

Chris

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

~~Microscopist~~
Microscopist

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

1-10-97

1/10/97

Stylized

I should consider
a drop by at the
Microscopist's
in early Feb even
two (4) speaking
lets discuss instructions

Th

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

'97 JAN 10 AM 11:20

January 9, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR TODD STERN

FROM: ALAN KRECZKO AK
SUBJECT: Executive Clerk's Office

I wanted to let you know what a great job the Clerk's Office is doing. I have in mind, in particular, Broom Corn Brooms where Room 5 spotted a legal issue with significant implications in a memorandum that had made its way directly from an agency to the Clerk's office and brought it to our attention. This wasn't the first time.

Without fanfare (or desire for fanfare), time and time again the Clerk's Office provides prompt and accurate input, with humor, friendship and, as you might say, "without attitude." We would like to express our thanks to the whole Team.

To: Tim & the team

FR! Todd

Nice Work
1-10-97

original memo given to Clerk's

1/10/97

- Phil has OK'd this.
- TOLD Maureen Hudson no cover memo is necessary
- Carol to take to Press Ofc first thing in a.m.

Sc

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1/10/97

97 JAN 10 PM 5:21

Todd --

Per my email, NSC and Flo McAfee have both requested that we do a press release on Ramadan this weekend. Steve Grummon of NSC and Flo have cleared the text.

I apologize for springing this on you, but we got the request for a message late Wednesday and didn't get final clearance on the text until late this afternoon.

M.

Maureen Hudson

Maureen -
let me know
if these edits
don't work
Phil

94

1-10.97

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 10, 1997

Warm greetings to all those celebrating the sacred month of Ramadan.

Each year during Ramadan, Muslims across America and around the world commemorate God's revelation of the Koran to Muhammad with a month of rigorous fasting and devout prayer. This period of discipline for body, mind, and spirit draws the Muslim community closer not only to God, but also to their fellow human beings.

By experiencing hunger during Ramadan, the followers of Muhammad learn true compassion for the poor of the world who go hungry every day. By reflecting on God's teachings in the Koran, they learn humility and the beauty of forgiveness. And, by their example of devotion and self-discipline during Ramadan, Muslims remind us all that our true strength is derived, not from food and drink, but from closeness to God.

As the crescent moon marks the beginning of Ramadan again this year, Hillary and I extend our best wishes for a holy and memorable observance.

Bill Clinton

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

1-10-97

JIM DORSKIND:

Please coordinate
the reply.

November 11, 1996

Dear President Clinton,

I'm so happy and delighted that there will
be two "Thinkers" in the Oval office for the
next four years.

Congratulations on a job well done.

Respectfully
Lis Cantor



President Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500-2000

187 JAN 10 4-7:55

Dear President Clinton,

It is essential at this time that we continue to have your support for Montgomery Point. I urge you to request that the Office of Management and Budget include \$25 million for Montgomery Point in your fiscal year 1998 President's Budget.

Please ask that the Corps of Engineers be instructed to issue a "continuing contract for construction" for the lock and dam.

When completed, Montgomery Point will protect over \$5 billion in public and private investments, thousands of jobs and world trade created as a result of the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System.

Please help us complete this urgently needed project.

Best wishes and happy holidays to you and Hillary. Jack and I are looking forward to being in Washington for the Inaugural and being part of another historic event.

Sincerely,

Montine McNulty
Executive Director

MM:krt

cc: Mack McLarty

Came in interoffice mail
Send to Derskind?

Yes ☒ _____
No ☐ _____

Montgomery
Dun

Coordinate w/OMB? Yes ☒ _____
No ☐ _____

1-10-97

Come in interoffice mail

Send to Dossland?

Yes ☒

No ☐

Similar to show
Montgomery
letter from
get Sen sent to
on 1/9

Mc GEORGE CONTRACTING COMPANY, INC.

General Contractors



Pine Bluff, Arkansas

P. O. Box 7008

71611-7008

December 27, 1996

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

RE: The Montgomery Point Lock and Dam Project

Dear Mr. President:

197 JAN 10 10:15

Before I become involved in the politics of this letter, I do want you to know that Carrie and I, and our friends, certainly enjoy the good publicity being extended throughout our country to you, Hillary and Chelsea. Your exemplary conduct as a family "hits home" in one of America's most vulnerable areas of personal conduct-the family. Your country is most grateful for the reality of "a fine family life" which you all always exemplify.

