

Paragraph #

AT The Table

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File

Lunches for
women

LEVEL 1 - 7 OF 7 STORIES

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The Boston Globe

May 24, 1996, Friday, City Edition

SECTION: ECONOMY; Pg. 42

LENGTH: 221 words

HEADLINE: Businesswomen air concerns to a top Clinton aide

BYLINE: By Joann Muller, Globe Staff

BODY:

A rare opportunity to grab the ear of a top Clinton aide coaxed dozens of women entrepreneurs into a downtown office conference room yesterday to air their concerns about health care, welfare reform and an array of issues facing small businesses.

Alexis Herman, director of the White House Office of Public Liaison, set up the meeting as part of a new initiative by female Clinton administration officials to set aside time for networking with women while traveling on official business. She was in Boston for a women's business conference sponsored by Simmons College.

Herman's office is often described as the president's "eyes and ears." Much of what she hears during these discussion groups is passed on to Clinton for policy-making purposes, she said.

Yesterday, the focus was mostly on how small business owners can gain equal footing with larger competitors and how health care and welfare reform might impact small businesses.

"It's not an issue of access to health care," for instance, said Judy Obermayer, whose company, Obermayer Associates, provides consulting services to small companies. "It's the cost. Small companies can't self-insure the way big companies can."

Other women in the group, many of whom were minorities, also complained about problems with federal minority set-aside programs.

GRAPHIC: PHOTO, Alexis Herman

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 24, 1996



LEXIS-NEXISTM
A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



LEXIS-NEXISTM
A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



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A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



Up Front

ALEXIS HERMAN'S BAGGAGE GROWS HEAVIER

THE NOMINATION OF ALEXIS Herman as Labor Secretary, due for a Mar. 18 Senate hearing, is hitting even heavier weather and may be delayed. Some senators want to scrutinize two overseas trade missions for women business owners that Herman led in 1995 and 1996 for the late Commerce Secretary Ronald Brown. One ex-Commerce official says it was "definitely strange" to tap Herman, a White House aide, to lead the trips--but felt her close tie to Brown was the reason.

The senators are particularly interested in one plane guest on a trip to Mexico: Caryliss Weaver, vice-president of Alignment Strategies, a Potomac (Md.) consulting firm that bought Herman's diversity consultancy, A.M. Herman & Associates, two years earlier for between \$50,000 and \$100,000. Weaver and her sister, Vanessa, Alignment's owner and president, gave \$50,000 to the Democratic National Committee in November. Neither sister would comment. A White House spokesman says although Herman suggested Alignment be invited, "it's ridiculous to assert that was some kind of payoff for buying her business."

Also under scrutiny: meetings her White House office hosted for policymakers, on government time, with women's groups and other special interests. Senators suspect the events were really political--and thus illegal. Clintonites say they weren't.

By Paula Dwyer
EDITED BY LARRY LIGHT



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE LEGAL ADVISER
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20520



DATE:

3/16/97

TO:

Cheryl Mills

FAX:

456-6279

PHONE:

456-6611

FROM:

L.

Jim Thessin

PHONE:

(202) 647-8460 / 736-4085

FAX:

(202) 647-1037

SUBJECT:

Clearance to release of WH Document

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/MESSAGE:

Attached is the Jeffords incoming and
our response. The first attached document
is from the WH. Because Herman's hearing is
on 3/18, we need to send the letter to
Congress as early as possible tomorrow.

NUMBER OF PAGES:

12

(PLUS THIS COVER SHEET)

UNCLASSIFIED

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am responding to your letter of March 5, 1997, concerning State Department participation in the "At the Table" program.

The Department's participation in the program took the following form. In late 1995, Ms. Betsy Myers, Special Assistant to the President and Director of the Office of Women's Initiatives and Outreach, informed the Department's Office of White House Liaison (M/WHL) that she was starting a new project called "At the Table." The project provided bi-partisan groups of women the opportunity to speak with political appointees and to share their opinions on issues of concern to them.

M/WHL hosted an optional brown bag lunch on the program for State Department women political appointees on November 6, 1995. Twenty State Department political appointees attended, as did Ms. Myers and one of her staff members. We are aware of approximately ten appointees who subsequently participated in "At the Table" activities, although the Department did not keep complete records.

In March 1996, M/WHL distributed to State Department political appointees a memorandum from Ms. Myers incorporating White House legal advice relating to the "At the Table" program. A copy of this memorandum is attached. M/WHL also distributed the Department's then-current general guidance on political activities by presidential and political appointees.

The Office of the Legal Adviser has been unable to locate any file or files regarding any advice concerning participation in the "At the Table" program. To the extent that its advice was requested in connection with such participation, the Office

The Honorable
James M. Jeffords, Chairman,
Committee on Labor and Human Resources,
United States Senate.

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may have drawn upon its then-current general advice on political activity by presidential and political appointees and on anti-lobbying restrictions. Copies of these documents are also attached to this letter.

We hope that this information will be helpful to you and the members of the Committee. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Barbara Larkin
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

Enclosures:
As Stated

DAN COATS, INDIANA
JUD SAGGE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
BILL FRIST, TENNESSEE
MIKE SCHWAB, OHIO
MIKE ENCE, WYOMING
THAI HUTCHINSON, ARKANSAS
SUSAN GILLER, MARYLAND
JOHN WARNER, VIRGINIA
PATRICK MCCONNELL, KENTUCKY

EDWARD M. KENNEDY, MASSACHUSETTS
CHRISTOPHER J. DODD, CONNECTICUT
TOM HARKINS, IOWA
BARBARA A. MIKULSKI, MARYLAND
JEFF STRAUBER, NEW MEXICO
PAUL D. WELLSTONE, MINNESOTA
PATTY MURRAY, WASHINGTON
JACK REED, RHODE ISLAND

MARK E. POWDEN, STAFF DIRECTOR
SUSAN K. MATTAN, DEPUTY STAFF DIRECTOR
NICK LITTLEFIELD, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR AND CHIEF COUNSEL
http://www.senate.gov/committees/labor.html

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND
HUMAN RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6300

March 5, 1997

Mr. Michael J. Matheson
Acting Legal Advisor
Room 6123
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520-6310

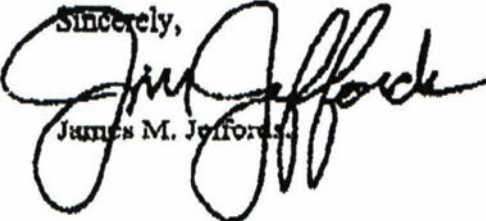
Dear Mr. Matheson:

On February 12, 1996, The White House announced that an employee of the State Department participated in the "At the Table" program initiated by the White House Office of Women's Initiatives and Outreach. I also understand that the Office of the Legal Advisor has a file or files regarding the State Department's participation in this initiative. I further understand that this material may contain guidance related to whether or not and under what circumstances these "outreach" activities constituted official business for federal employees.

