV shows similar to the motion picture rating system, so parents can
17 make informed decisions about what they want their children to watch. When parents control the
18 remote, it is not censorship, it is personal responsibility for their children's upbringing.

19 We believe in public support for the arts, and especially for high-quality, family-friendly
20 programming. We are proud to have stopped the Republican attack on the Corporation for Public
21 Broadcasting -- we want our children to watch Sesame Street, not Power Rangers. And we echo
22 the President's call to the entertainment industry: Work harder to develop and promote movies,
23 music, and TV shows that are suitable -- and educational -- for children.

24 *Tobacco.* Cigarette smoking is rapidly becoming the single greatest threat to the health of
25 our children. We know that 3,000 young people start smoking every day, and 1,000 of them will
26 lead shorter lives because of it. Despite that, Senator Dole and other Republicans continue to
27 ignore volumes of medical research to make baffling claims that cigarettes are not addictive. They
28 even argue with distinguished Republican experts like President Reagan's Surgeon General C.
29 Everett Koop. President Clinton and Vice President Gore understand that we have a responsibility
30 to protect our children's future by cracking down on illegal sales of tobacco to minors and by
31 curbing sophisticated advertising campaigns designed to entice kids to start smoking before they
32 are old enough to make an informed decision. The President has proposed measures to cut off
33 children's access to cigarettes, crack down on those who sell tobacco to minors illegally, and
34 curtail advertising designed to appeal to children. We believe tobacco companies should market
35 to adults if they wish, but take the responsibility to draw the line on children.

36 *Parents' responsibility.* All of this is important, and we pledge to continue to fight for
37 ways to strengthen our families. But today's Democratic Party knows that governments do not
38 raise children, parents do. That is why President Clinton and Vice President Gore took action to

1 order all federal agencies to make sure everything government does for children promotes
2 responsibility from all parents, fathers as well as mothers. Now we challenge every parent to put
3 their children first: to help them with their homework, to read to them, to know their teachers,
4 and above all, to teach their children right from wrong and set the best example.

5 **Community empowerment.** Today's Democratic Party understands that we cannot
6 rebuild our poorest communities by imposing cookie-cutter solutions from Washington. We have
7 to give communities the tools they need to create opportunity. Citizens, local government, the
8 private sector, and civic groups must come together and take the responsibility to rebuild their
9 communities from the bottom up.

10 *Encouraging private sector investment, and community-based solutions.* After over a
11 decade of sustained Republican neglect and empty Republican promises, President Clinton and
12 Democrats in Congress launched a comprehensive strategy to unleash economic growth and
13 restore opportunity to our distressed neighborhoods. Without a single Republican vote, we
14 created 105 Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities. This effort, chaired by Vice
15 President Gore, is bringing jobs and businesses to our poorest urban and rural areas. Thousands
16 of new businesses have already moved into these areas, or expanded existing operations, bringing
17 new hope and new jobs to these neighborhoods. We reformed the Community Reinvestment Act
18 to shift the focus from process toward results; we implemented low income mortgage purchase
19 requirements on Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac; and we created a Community Development
20 Financial Institutions Fund. Together, these efforts are unleashing billions of dollars in new
21 private sector lending and investment for housing and economic development in our inner cities
22 and poorest rural areas. The President and Vice President have created a brownfields initiative to
23 bring life back to abandoned and contaminated property by reforming outdated regulations and
24 providing incentives for cleanup.

25 Over the next four years, we want a second round of Empowerment Zones to bring
26 economic growth to more American communities; a significant expansion of the Community
27 Development Financial Institutions Fund to spur more private sector investment in local
28 economies; and a new tax incentive to encourage further cleanup and redevelopment of
29 brownfields. Today's Democratic Party knows that the best way to bring jobs and growth back
30 to our poorest neighborhoods is to harness the job-creating power of the private sector.

31 *Helping people afford safe, secure housing.* Safe, secure housing is an essential part of
32 strong communities and strong families. We are proud that after four years of a Democrat in the
33 White House, the percentage of people who own their own house climbed faster than it has in 30
34 years. Bill Clinton took executive action to make it easier and cheaper for working and middle-
35 class homebuyers to get a home loan. We pledge to stand against Republican efforts to repeal the
36 deductibility of home mortgage interest payments. Fulfilling his 1992 pledge, President Clinton
37 made the low-income housing tax credit permanent, encouraging private developers to build more
38 affordable housing. This tax credit is making it easier for families to get housing, and we will
39 stand against Republican attacks on it.