Regarding our Arkansas River and the subject Lock and Dam in particular, the appropriation of \$7 million for FY '97 will pretty well complete the starting of the proposed construction and we are grateful for that. We earnestly feel that the OMB should include \$25 million for continued construction in your Budget for FY'98 and that the Corps be instructed to issue a "continuing contract for construction."

You probably realize that Arkansans are more attentive to the state's history these days. Our great river "looms large" in most any memories apocryphal or factual which occurred on or close to the river. Riverboat captains were most prominent and the population knew about the rapids, branches, sand bars, creek entrances, swimming holes, etc., just as today they know the crossroads, the small towns, the hills, swamps, and the houses along the highways. Furthermore, today the public also knows of the splendid parks, the locks and dams, freight and recreational boat movements, sporting activities, and commercial developments. Some have summarized these observations and many more with a statement that Montgomery Point will protect \$5 billion in investments, thousands of jobs and world trade when the "elevation error," about which your familiar, is corrected by the completion of the subject project. This is certainly a construction which will be self-liquidating.

Thanks for the various invitations to your Inaugural. We're flattered to be remembered and we are considering attending. We shall never forget your hospitality to the Kumpuris' and us. We shall be in your debt forever.

We sincerely wish for you and your lovely Hillary and Chelsea a healthful and happy 1997. Thanks for any further consideration you may give our Montgomery Point Project.

Cordially ,

Tyndall Dickinson

Staff Secretary -

This letter came
to me for a response,
but because of its
technical nature,
I think correspondence
could provide a
more thorough,
responsive reply.
Thanks.
- Maureen
Gunn

1-10-97

to Jim Dockard

for reply

Coord w/ DRC

Norma W. Matheson

2253 East Hubbard Avenue Salt Lake City, Utah 84108 (801) 582-4451

December 10, 1996

President William J. Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500-2000

Dear Mr. ~~President~~ *Bill*:

I am writing to request your assistance in a matter of deep concern to America's vulnerable children who are served through public child welfare systems. It has been called to my attention that the Children's Bureau is in the process of developing national guidelines for the administration of Title IV-E Training Programs. These training programs were created in 1980 to provide funds at a 75% match to support education and training for child welfare workers--training critically needed to improve and stabilize public services to children.

Included in the guidelines currently proposed for adoption are policies that will erode the 75% authorized match. These proposals classify and compartmentalize services provided to children, with the rationale that training funds be allocated only for certain IV-E services in proportion to the percent of time workers engage in these services. In effect, the policies will provide only partial support for individuals who carry child welfare responsibilities beyond IV-E foster care and no support for individuals who are engaged in comprehensive holistic, child centered programs in collaborative agencies. The interdependence of child welfare services across community agencies is completely ignored.

These policies are of particular concern to rural states like Utah where it is not possible to have individuals assigned exclusively to IV-E caseloads. Yet, the need for training is equally critical, if not greater, when one considers the more complex child welfare roles played by individuals who must be prepared to address the total needs of children.

The IV-E Training Program has provided important educational opportunities to child welfare workers in Utah as we have addressed court mandates to strengthen and enhance child welfare services. I hope you will do everything in your power to protect holistic services to America's children and to assure child welfare professionals receive holistic training for these services. I agree with Hillary that it takes a community to raise a child.

Sincerely,

Norma

Norma Matheson

Staff Sec.

December 19, 1996

'97 JAN 10 AM 7:54

President William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500-2000

Dear Mr. President:

As you know I am very concerned about the fate of legal immigrants and refugees who had been impacted by the welfare reform bill you signed last year. It prompted me to set up the Emma Lazarus Fund with a \$50 million contribution. The Emma Lazarus Fund intends to award grants to community organizations throughout the country to help immigrants protect their civil and human rights and to directly aid individual immigrants become U.S. citizens.

Since you and your Administration soon will be making important decisions regarding this matter, I wanted to reiterate my concern. Denying assistance to legal immigrants, services that they help to pay for with their taxes, is a radical departure from our history of treating legal immigrants the same as citizens with the exception of the right to vote.

Specifically, I understand that the Administration is hoping to spend \$13 billion to modify the various provisions of the welfare reform bill, and to advocate for these funds in the context of budget discussions. I recommend that a significant proportion of these funds go to help legal immigrants and refugees who became disabled after entering the United States, exempt children from Medicaid restrictions, and extend the five year exemption for refugees and asylees for an additional two years. I also support an exemption for elderly people over 75 years of age.