As you know, the Committee on Labor and Human Resources is scheduled to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Ms. Alexis M. Herman to be Secretary of Labor on March 18. In order to discharge my responsibilities as Chairman of the Labor Committee, I would respectfully request that I be provided with a copy of these files and any other material which you have pertaining to the "At the Table" program no later than March 10. I would also appreciate a description of the State Department's participation in the project. We have already obtained guidance that was provided by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

I appreciate your consideration of my request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mark Powden or Scott Giles of the Labor Committee staff at 224-6770.

Sincerely,


JAMES M. JEFFORDS

JMJ:sg

THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington, DC

March 13, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR WOMEN APPOINTEES

FROM: BETSY MYERS
Deputy Assistant to the President & Director for Women's Initiatives & Outreach

RE: UPDATE ON *AT THE TABLE*

Many of you have had legal questions about *At The Table*. The White House Counsel's Office concurs with the following advice:

The purpose of *At The Table* is to give women access to White House policy makers by sending the President's women representatives out around the country to listen to local women and carry their concerns to the White House.

If you hold roundtable discussions with local women, those discussions should focus on policy issues and concerns that affect their lives and families.

1. *At The Table* is part of an official outreach program sponsored by the Administration, and as such, is considered official Government activity. Therefore:
 - o It is appropriate for you to engage in this activity and to use your official title in letters of invitation.
 - o You may engage in this activity during official duty hours and travel.
 - o Your role is to listen to local women's concerns and share those concerns with your agency and with the White House Office of Women's Initiatives & Outreach for inclusion in regular reports to the President.
 - o Your role is also to educate women about how your agency and the government generally can help them. You may discuss the President's accomplishments for women.
 - o You should discuss your how your Agency's work relates to women.

II. *At The Table* is not a political activity and may not be used as such. For more information on Hatch Act restrictions, talk with your Agency's General Counsel. Here are some guidelines:

- o *At The Table* discussions must focus on the Administration's and your agency's issues and policies, not on politics.
- o You may not engage in partisan activity or discuss the President's re-election or any other candidate for election.
- o You should not encourage participants to engage in any partisan political activities in their communities or to get involved in the re-election campaign.

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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

1995

95 SEP 11 P6:30

September 11, 1995

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MEMORANDUM TO ALL PRESIDENTIAL
AND POLITICAL APPOINTEES

Subject: Rules on Political Activities for Department of
State Senate-confirmed Presidential Appointees
and Political Appointees

This repeats the guidance approved by the Secretary in 1994 regarding permissible political activities for officials appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate (including those appointed from the career service) and for political appointees, including non-career SES and Schedule C employees. The guidance has only been amended in the following areas: (1) donations to President Clinton's re-election campaign committee, (2) the use of government cars by Senate-confirmed presidential appointees for political activity, and (3) recommendations for career appointments.

This guidance reflects amendments made in 1993 to the Hatch Act, the federal statute governing political activities by federal employees, and related government-wide regulations. Although these amendments generally have expanded permissible political participation for most federal employees, for Senate-confirmed Presidential appointees, they have imposed legal restrictions in certain areas where none previously existed. In particular, all federal employees are now legally prohibited from soliciting political contributions and running for partisan political office. Moreover, all employees, except Senate-confirmed Presidential appointees with positions in the United States, are now banned from political activities while on duty. In addition, this guidance expands upon the Department's long-held policy of limiting participation in partisan campaigns in recognition of the bipartisan character of our Foreign policy. Regulations implementing the 1993 Hatch Act amendments specifically provide discretion to impose additional restrictions on political appointees and PAS employees; the Secretary has determined to impose such restrictions.

For purposes of this guidance, the "employing office" is the Department, and "on duty" includes the time period during which an employee is either: 1) (for employees other than Senate-confirmed employees) in a pay status other than paid

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leave, compensatory time off, credit hours, time off as an incentive award, or excused or authorized absence (including leave without pay), or, 2) (for all employees) representing any agency or instrumentality of the United States in an official capacity.

Following is a list of "do's and don't's" for all Presidential appointees who receive the advice and consent of the Senate and for all political appointees. Please call the Department's ethics office (L/EP) at 202-647-6668 if you need further advice.

Senate-confirmed Presidential appointees and political appointees may do the following, subject to the prohibitions listed below:

- register and vote;
- express political opinions;
- be a member of a political party or group;
- sign a political petition as an individual;
- advise a candidate with whom the employee has had a prior relationship;
- make a financial contribution to a political party or organization, including the re-election campaign committee of an incumbent President, provided that, if the employee is abroad, the contribution is not made while the employee is on duty or in the official part of the employee's residence;
- if a spouse or family member of a candidate for partisan political office, appear in photographs of the candidate's family shown in a political advertisement, broadcast, campaign literature, or similar material and attend political functions with the candidate;
- attend a rally or fundraising function in the United States, including a rally or fundraiser supporting a spouse or family member who is a candidate, provided that attendance is not as a speaker or as an individually-named guest of honor;
- attend a political convention and speak at political convention events not open to the general public;
- when authorized, debate or defend current Administration foreign policy in appropriate fora;
- provide foreign policy briefings to candidates and political groups on a nonpartisan basis;
- participate in the nonpartisan activities of a civic, community, social, labor, or professional organization, such as nonpartisan voter registration efforts;

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-- campaign for or against non-partisan issues such as referendum questions, constitutional amendments or municipal reforms;

-- take an active part, as a candidate or in support of a candidate, in a nonpartisan election; and

-- serve as an election judge or clerk, or in a similar position, performing nonpartisan duties as prescribed by State or local law.