1 The Clinton Administration has made sweeping changes to transform the nation's public
2 housing system after decades of neglect. In the last four years, Democrats demolished more units
3 of unlivable public housing than Republicans did in the previous twelve years, replacing them with
4 lower-density developments that can serve as anchors for neighborhood renewal. In the next four
5 years, we want to transform the worst public housing from a system that traps people in rundown,
6 crime-ridden projects into one which gives families the freedom to choose where they live by
7 providing vouchers to help them with housing costs. We have dramatically increased help for the
8 homeless, and shifted focus from temporary shelters toward permanent solutions designed to
9 move people back into the mainstream, into jobs and a home of their own.

10 **Agriculture and the rural community.** America has the most abundant agricultural
11 economy on earth, and it must be preserved and strengthened as we enter a new century.
12 President Clinton and the Democrats have worked hard to promote economic growth in rural
13 areas, protect the family farm, and ensure that farmers get a fair return for their labor and
14 investment and consumers can continue to count on safe and nutritious foods. In the face of
15 Republican efforts to gut food safety, the Clinton Administration has revolutionized meat
16 inspection and set a new standard of consumer protection. President Clinton has reinvented the
17 Agriculture Department, reducing regulations and bureaucracy and improving service. The
18 Clinton Administration has cracked down on food stamp fraud, and approved experiments in state
19 after state to reform the food stamp program. President Clinton and Democrats in Congress
20 supported new voluntary conservation programs and saved economic development programs for
21 rural areas through the 1996 Farm Bill. We are committed to expanding agricultural exports by
22 reducing unfair subsidies and trade barriers around the world.

23 **Protecting our environment.** Today's Democratic party wants all Americans to be able
24 to enjoy America's magnificent natural heritage -- and we want our people to know that the air
25 they breathe is pure, the water they drink is clean, and the land they live on is safe from hazard.
26 We understand we have a sacred obligation to protect God's earth and preserve our quality of life
27 for our children and our children's children. For the 12 Republican years before Bill Clinton and
28 Al Gore took office, protecting the environment was far from a priority. And in the last two
29 years, 25 years of bipartisan environmental progress -- started by a Democratic Congress under a
30 Republican President -- has come under attack from the far right. Time and again, President
31 Clinton and the Democratic Party have stood firm against this onslaught.

32 The Republican Congress, under Senator Dole and Speaker Gingrich, voted to cut
33 environmental enforcement by 25 percent. President Clinton and Democrats in Congress said no.
34 We believe government has a responsibility to enforce the laws that help keep toxic chemicals
35 from our water, pesticides from our food, and smog from our air.

36 The Republican Congress, under Senator Dole and Speaker Gingrich, let lobbyists for the
37 polluters write their own loopholes into bills to weaken laws that protect the health and safety of
38 our children. President Clinton and Democrats in Congress said no. We believe America's
39 elected officials have a responsibility to protect America's families from threats to their health,

1 and that trust must never be abdicated -- especially not by placing control of environmental
2 safeguards in the hands of the very polluters those safeguards are meant to keep in line.

3 The Republican Congress, under Senator Dole and Speaker Gingrich, tried to make
4 taxpayers pick up the tab for toxic wastes, and let polluters who caused the problem and can
5 afford to fix it off the hook. President Clinton and Democrats in Congress said no. We believe
6 America should insist that toxic waste cleanup is paid for by those responsible for it in the first
7 place -- and not foisted off on the taxpayers.

8 In the last four years, President Clinton and Vice President Gore have taken strong action
9 to make our air and water cleaner. They reformed the Superfund program -- in each of the last
10 two years nearly as many toxic dumps were cleaned as in the previous decade. They dramatically
11 strengthened Community Right-to-Know efforts, because Americans should be informed about
12 toxic chemicals being released into the air and water so they can take steps to protect themselves
13 and their families. They took measures to cut toxic air pollution from chemical plants by 90
14 percent, and after years of Republican neglect they cleaned up hundreds of nuclear weapons sites
15 and are committed to finishing the job.

16 Today's Democratic Party knows that we can protect the environment and expand the
17 economy. We believe we can create more jobs over the long run by cleaning the environment.
18 We want to challenge businesses and communities to take more initiative in protecting the
19 environment, and we want to make it easier for them to do it. President Clinton and Vice
20 President Gore launched Project XL which tells businesses: If you can find a cheaper, more
21 efficient way than government regulations require to meet even tougher pollution goals, do it -- as
22 long as you do it right. This new approach offers business flexibility, incentives, and
23 accountability.