Furthermore, I strongly recommend you to fight hard for these fixes this year, rather than seek any kind of delay in implementation. Once the budget deal is struck, it will be difficult to improve the immigrant-related provisions in the future.

I am ready to work with you and your Administration to help achieve these goals.

Yours sincerely,

George Soros
George Soros

Will head worker for your second term

1-10-97

Came in interoffice mail -

Send to Dorslund?

Yes ☒

No ☐

*Coordinate with
DPC/OMB*

coordinate w/ WSC? Yes ☐

No ☒

c.

to Jim Donstind

to coordinate reply

with DPC + AIDS

alice

PM

1/10

October 8, 1996

PRESIDENTIAL

ADVISORY

COUNCIL ON

HIV/AIDS

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

96 DEC 9 PM 12:31

As members of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (the "Council"), we write to express our deep concern regarding the potential impact of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (the "welfare reform bill") on people living with HIV. We support effective reform of the nation's welfare system. However, in order to preserve the public health and protect the most vulnerable, the Council would like to work with you in the coming weeks to strengthen the new law to ensure that it will best serve the hundreds of thousands of HIV-infected individuals who depend on public assistance.

The Council applauds the administration for its attempts, often successful, to eliminate or weaken many of the meanspirited, bigoted and punitive provisions in welfare reform legislation originally proposed by Congress. We believe that your administration's efforts to improve the bill succeeded in preserving Medicaid coverage for most people with HIV. We share your concern that this grand national experiment must be monitored closely, and revised as needed, to avoid undermining the public health and causing needless harm and suffering to the most vulnerable and needy, particularly the hundreds of thousands of our brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers and children living with HIV.

Despite the administration's improvements to the welfare reform bill, we fear that the bill, as enacted, could present grave risks to many people living with HIV:

Provision in the Welfare Reform Bill Threaten Continued Medicaid Coverage for Many People with HIV. Nationally, at least half of all people with HIV/AIDS look to Medicaid for their health coverage, making this program the linchpin of the nation's HIV care infrastructure. The administration successfully advocated for an amendment to the bill requiring states to provide Medicaid coverage to all families that meet their state's AFDC rules as of July 1996. Under the enacted legislation, however, states retain the discretion to terminate Medicaid for any adult whose cash

assistance is ended due to his or her failure to satisfy work requirements, including women, who now constitute 19 percent of the AIDS cases reported in the United States. As noted below, the bill also authorizes states to withhold Medicaid coverage from legal immigrants.

The Welfare Reform Bill's Immigrant Provisions Threaten the Further Spread of HIV and Other Communicable Diseases. Substantial evidence demonstrates that HIV prevention efforts are often most effective when integrated with primary medical care. The welfare bill, however, effectively terminates medical care for tens of thousands of HIV-infected immigrants, denying vital health services while encouraging the unnecessary spread of the virus. Under the legislation, legal immigrants are no longer eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and states have the option to deny Medicaid coverage to current legal immigrants. In the future, incoming legal immigrants will be barred from access to Medicaid for 5 years, whereas refugees' eligibility for Medicaid will be limited to 5 years. Undocumented immigrants will become entirely ineligible for most federal public benefits and will be presumed ineligible for state and local benefits, unless states specifically enact laws declaring their eligibility for such programs. These provisions targeting foreign-born individuals will devastate our nation's ability to preserve a meaningful continuum of care for people with HIV. More than 16 percent of all Hispanic AIDS cases were born outside of the United States and its territories, and an additional 30 percent were born in Puerto Rico. Foreign-born individuals represent 12 percent, 17 percent, and 7 percent of all AIDS cases in California, Florida, and New York, respectively. By withholding vital medical services from such an enormous component of the HIV-infected population, the welfare reform bill will tear the fabric of the nation's carefully-woven response to the AIDS epidemic.

The Welfare Reform Bill's Drug Use Provisions Will Increase the Nation's Health and Social Service Costs. Injection drug use accounted for 25 percent of all AIDS cases reported in 1994 and 1995, and is indirectly responsible for the bulk of heterosexually acquired AIDS cases. With respect to new infections, epidemiologists estimate that injection drug use is responsible for 50 percent of all cases. Injection drug users frequently become involved with the criminal justice system; in New York State, for example, 30.5 percent of all individuals seeking drug treatment have a current criminal justice status. In a misguided effort to promote the war on drugs, the welfare reform bill takes aim at this population, prohibiting the provision of cash assistance and food stamps to persons convicted of felonies related to drug possession, use, or distribution, subsequent to enactment. Although states have the ability under the legislation to opt out of this provision, we fear it is unlikely that states will make this choice. Because of these provisions, countless individuals may become homeless and be unable to sustain proper nutrition, which will in turn lead to unnecessary sickness and associated health care expenditures.