Senate-confirmed Presidential appointees and political appointees must not do the following:

-- engage in political activity abroad (this includes attending a political rally or fundraising function and may, under particular circumstances, include receiving a political group at post -- please seek specific guidance from the Department's ethics office);

-- leave post of assignment to return to the United States primarily to take part in partisan activities;

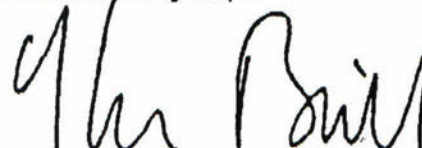
-- for political employees (other than Senate-confirmed Presidential appointees in domestic positions) and for Ambassadors assigned abroad, engage in any political activity in the United States while on duty, in a government building, wearing a government insignia, or using a government vehicle;

-- for Senate-confirmed Presidential appointees (except the Secretary), use government vehicles (including vehicles provided for home-to-work transportation) for political purposes, such as transporting persons or political materials to or from any political committee office or event, or to or from airports or any other locations if the purpose of the trip is solely political. This restriction applies even when an outside source pays for the use of the vehicle. The only exception to the restriction is when it has been determined by the Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security or the Director of the Diplomatic Security Service that such transportation is necessary due to compelling security considerations (e.g., the life or safety of a Department official has been threatened recently or there are national security concerns);

-- knowingly solicit, accept, or receive a political contribution (except in certain circumstances involving a federal labor union), regardless of whether the candidate is a spouse or family member, including by: selling tickets for or otherwise actively promoting such fundraising activities as political dinners for a partisan candidate or political party, speaking at fundraising events, allowing your name to be listed on a fundraising invitation or as part of the host committee for such an event, allowing your official title to be used on a fundraising invitation, serving as an individually-named guest of honor, or personally hosting a fundraiser at your residence;

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- run for the nomination or as a candidate for election to a partisan political office;
- run as an independent candidate for election to partisan political office at the municipal level, even if residing in designated locations, which include most cities and counties in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area;
- take visible or active management positions in political campaigns, e.g., by serving as a campaign officer;
- serve as an officer or organizer of a political party or other political group;
- serve as a delegate, alternate, or proxy to a political party convention;
- endorse or oppose a candidate for partisan political office in a political advertisement, broadcast, campaign literature, or similar medium;
- work at the polls on behalf of a partisan candidate or political party by acting as a checker, challenger, or watcher, or in a similar partisan position;
- volunteer or work in a campaign in a role that involves direct contact with the electorate;
- use official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with or affecting the result of an election;
- knowingly solicit or discourage the participation in any political activity of any employee or person regulated by the employee's employing agency (for example, someone who has an application pending before or is being investigated by the employing agency); or
- take into account an oral or written recommendation regarding career employment or any other personnel action with respect to a career employee from a member of Congress, a congressional employee, an elected State or local official, a party official, or any other individual making such recommendation on the basis of the party affiliation of the employee or applicant (except in limited circumstances, such as when a statement is provided that relates solely to the applicant's work ability and general qualifications or to the character and residence of the applicant but does not assess the suitability of the individual for employment with the Department or for a particular job).



Kenneth C. Brill
Executive Secretary

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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520 9512868
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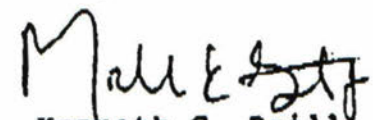
July 13, 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL ASSISTANT SECRETARIES, DEPUTY
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES, AND OFFICE DIRECTORS

Subject: Anti-Lobbying Restrictions

On January 13, 1995, the Department issued the attached guidelines to ensure compliance by Department of State personnel with anti-lobbying restrictions. More recently, you may have received guidelines prepared by the Office of Legal Counsel of the Department of Justice (OLC), which identify permitted and prohibited activities under criminal law. The OLC's guidelines do not, however, address the scope of the non-criminal lobbying laws restricting the use of appropriated funds. The Comptroller General has taken a restrictive view concerning the permissible uses of appropriated funds.

After reviewing the matter, the Department has decided to re-issue the attached January 13, 1995, guidelines. These guidelines should be followed by Department employees in public outreach activities and will serve to ensure that Department officials comply with the full range of applicable laws and avoid even the appearance of illegality.


Kenneth C. Brill
Executive Secretary

Attachment:
as stated.

COPIES TO:



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

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'95 JAN 13 A9:42 January 13, 1995

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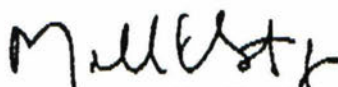
MEMORANDUM FOR ALL ASSISTANT SECRETARIES, DEPUTY
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES, AND OFFICE DIRECTORS

Subject: Anti-Lobbying Restrictions

L has prepared the attached guidelines to ensure compliance by State Department personnel with anti-lobbying restrictions. These guidelines will assist our officials in conforming to the two principal types of statutes which regulate Executive Branch attempts to influence Congress: (1) criminal statutes and (2) non-criminal restrictions on the uses of appropriated funds.

In general, these restrictions allow U.S. officials to inform private groups or foreign officials of the facts of a particular issue, the Administration's position and the rationale therefor. It is then a matter for the private groups or foreign officials to decide for themselves what if anything they wish to do. U.S. officials should not urge, encourage, request or assist these groups and officials to communicate with Congress to urge legislative action.

Please ensure that your personnel are fully aware of the attached guidelines, which should be followed in all public outreach activities.


Kenneth C. Brill
Executive Secretary

Attachment:
As stated.