24 Environmental protection should include more education on compliance for small and
25 medium sized business, more strategies to increase compliance for all businesses, and tough
26 enforcement -- including criminal prosecution -- for those who put human health and the
27 environment at risk.

28 We are committed to protecting the majestic legacy of our National Parks and enhancing
29 recreational opportunities; restoring the Florida Everglades; preserving our wildlife refuges and
30 fighting off any effort to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas drilling. We will
31 be good stewards of our old-growth forests, oppose new offshore oil drilling and mineral
32 exploration and production in our nation's many environmentally critical areas, and protect our
33 oceans from oil spills and the dumping of toxic and radioactive waste.

34 The President and Vice President announced an historic partnership with the Big Three
35 American automakers to develop the technology to produce cars up to three times more fuel
36 efficient than those made today -- cleaner cars for a cleaner environment. We will continue to
37 support responsible recycling, and encourage energy efficiency that makes our economy more

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

7-25-96

1 efficient and less reliant on foreign oil. We believe that investments in better mass transit, cleaner
2 cars, and renewable energy sources are good for the environment and good for the economy.

3 After years in which Republicans neglected the global environment, the Clinton
4 Administration has made America a leader in the fight to meet environmental challenges that
5 transcend national borders and require global cooperation. The Clinton-Gore Administration led
6 the world in calling for a global ban on ocean-dumping of low-level radioactive waste and for a
7 legally binding treaty to phase out persistent organic pollutants such as DDT and PCBs. We will
8 seek a strong international agreement to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions worldwide. We
9 are committed to preserving the planet's biodiversity, repairing the depleted ozone layer, and
10 working with other nations to stabilize population growth.

11 Democrats recognize that sustainable development is the key to protecting the
12 environment and promoting economic growth. That is why the Clinton-Gore Administration has
13 reformed our foreign aid programs to focus on sustainable development. At home, Democrats
14 know that sound economic development means sound environmental protection.

15 **The American community.** Today's Democratic Party knows that when America is
16 divided we will likely fail, but when America is united we will always prevail. Americans will
17 always have differences, and when we reach across those differences, we are stronger for it. And
18 we share an abiding set of values that define us as Americans. Our task is to draw strength from
19 both -- from our great diversity and our constant values -- to fashion the future we want for our
20 children.

21 *Fighting discrimination and protecting civil rights.* Today's Democratic Party knows we
22 must renew our efforts to stamp out discrimination and hatred of every kind, wherever and
23 whenever we see it. We deplore the recent wave of burnings that has targeted African-American
24 churches in the South, as well as other houses of worship across the country. We must remember
25 we do not have an American to waste. We continue to lead the fight to end discrimination on the
26 basis of race, gender, religion, age, ethnicity, disability, and sexual orientation. The Democratic
27 Party believes in full equality for women as exemplified by the Equal Rights Amendment. We
28 support continued efforts, like the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, to end work-based
29 discrimination against gay men and lesbians and further their full inclusion in the life of the nation.

30 Over the last four years, President Clinton and the Democrats have worked aggressively to
31 enforce the letter and spirit of civil rights law. The President and Vice President remain
32 committed to an Administration that looks like America, and we are proud of the Administration's
33 extraordinary judicial appointments -- they are both more diverse and more qualified than any
34 previous Administration. We know there is still more we can do to ensure equal opportunity for
35 all Americans, so all people willing to work hard can build a strong future. President Clinton has
36 led the way in reforming affirmative action so that it works, it is improved, and promotes
37 opportunity, but does not accidentally hold others back in the process. When it comes to
38 affirmative action, we should mend it, not end it.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

7-25-96

1 *Religious freedom.* Today's Democratic Party understands that all Americans have a right
2 to express their faith. The Constitution prohibits the state establishment of religion, and it
3 protects the free exercise of religion. The President fought for and signed the Religious Freedom
4 Restoration Act, to reaffirm the great protection the Constitution gives to religious expression,
5 and to recognize the historic role people of faith have played in America. Americans have a right
6 to express their love of God in public, and we applaud the President's work to ensure that
7 children are not denied private religious expression in school. Whenever the religious rights of
8 our children -- or any American -- are threatened we will stand against it.