Food Stamp Cuts Will Devastate Efforts to Ensure Proper Nutrition for People with HIV. Proper nutrition is an essential component of health maintenance for people living with HIV. Unfortunately, the welfare reform bill will make it far more

difficult to ensure proper nutrition for indigent people with HIV. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, the welfare reform bill's \$27.7 billion cut over six years in the food stamp program will reduce average food stamp benefits by 20 percent.

In summary, the welfare reform bill potentially undermines the nation's fight against AIDS in two ways. First, by withholding medical care from important segments of the HIV-infected population, the legislation makes it impossible to craft a coherent national strategy to care for infected individuals and to ensure the provision of primary HIV prevention services. Second, even where medical coverage is retained, the bill undermines the safety net for people with HIV by potentially withholding or reducing cash assistance and food stamps, increasing the risk of homelessness and reducing the country's ability to provide proper nutrition for HIV-infected individuals.

We are heartened by your commitment to ensure that the welfare reform bill is implemented in as fair and equitable a manner as possible for individuals who need public assistance that most. To that end, we believe that a number of general strategies exist to protect indigent persons with HIV disease.

First, the legislation authorizes the administration to enact regulations to effectuate many of the bill's provisions. For example, the bill directs the administration to develop a list of non-means-tested programs that are exempted from the legislation's provisions regarding legal immigrants. Similarly, regulations to be enacted by the administration could determine the breadth of social service agencies' responsibility to participate in the welfare reform bill's mandates regarding verification of individual clients' immigration status. We believe that careful drafting of these and other regulations could ease the bill's potentially negative impact on the nation's public health.

Second, the bill provides broad discretion to states to structure their public assistance programs as they see fit. In some cases, states have to the option of exercising exceptions to some of the bill's most problematic provisions. We believe that the administration can have an important influence on the decisions that states make under the new legislation.

Third, as you have acknowledge publicly, the bill is so flawed in certain respects that legislative redress is required. Only new legislation, for example, can right the wrong done by the provisions withholding basic human services to legal immigrants. By making a strong case to the public, the administration can lay the groundwork for corrective legislation in the next Congress, and this Council would like to work with you in that effort.

Fourth, early monitoring of state-level policy and administrative changes under the new bill could highlight problems with proposed state changes. Tracking welfare recipients with HIV disease could spotlight problems with the legislation which require correction.

We offer the Council's assistance to the administration in exploring regulatory and legislative strategies to protect people with HIV from many of the bill's provisions. The Council would like to work with the administration through the Office of National AIDS Policy prior to the next Council meeting on December 15-17, 1996, to explore regulatory and legislative strategies to protect people with HIV/AIDS. Working together, we trust that we can prevent certain provisions of the welfare reform bill from subverting our nations' fight against the AIDS epidemic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Scott Hitt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "R." and last name "Hitt" being more prominent.

Members of the Presidential
Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS

Presidential Advisory Council on HIV and AIDS

Stephen N. Abel, D.D.S.
Mr. Terje Anderson
Ms. Regina Aragon
Ms. Judith Billings
Mary Boland, R.N., M.S.N.
Mr. Nicholas Bollman
Mr. Tonio Burgos
Jerry Cade, M.D.
Mr. Robert Fogel
Ms. Debra Fraser-Howze
Ms. Kathleen Gerus
Mr. Edward Gould
Ms. Phyllis Greenberger
Mr. Bob Hattoy
Mr. B. Thomas Henderson
R. Scott Hitt, M.D., Chair
Michael Isbell, J.D.
Mr. Ronald Johnson
Ms. Carole laFavor
Mr. Jeremy Landau
Alexandra Mary Levine, M.D.
Mr. Steve Lew
Ms. Helen H. Miramontes
Rev. Altagracia Perez
Michael Rankin, M.D.
H. Alexander Robinson, M.B.A., C.P.A.
Ms. Debbie Runions
Benjamin Schatz, J.D.
Mr. Richard W. Stafford
Ms. Denise Stokes
Ms. Sandra Thurman
Mr. Charles Quincy Troupe
Bruce Weniger, M.D.

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1/10/97

'97 JAN 10 PM 5:21

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**
Barack*