Permissible Activities

A Department official may disseminate to the general public, or to particular inquirers, information reasonably necessary to the proper administration of the law or about the character of agency programs and policies.

A Department official may properly inform the general public and Members of Congress of the Administration's priorities and its legislative goals.

A Department official may directly lobby Members of Congress to obtain support for legislation.

A Department official may seek permission from Congress for executive branch representatives and private experts to testify at Congressional hearings regarding proposed legislation.

A Department official may attend a meeting arranged by Congressional members or staff to discuss legislation, even if private parties are present.

A Department official may prepare materials on Administration programs for general distribution in reasonable numbers to the public.

A Department official may provide a reasonable number of materials prepared for distribution to the general public to private groups, including lobbyists, when requested by the private groups.

A Department official may provide Congress with materials for their own use or for forwarding to the public.

Activities to Avoid

A Department official should not disseminate to the general public information whose obvious purpose is for aggrandizement or puffery or whose government authorship is not disclosed.

A Department official should not contact third parties, either members of special interest groups or the general public, and urge them to lobby their legislators to support or oppose legislation.

A Department official should not suggest that if an outside organization or audience agrees with the merits of the government's position it contact Congress.

A Department official may not arrange appointments with Congress where the purpose is to expose Congress to outside lobbying efforts.

A Department official should not coordinate the Department's legislative plans with the legislative plans of private groups or individuals.

A Department official should not provide a private citizen with a list of Members who are undecided and ask this private citizen to phone or write to the Members on the list.

A Department official should not prepare materials specifically to be used by outside groups to lobby Congress.

A Department official should not provide administrative support for lobbying activities of private organizations.

A Department official should not control, take responsibility for the operations of or finance an outside organization to lobby Congress, nor should the official participate in the fundraising activities of such an organization.

February 7, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR REGIONAL WOMEN APPOINTEES

FROM: BETSY MYERS
Deputy Assistant to the President and Director for
Women's Initiatives and Outreach

RE: ***AT THE TABLE*** - NATIONWIDE WOMEN'S OUTREACH INITIATIVE

It was good to meet many of you at our lunch on December 12 during your busy day of White House meetings. I would like to outline for you our women's outreach project, *At The Table*.

Women across America are eager to share their concerns with the President, and women appointees are the President's best representatives for listening to local women and carrying their voices to the White House policy table. *At The Table* relies on women appointees to meet with small groups of local women outside the Beltway and then to report back to my office what women said. We will compile a monthly report to the President and White House policy-makers outlining women's concerns.

We are looking to you to serve two specific roles:

- (1) To host discussions with local women throughout your region; and
- (2) To assist Washington-based women appointees in reaching out to local women in your region for their outreach meetings.

More than any other women in the Administration, you know local women, organizations and important contacts. You also may be aware of important women leaders who have felt excluded from White House policymaking and local women who are not part of traditional women's groups but whose voices also must be heard.

At The Table roundtable discussions can be as easy as sitting down for an hour with local women and asking what's on their minds. If you did not receive a simple how-to kit with all the materials you need please call us at (202) 456-7300.

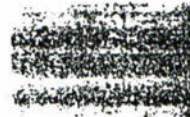
You can be any level of appointee, from Schedule C to PAS. You do not need to be an expert on domestic policy. You merely need to be willing to spend some time listening to local women. To date, dozens of women appointees have reached out to local women across the country, from advocates in Massachusetts, to businesswomen in New York, to single Mom's who are not usually heard.

We must stress that *At The Table* is not a political activity and may not be used as such; rather, it is part of the Administration's efforts to include women in government policy and to share women's input with the President. This is about giving women the opportunity to talk to a listening ear about issues important to them.

Please help us keep track of your plans by faxing the attached sign-up sheet.

**SUGGESTED LOCAL RESOURCES for
AT THE TABLE OUTREACH MEETINGS**

- o Your neighbors and family friends (e.g., your mother's bridge club).
- o Your high school and college acquaintances.
- o Local chapters of women's organizations, such as: League of Women Voters, American Association of University Women, National Organization of Women (NOW), Women's Political caucuses, Junior League, Garden Clubs, Society of Women Engineers, Business & Professional Women's clubs, Eastern Star, Council of Jewish Women, etc. (Think of organizations in which you, your mom or your grandmothers have participated.)
- o Other local organizations: Chamber of Commerce, Jay Cees, Urban League, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, women's Section of state or local bar associations, medical societies, NAACP, Anti-Defamation League, labor unions, schools, etc.
- o Churches or Synagogues and related organizations for women, including women's "circles" and groups of women with young children. Churches and synagogues may have their own daycare programs or community centers where/through which mothers of children's groups may be contacted.
- o Neighborhood groups, like Parent-Teacher Associations, Neighborhood Watch, etc.
- o Mayor and/or Governor's Women's Office or Women's Commission.
- o Women elected officials.
- o Women's newspapers or press.
- o Nursing homes, retirement homes or other institutions where many women live and have trouble getting out.
- o Colleges/Universities in your area or your Alma Mater: Contact the Dean's Office, the student government association or the college women's center.
- o Government-related groups of women: government-employees organization, WIC, Head Start, etc. You may be able to locate these sources by calling the local welfare office, i.e., AFDC, the local school superintendent's office, etc.



THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington, DC

March 13, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR WOMEN APPOINTEES

FROM: BETSY MYERS
Deputy Assistant to the President & Director for Women's Initiatives & Outreach

RE: UPDATE ON *AT THE TABLE*

Many of you have had legal questions about *At The Table*. The White House Counsel's Office concurs with the following advice:

The purpose of *At The Table* is to give women access to White House policy makers by sending President's women representatives out around the country to listen to local women and carry their concerns to the White House.

If you hold roundtable discussions with local women, those discussions should focus on policy and concerns that affect their lives and families.

- I. *At The Table* is part of an official outreach program sponsored by the Administration, and such, is considered official Government activity. Therefore:
- o It is appropriate for you to engage in this activity and to use your official title in letters of invitation.
 - o You may engage in this activity during official duty hours and travel.
 - o Your role is to listen to local women's concerns and share those concerns with your agency and with the White House Office of Women's Initiatives & Outreach for inclusion in regular reports to the President.
 - o Your role is also to educate women about how your agency and the government generally can help them. You may discuss the President's accomplishments for women.
 - o You should discuss your how your Agency's work relates to women.