9 *Responsibility to our community and our country.* Today's Democratic Party believes
10 every American has a duty and a responsibility to give something back to their community and
11 their country. In the past three years, 45,000 Americans have performed national service as part
12 of the AmeriCorps program President Clinton and the Democrats fought so hard to create -- and
13 we commend Senator Grassley and other Republicans who joined a bipartisan effort to preserve
14 AmeriCorps when Speaker Gingrich's House tried to kill it.

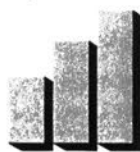
15 We applaud the American spirit of voluntarism and charity. As we balance the budget, we
16 must work even harder in our own lives to live up to the duties we owe one another. We must
17 shrink the government, but we cannot shrink from our challenges. We believe every school and
18 college in America should make service a part of its basic ethic, and we want to expand national
19 service by helping communities give scholarships to high school students for community service.
20 We challenge Americans in all walks of life to make a new commitment to taking responsibility
21 for themselves, their communities, and their country.

22 *that families*
23 ~~In the end, that is how we will make the next American century as great as each one that~~
24 ~~has come before it.~~ We must renew our pledge to one another, to our families, our children, our
25 future, and to the promise of America -- One nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and
justice for all.

② If we do our job, we can enter the 21st century
w/ the Am to alive for all, w/ Am spirit w/ struggle for
for peace & freedom, w/ Am community coming together,
enabled by our diversity stronger than ever. ~~Other~~
America's best days lie ahead, as we renew our
historic pledge to uphold & advance the promise of America --
Democracy etc.

cc: George
Gene S.
Rahm
Bance R.

& (me)



CENTER ON BUDGET AND POLICY PRIORITIES

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
7/24/96

To: The President

July 15, 1996

From: Bob Greenstein

Subject: Improving the Welfare Bill

*Leon Hilley
Treat a very
troubling*

I understand how much you want to sign a welfare bill. The current Republican bill remains seriously flawed in critical respects. So the question is how best to secure improvements in it in the next few weeks.

I believe you now have more leverage to secure improvements in it than at any point in the past 18 months. The Republican decision to drop Medicaid from the bill is in large part a switch from a strategy designed to secure a veto to a strategy designed to secure a signature so that House Republicans can show accomplishment and bolster their chances of retaining control of the House. But for a signature, they need you.

As you'll recall, in 1988, Ronald Reagan wanted to sign a welfare bill and the Democratic Congress wanted to enact a bill. But Reagan set some bottom line terms for his signature and played a critical role in shaping the bill in conference as a result. While the circumstances are not identical, there is a reasonable prospect your Administration could still have significant influence on the final bill, a bill that will be a key part of your legacy for decades to come. But I fear that opportunities are not being seized to maximize your impact.

The Problem

*we had agreement
for this*

In its present form, the bill would likely cause serious harm. It cuts \$28 billion from food stamps, slashing the average benefit from 80 cents to 65 cents per person per meal and cutting food stamps nearly \$500 a year for the average family with children by 1998, allows states to convert food stamps to a block grant, and throws 700,000 people off the food stamp program after just 120 days without offering them an opportunity to work. Its legal immigrant cuts are even deeper than in the bill you vetoed; it continues to deny basic subsistence benefits — including even Medicaid — to poor legal immigrant children, the very old, and those who came to the U.S. to work but subsequently became permanently disabled. In the welfare area, children in families that hit the time limit but cannot find work would not receive any type of voucher to help meet the children's basic needs, and the bill's contingency fund would almost surely run out part way through the next recession. Furthermore, the House version of the bill would allow states to withdraw as much as \$62 billion in state funds

EITC
from income support and work programs over the next six years without losing a dollar in federal funds, as a result of weak maintenance-of-effort provisions and a state option to transfer 30% of federal welfare block grant funds to the Social Services Block Grant. The welfare bill also includes tax increases on working households through cuts in the Earned Income Tax Credit, with a Senate provision that raises taxes on very poor workers without children being particularly egregious. Most of these problems are not present — or are present in significantly reduced form — in the Castle-Tanner and Chafee-Breaux proposals.

✓ The Administration study of last fall which found that the vetoed welfare bill would add 1.5 million children to the ranks of the poor provided an indication of the effects such a bill could have. My staff estimates the new bill would add more than 1.2 million children to the ranks of the poor, the Administration's estimate of the effect of last year's Senate welfare bill. The new legislation has deeper food stamp cuts than the Senate welfare bill, larger legal immigrant cuts, and as noted, a prohibition on use of block grant funds to provide vouchers for poor children whose families have hit the time limit.

