

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 7, 1996

The Honorable Newt Gingrich
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Earlier this year, I transmitted to Congress the 1996 National Drug Control Strategy, which reflected my requests to fund our drug control initiatives developed by General Barry McCaffrey. In the final days of this session, it is critical for Congress to fund fully these national anti-drug efforts.

Unfortunately, congressional action to date would fall more than \$640 million short in funding these anti-drug priorities. This shortfall occurs in two critical areas -- the important priorities funded in the 1997 appropriations bills, and my request for a \$250 million supplemental appropriation for 1996.

My Administration sent the supplemental request to Congress when General McCaffrey was sworn-in as the National Drug Control Director. It provides funding for my National Methamphetamine Strategy and increased interdiction efforts, and it also targets funding to reduce adolescent drug use. Congress promised to fully fund this supplemental but to date has not acted.

Compared to my request for \$15.3 billion in funds -- the largest drug budget ever -- House action on 1997 appropriations bills would provide only \$14.9 billion. In particular, the House once again is attempting to cut the successful drug court initiative and my request for the Safe and Drug-Free Schools program -- the only Federal program fully dedicated to helping schools combat alcohol and drug use, as well as violent behavior. As you recall, I vetoed the first rescission bill last year because of Congress' fifty percent reduction to this vital youth program. We should not slash funding for a program that gives parents the security that their children are receiving the same anti-drug message in school that they receive at home.

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In addition, last May I sent to Congress legislation that would increase penalties for methamphetamine trafficking, expand the Attorney General's ability to control the chemicals used to make methamphetamine, provide tougher penalties for using federal public lands for growing marijuana or manufacturing drugs, and give the Attorney General emergency power to reclassify certain drugs on the list of controlled substances such as Rohypnol, the "date-rape drug." The Senate has acted on some of these provisions and I urge Congress to complete the job by passing this legislation and sending it to me for my signature.

Drug abuse and drug-related crime affects us all. We must each do our part. In the National Drug Control Strategy, I asked Congress to be a bipartisan partner and provide the resources we need to get the job done. That is why I urge you to ensure that Congress fully funds my anti-drug budget requests before you conclude your work and return home.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

The Honorable Newt Gingrich
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

96 SEP 16 16:08

Dear Mr. Speaker:

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Unfortunately, congressional action to date would fall more than \$700 million short in funding these anti-drug priorities. This shortfall occurs in two critical areas -- the important priorities funded in the 1997 appropriations bills, and my request for a \$250 million supplemental appropriation for 1996.

My Administration sent to Congress the supplemental when General McCaffrey was sworn-in as the National Drug Control Director. It provides funding for my National Methamphetamine Strategy, and increased interdiction efforts, and it also targets funding to reduce adolescent drug use. Congress promised to fully fund this supplemental but to date has not acted.

Compared to my request for \$15.1 billion in funds -- the largest drug budget ever -- House action on 1997 appropriations bills would provide only \$14.6 billion. In particular, the House once again is attempting to cut the successful drug court initiative and my request for the Safe and Drug-Free Schools program -- the only Federal program fully dedicated to helping schools combat alcohol and drug use, as well as violent behavior. As you recall, I vetoed the first rescission bill last year because of Congress' fifty percent reduction to this vital youth program. We cannot cut deeply a program that gives parents the security that their children are receiving the same anti-drug message in school that they receive at home.

In addition, last May I sent to Congress legislation that would increase penalties for methamphetamine trafficking, expand the Attorney General's ability to control the chemicals used to make methamphetamine, provide tougher penalties for using federal public lands for growing marijuana or manufacturing drugs, and give the Attorney General emergency power to reclassify certain drugs on the list of controlled substances such as Rohypnol, the "date-rape drug." The Senate has acted on some of these provisions and I urge Congress to complete the job by passing this legislation and sending it to me for my signature.

The drug abuse and drug-related crime affects us all. We must each do our part. In the *National Drug Control Strategy*, I asked Congress to be a bipartisan partner and provide the resources we need to get the job done. That is why I urge you to ensure that Congress fully funds my anti-drug budget requests before you conclude your work and return home.

Sincerely,

608pm 9/16/96

from Rahm

- drafted by Rahm / Larry Huns.

OMB

- cleared by COS

Gen. McCaffrey

Bruce Reed

GS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

06-Sep-1996 07:27pm

TO: (See Below)
FROM: Barry B. Anderson
SUBJECT: Drug Talking Points

Message Creation Date was at 6-SEP-1996 19:26:00

The Congressional shortfall in funding the President's 1997 request should be adjusted. The President's request for 1997 contained \$203 million for the Social Security Administration for referral services for drug addicts and alcoholics. SSA funding for these people was deleted in the Earnings Test bill. Thus the funding for referral services can be cut. The administration has dropped its request by \$144 million from \$203 million to \$59 million in 1997 and to 0 thereafter. Given this, the amount of Congressional underfunding should be adjusted to exclude the \$144 million. Specifically, the \$538 million shortfall in 1997 should be adjusted to \$394 million, and the total funding provided by the House should be adjusted upwards from \$14754 to \$14898, or the request adjusted downwards from \$15313 to \$15169. Arithmetically, they are the same, and since this is an adjustment, one could do it either way. I recommend the former because I would rather adjust Congress' numbers than ours.

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