II. ***At The Table*** is not a political activity and may not be used as such. For more information on Hatch Act restrictions, talk with your Agency's General Counsel. Here are some guidelines:

- o ***At The Table*** discussions must focus on the Administration's and your agency's issues and policies, not on politics.
- o You may not engage in partisan activity or discuss the President's re-election or any other candidate for election.
- o You should not encourage participants to engage in any partisan political activities in their communities or to get involved in the re-election campaign.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Office of the General Counsel
Washington, D.C. 20230

FEB 23 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR: Lajuan Johnson
Director, Office of Consumer Affairs

FROM: Barbara S. Fredericks
Assistant General Counsel
for Administration

SUBJECT: Participation in Roundtable Discussion

FYI
all
staff

This confirms advice given to you by Harrison Ford of my staff regarding your participation in a roundtable discussion sponsored by the White House Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach (WHOWIO).

WHOWIO was created by President Clinton to better inform and respond to the concerns of women across the nation. As part of its outreach program, WHOWIO will sponsor a series of roundtable discussions called At the Table. WHOWIO has asked a number of Administration officials, including you, to conduct these discussions. In this regard, you have been asked to send letters of invitation to potential participants. A form letter has been sent to you by WHOWIO, which suggests that you use your official title on the letter of invitation. You ask whether you may engage in this activity, and, if so, whether you may use your title on the letter of invitation. You also ask whether the event may take place at the Democratic National Committee (DNC) headquarters in Washington, D.C.

The roundtable discussion is part of an official outreach program sponsored by the Administration, and as such, is considered an official Government activity. Therefore, it is appropriate for you to engage in this activity and to use your official title in letters of invitation. In addition, you may engage in this activity during official duty hours. However, because it is an official activity, the event should take place in a Government building or a private location that is not affiliated with a political organization. Therefore, you should not host the discussion at DNC headquarters.

If you have further questions regarding this matter, you may contact Harrison Ford of my staff at 482-8042.

business

FUI: Kathleen
E. Ken
SR

JAMES M. JEFFORDS, VERMONT, CHAIRMAN

IAN COATS, INDIANA
JUDG GREGG, NEW HAMPSHIRE
BILL FRIST, TENNESSEE
MIKE DEWINE, OHIO
MIKE ENZI, WYOMING
TIM HUTCHINSON, ARKANSAS
SUSAN COLLINS, MAINE
JOHN WARNER, VIRGINIA
MITCH MCCONNELL, KENTUCKY

EDWARD M. KENNEDY, MASSACHUSETTS
CHRISTOPHER J. DODD, CONNECTICUT
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BARRARA A. MIKULSKI, MARYLAND
JEFF DINGAMEN, NEW MEXICO
PAUL D. WELLSTON, MINNESOTA
PATTY MURRAY, WASHINGTON
JACK REED, RHODE ISLAND

MARK E. POWDEN, STAFF DIRECTOR
SUSAN K. HATTAN, DEPUTY STAFF DIRECTOR
NICK LITTLEFIELD, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR AND LEGAL COUNSEL

http://www.senate.gov/committees/labour.htm

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND
HUMAN RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6300

March 5, 1997

Mr. Michael J. Matheson
Acting Legal Advisor
Room 6423
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520-6310

Dear Mr. Matheson:

On February 12, 1996, The White House announced that an employee of the State Department participated in the "At the Table" program initiated by the White House Office of Women's Initiatives and Outreach. I also understand that the Office of the Legal Advisor has a file or files regarding the State Department's participation in this initiative. I further understand that this material may contain guidance related to whether or not and under what circumstances these "outreach" activities constituted official business for federal employees.

As you know, the Committee on Labor and Human Resources is scheduled to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Ms. Alexis M. Herman to be Secretary of Labor on March 18. In order to discharge my responsibilities as Chairman of the Labor Committee, I would respectfully request that I be provided with a copy of these files and any other material which you have pertaining to the "At the Table program" no later than March 10. I would also appreciate a description of the State Department's participation in the project. We have already obtained guidance that was provided by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

I appreciate your consideration of my request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mark Powden or Scott Giles of the Labor Committee staff at 224-6770.

Sincerely,



James M. Jeffords

JMJ:sg

JAMES M. JEFFORDS, VERMONT CHAIRMAN

IAN COATS INDIANA
JUD GREGG NEW HAMPSHIRE
BOB HART TENNESSEE
MIKE DEWINE OHIO
MIKE ENZI WYOMING
TIM HUTCHINSON ARKANSAS
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JOHN WARNER VIRGINIA
MITCH MCCONNELL KENTUCKY

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CHRISTOPHER J. DODD CONNECTICUT
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BARBARA A. MIKULSKI MARYLAND
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NICK LITTLEFIELD MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR AND CHIEF COUNSEL
<http://www.senate.gov/committees/labour.htm>

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND
HUMAN RESOURCES
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6300

March 5, 1997

Mr. Leslie Jin
General Counsel
Room 700
United States Information Agency
301 4th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20547

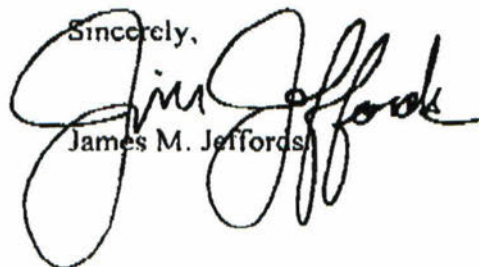
Dear Mr. Jin:

In late 1995, The White House announced initiation of the "At the Table" program organized by The White House Office of Women's Initiatives and Outreach. I understand that the Office of the General Counsel has a file or files regarding USIA's participation in this initiative. I further understand that this material may contain guidance related to whether or not and under what circumstances these "outreach" activities constituted official business for federal employees.