* Incidentally, most of the children who would be pushed below the poverty line are in families that are already working and would be pushed into poverty by the food stamp cuts (or in some cases by a loss of benefits because they are legal immigrants). Families on welfare that aren't working are already poor.

I'm also very concerned about what may happen to job creation in low-income communities if we remove more than \$50 billion in support from poor households over the next six years. In many poor, inner-city communities, the withdrawal of so much purchasing power is virtually certain to lead to a *loss* of private-sector jobs.

I know you do not want a large increase in child poverty to be part of your legacy. I also know you do not want an increase in the number of poor people without health insurance — another likely result of the Republican bill as it now stands — to be part of that legacy. Probably no President in modern history has cared as much as you about reducing child poverty and shrinking the ranks of the uninsured.

This does not have to be the outcome. But in my view, the Administration needs to take some key steps very quickly to avert this.

Securing Improvements

In your Saturday radio address, you pointed to Castle-Tanner and Chafee-Breaux as the way to go. The question is how to secure the maximum amount of change toward Castle-Tanner and Chafee-Breaux.

Rep. Castle, with whom we've been working, is a key player. Castle's staff tell us his principal motivation is to get a signature on the bill, and that he has told Clay Shaw and the Republican leadership he fears the bill will be vetoed unless improvements are made in various areas that are important to protecting children. If Rep. Castle comes to think you will sign any welfare bill that reaches your desk, this will compromise his efforts. Furthermore, since many House Republicans now feel they need a signed bill, you have leverage on welfare reform you've not had since November 1994.

I think the Administration very much needs to set some "bottom lines" that you must have to sign the bill. I'm convinced the Republicans will move significantly farther in your direction if you do. This need not be done in the form of highly specific items not all of which might be secured. You can say you need significant changes in key issue areas without being overly specific, if that seems safer politically.

Failure to draw bottom lines may lead to the bill moving in the other direction, as various Republican constituencies begin to draw their own lines. For example, Republican governors are indicating they want the authority to transfer large amounts of federal welfare block grant money to areas like the Social Services Block Grant, an authority the House bill gives them but the Senate bill fortunately does not. Probably only you can prevent the House from prevailing in conference on issues such as this. Only you can secure critical changes in other problem areas described above, as well.

This is *not* an effort on my part to suggest a strategy that leads to a veto, but rather a path to secure more improvements before enactment of the bill. Most House Republicans and Republican governors don't want a veto. I believe this gives you leverage the White House is not yet exerting.

I fear that not following such a strategy will lead you to an unpalatable choice — signing a bill that makes you the President who has increased child poverty (and possibly also the ranks of the uninsured) more than your predecessors or vetoing a welfare bill. I appreciate your taking the time to read this memo and stand ready to help in any way I can.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

4-25-96



RAY HOM
for flowers

Los Angeles
(213) 644-1789

Mrs. Hillary Clinton

Do try for flower for in to
sign - It didn't come to him
but flower men would get

Be

7/25/96

Send to Stacy Forster
for reply?

Yes _____
no _____

C.

Mrs. Clinton —

Hope you had an
enjoyable day in L.A.
Best of luck to the
President in the upcoming
election. Here's to
another 4 years!!

Sincerely,
Ray & Virginia Horn

want to keep her
parental home & live
at their home —
JENNIFER J. MILLER

LAW OFFICES OF
LONG & JALDON
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
THE BAILEY MANSION
1600 OGDEN STREET
DENVER, COLORADO 80218-1414
THE PRESIDENT HAS BEEN
7-25-96
AREA CODE 303
TELEPHONE 866-9117
FAX 832-1348

7-25-96

Send to RM?

Yes —

no ☒

✓ 505 h/r
~~7-25-96~~

or Nancy H.

Yes —

no ☒

C

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

7-25-96

Mrs. James David Riddet

and reply - the
can to our event
in LA

7-25-96

Send to Scheduling?

Yes ✓

No

C

Dear Mr. President,

As a volunteer with the Orange County Law Auxiliary, I would like to extend an invitation to attend (& observe or participate!) in a Court Tour (given to 8TH & 12TH grade students) whenever you might be visiting Orange County.

It would be so honored

to have you meet the youth
of Orang County.

Respectfully yours,
Becky Riddit

(714) 673-8779