As you know, the Committee on Labor and Human Resources is scheduled to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Ms. Alexis M. Herman to be Secretary of Labor on March 18. In order to discharge my responsibilities as Chairman of the Labor Committee, I would respectfully request that I be provided with a copy of these files and any other material which you have pertaining to the "At the Table program" no later than March 10. I would also appreciate a description of the USIA's participation in the project. We have already obtained guidance that was provided by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

I appreciate your consideration of my request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mark Powden or Scott Giles of the Labor Committee staff at 224-6770.

Sincerely,



James M. Jeffords

JMJ:sg

JAMES M. JEFFORDS, VERMONT, CHAIRMAN

DAN COATS, INDIANA
JUDD GREGG, NEW HAMPSHIRE
BILL FRIST, TENNESSEE
MIKE DEWINE, OHIO
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JACK REED, RHODE ISLAND

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND
HUMAN RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510 6300

MARK E. POWDEN, STAFF DIRECTOR
SUSAN K. HATTAN, DEPUTY STAFF DIRECTOR
NICK LITTLEFIELD, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR AND CHIEF COUNSEL

<http://www.senate.gov/committees/abor.html>

March 5, 1997

Ms. Singleton B. McAllister
General Counsel
Room 6895 NS
U.S. Agency for International Development
320 21st Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20523

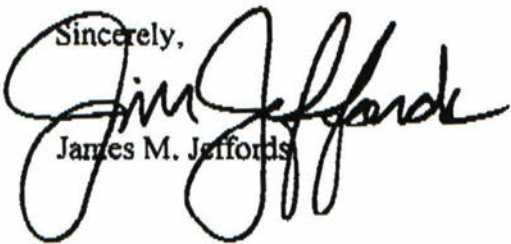
Dear Ms. McAllister:

I understand that the Office of General Counsel has a file or files regarding U.S. AID's participation in the "At the Table" program initiated by the Women's Office at the White House. I further understand that this material may contain guidance related to whether or not and under what circumstances these "outreach" activities constituted official business for federal employees.

As you know, the Committee on Labor and Human Resources is scheduled to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Ms. Alexis M. Herman to be Secretary of Labor on March 18. In order to discharge my responsibilities as Chairman of the Labor Committee, I would respectfully request that I be provided with a copy of these files and any other material which you have pertaining to the "At the Table program" no later than March 10. I would also appreciate a description of AID's participation in the project. We have already obtained guidance that was provided by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

I appreciate your consideration of my request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mark Powden or Scott Giles of the Labor Committee staff at 224-6770.

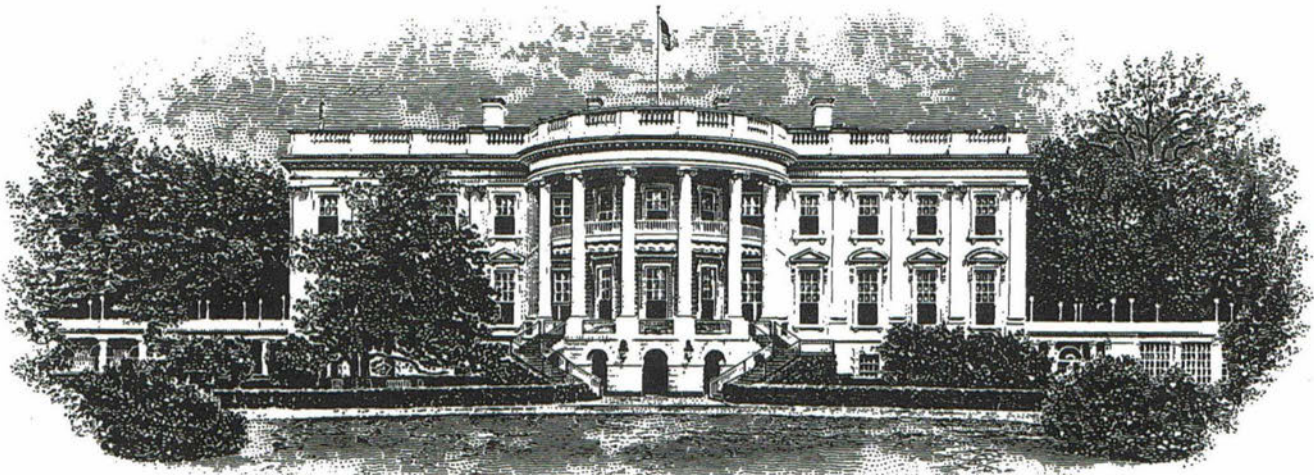
Sincerely,


James M. Jeffords

MJ:sg



The White House



PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

WOMEN APPOINTEES SIGN UP NOW!
JOIN THE WHITE HOUSE NATIONWIDE WOMEN'S OUTREACH INITIATIVE!
AT THE TABLE

Women across America are eager to share their concerns with The White House and to know that the President has heard their input. As women appointees, we can serve as the President's best representatives in listening to women and carrying their voices back to the President. The At The Table project relies on women appointees to meet with small groups of local women outside of the Beltway -- during your regular official travel or when you are home for Thanksgiving or the Holidays -- and then to report back to us what women said.

We'll make it easy for you. You do not need to be an expert on the President's domestic policy agenda. You merely need to be willing to spend some time listening to local women. We will help you reach local women by providing contacts who can set up a meeting for you in any city. We'll provide all the materials you will need. This is not a political activity and may not be used as such; rather, it is part of the Administration's efforts to include women in government policy and to share women's input with the President.

Are you willing to host an At The Table outreach meeting for local women? __ (Y) ____ (N)

DATE for your At The Table: _____

CITY for your At The Table: _____

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

DEPARTMENT/AGENCY: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

WORK PHONE: (____) _____ **FAX:** (____) _____

HOME PHONE: (____) _____ **FAX:** (____) _____

INTERNET: _____

Fax this form to:
The White House Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach
Betsy Myers, Director
202-456-7300; Fax 202-456-7311

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

AT THE TABLE
THE KIT

- * Background: **At the Table**
- * How to Hold an **At the Table** -- The 10 Easy Steps
- * Form: The Report From My **At the Table**
- * Form: Roundtable Sign-In Sheet for Participants
- * Sample Letter of Invitation
- * Sample News Release
- * Sample Thank You Letter
- * A Message from The White House Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach
- * Background: The White House Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach
- * Form: What I want The President to Know
- * Miscellaneous: Background Materials and News Clips

Special Notes:

- * Please make extra copies of any of the enclosed materials for those joining you **At the Table**.
- * Fax ASAP your sign-up form to: 202-456-7311.
- * Following your roundtable, fax your **At the Table** report to the White House to 202-456-7311.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

BACKGROUND

AT THE TABLE -- A NATIONWIDE WOMEN'S OUTREACH EFFORT BY THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE FOR WOMEN'S INITIATIVES AND OUTREACH

The White House Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach, which serves as a liaison between the White House and America's women, was created by President Clinton to better inform, respond to and listen to women across the nation.

The office's outreach efforts include a series of roundtables called **At the Table**. These roundtables, led by Administration officials, will give the Clinton Administration the opportunity to hear directly from women constituents about issues that are important to them, their families and their communities.

A report will be generated from each roundtable and submitted to The White House Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach. The reports will be compiled and abstracted for monthly submission to the policy offices in the White House.

Several roundtables have already been held, including a series with the First Lady on working women's issues, discussions between the Vice President and local women leaders on domestic issues and a discussion between Mrs. Gore and women labor leaders. Other roundtables have been held in the White House on the U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women, focusing on domestic issues; in Chicago at a school for pregnant teenagers, focusing on education; and in Fall River, Massachusetts, focusing on working women.

President Clinton is committed to strong leadership on women's issues and has worked steadfastly to ensure that Administration policies support women. The **At the Table** series will spark a dialogue and provide a mechanism to get the word out about the President's commitment, as well as his accomplishments that directly affect the lives of women. **At the Table** will also provide women a direct means to bring their concerns and proposals to the President and others in his Administration.

*(If you would like more information about **At the Table** and would like to participate, call The White House Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach, Phone: (202)456-7300 FAX: (202)456-7311.)*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

HOW TO HOLD AN AT THE TABLE ---

THE 10 EASY STEPS

Your enthusiasm and your willingness to participate in an **At the Table** roundtable event are key to the success of this program. When you are on official travel, you have the perfect opportunity to hold an At the Table roundtable. **It's easier than you think (should you choose to hold one).**

The 10 Easy Steps:

1. The next time you travel, set aside an hour or two of your time to hold an At the Table roundtable.
2. Call your agency women's liaison or Carrie Wofford at the White House Women's Office (202-456-7300) about your plans and to ask for the names of the community leaders who can gather participants for you -- between 10 and 30 is ideal.
- 3.. Pick a location for the roundtable -- your home, a friend's home or a public meeting place. You can opt to go formal and big outside your home or be a little more informal at your home with fewer participants. You decide what's easiest for you.
4. During the roundtable, begin the discussion by explaining the At the Table series and that you will carry their message back to the White House. You may also want to discuss what you do at your agency and the programs available to women in the Administration. Let the participants know you are listening to them on behalf of the Administration and that their opinions are important to the President and your agency.
5. Listen! Allow the participants to discuss the issues that are most on their minds. If you want to stick to one topic, that's fine too. But allow the participants to have a chance to voice their opinions, concerns and ideas and to ask questions.
6. If you are asked questions about topics you are not familiar with -- don't panic. This isn't a pop quiz -- just tell the participants you don't have all the answers but you will help them get the right answers later when you are back in Washington.
7. Ask all the participants to fill out copies of the "What I want the President to Know" forms and collect them.

-continued-

At the Table

The 10 Easy Steps

8. After the meeting, you should tell your agency and the White House what you heard. Fill out a copy of "The Report from My At the Table" form and send it to The White House Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach, 708 Jackson Place, Washington, D.C. 20503, Phone: (202) 456-7300, Fax: (202) 456-7311. This is to help the President keep a pulse on local women's concerns.
9. The Media: If you want, you can contact the media in your area to cover your roundtable. Specifically, if you have smaller community newspapers or radio in the area, call them to come listen. Call Mary Dixon in the Women's Office (202) 456-7300 if you need assistance with the news media in your area.
10. If you have any questions or concerns, you should always feel free to call The Women's Office. We are here to help. We can help with logistics. **We can provide materials to give to participants on issues and the President's initiatives and accomplishments.** We can help with media. Call us: Phone: (202) 456-7300.

Contacts in The Women's Office for At the Table:

Barbara Woolley, At the Table Coordinator

Carrie Wofford, At the Table Coordinator

Judy Gold, At the Table Coordinator

Mary Dixon, Communications

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

THE REPORT FROM MY AT THE TABLE:

(Please return to White House Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach
ASAP following roundtable: Fax: 202-456-7311.)

Presidential Appointee Host: _____
Department/Agency: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Fax: _____
E-Mail: _____

Location of Roundtable: _____
Date of Roundtable: _____

Local Contact: _____
Address of Local Contact: _____
Phone of Local Contact: _____
Fax of Local Contact: _____
E-Mail of Local Contact: _____

Number of Participants at Roundtable: _____
(See attached **At the Table** Roundtable Sign-In Sheet. Please send back along with this form
and please make sure that all the participants have signed the sheet.)

Brief Description of Participants (i.e. working women, mothers, ethnicity, age):

Main Topics Discussed:

Most Important Conclusion:

MISCELLANEOUS: (e.g. newspaper clips, other thoughts)
Send completed forms to The White House Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach,
708 Jackson Place, Washington, D.C. 20503 Fax: 202-456-7311

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

At the Table
Roundtable Sign-In Sheet

(To the Presidential Appointee: Please return this sheet with your other materials to the White House ASAP following roundtable: Fax: 202-456-7311.)

Presidential Appointee Host: _____
Location of **At the Table**: _____
Date of **At the Table**: _____

Participants at the Roundtable

Name:
Address:
Phone:
Fax:
E-Mail:

Name:
Address:
Phone:
Fax:
E-Mail:

Name:
Address:
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-continued-

Sign-In Sheet

Page 2

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(Continue on another page if necessary.)

SAMPLE LETTER OF INVITATION

Date

Dear: _____

The White House Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach invites you to attend a roundtable discussion with other women from your community to discuss issues of importance to you. President Clinton and Vice President Gore are keenly aware of the importance of your ideas.

The roundtable will be held:

Date:

Time:

Location:

Address:

The roundtable is part of a national women's outreach initiative called **At the Table** which is the primary project of The White House Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach. The office was created June 5, 1995, by President Clinton to ensure better outreach to women and women's organizations across the nation. All the **At the Table** roundtables are hosted by a Presidential appointee.

I hope you might join us for this discussion. Please feel free to contact me at (your phone number) with any questions. I look forward to seeing you **At the Table**.

Sincerely,

Your Name

Your Title

SAMPLE NEWS RELEASE

WHITE HOUSE TO HOLD ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION WITH LOCAL WOMEN

YOUR TOWN AND DATE -- The White House Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach is hosting a roundtable discussion here (time, date) with (name of community or town) women to learn about their local concerns.

The roundtable will be at (address) and is being hosted by Presidential appointee (your name and title).

The roundtable being held here is part of a national women's outreach initiative called **At the Table**, which is the primary project of the White House Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach. The office was created by President Clinton to conduct outreach to women and women's groups around the nation.

Following each roundtable, a report is sent to the White House and a monthly report will be written for the President and others in his Administration. The purpose of the roundtables is to give women around the nation an opportunity to share their concerns and ideas with the White House.

**PLEASE MAKE COPIES
OF THESE MATERIALS
AND DISTRIBUTE TO
PARTICIPANTS AT YOUR
AT THE TABLE**

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

**A Message from
The White House Office
For Women's Initiatives and Outreach**

We want to thank you for your interest in helping give women a voice and a place **At the Table** with the Administration. Our **At the Table** series of roundtables will actively engage participants in a dialogue on issues that directly impact them and their families.

We are aiming to have hundreds of roundtables to give thousands of women an opportunity to speak out and get involved. Administration appointees will travel across the nation and lead these meetings -- from informal gatherings in homes to larger, more formal settings in community halls.

From each roundtable, we will collect a report on what issues were of top concern to the women at the table. The Women's Office will compile these reports and ensure that policy-makers throughout the White House hear these voices.

The **At the Table** series exemplifies this President's commitment to ensure that women have a voice in his Administration. Whether you are an appointee leading a roundtable or a participant at the table -- thanks for taking the time to make government more responsive to your concerns and ideas.

If you have any questions about the **At the Table** series, call us in the Women's Office and we will help: (202) 456-7300 Fax (202) 456-7311.

Betsy Myers
Deputy Assistant to the President and
Director of The White House Office for
Women's Initiatives and Outreach

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

BACKGROUND

**THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE FOR
WOMEN'S INITIATIVES AND OUTREACH**

On June 5, 1995, President Clinton announced the appointment of Betsy Myers to head the first White House Office For Women's Initiatives and Outreach. The office was created by the President to better serve and listen to his constituents. It serves as a liaison between the White House and women's organizations, listening to women's concerns and proposals and bringing these ideas to the President and others in the Administration. Inside and outside of the White House, the office advocates for issues that are important to women.

The office schedules events and speeches for White House officials and presidential appointees and holds events and roundtables to amplify the President's pro-woman/pro-family agenda. It serves as a clearinghouse on women and family issues, publishing a biweekly newsletter discussing activities by the President, Vice President and other Administration officials working on women and family issues.

The office's primary initiative, called At the Table, is a series of roundtables across the nation with women and Administration officials to ensure that women's voices are heard at policy tables. The office has held several roundtable and media events including the President's Violence Against Women White House event October 2, 1995; the President's and First Lady's Suffrage celebration in Wyoming on August 26, 1995; a series of roundtables hosted by the First Lady on working women's issues; meetings with women leaders and the Vice President in San Francisco and Albuquerque; a meeting hosted by Mrs. Gore for labor women leaders; a meeting with women presidential appointees and Dr. Laura Tyson on the impact of the proposed Republican budget; Attorney General Janet Reno's discussion with businesses and families on the Family & Medical Leave Act; and a roundtable in the White House on the U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women, focusing on domestic economic needs.

(Please return to the Presidential Appointee Host of the **At the Table**.)

[illegible][illegible]

3. _____

Local Contact Host: _____



Photo by Linda Rich

Carmen Lomellin, fourth from the left, is surrounded by women from across Northwest Indiana

Hispanic Women's Roundtable

by: Linda Rich

Early in September, at Ivy Tech State College, a group of concerned Hispanic women from across Northwest Indiana met to discuss some of their concerns as Hispanic women. Leading the discussion was Carmen Lomellin, a representative of the White House Office on Women's Initiatives.

The White House Women's Office will be holding these roundtable discussions throughout the United States, as part of their outreach efforts. East Chicago was very fortunate to have been the first city to hold a roundtable discussion.

Carmen Lomellin, a native of East Chicago, is on assignment at the White House to coordinate these Hispanic outreach efforts. Carmen not only had the good fortune to meet with these Northwest Indiana women but to also take in a family visit.

As the discussion made its way around the table, almost every woman commented on their concerns regarding the youth and the community. Education was a major concern, since many felt that today in schools Hispanic girls are not being encouraged to obtain a higher education.

Poverty, lack of communication or barriers in the language, and a lack of positive influences on the children were some of the other concerns that were voiced.

It was further discussed that one important

step to getting women's voices heard was to have more women in key policy-making roles. Carmen was on hand to reassure the women, that as a representative of the President of the United States, she will make sure the President hears their voice.

She will take her roundtable notes back to Washington as will other members of the White House Office on Women's Initiatives. Her notes will include the fact that Hispanic women have a sense of not getting resources to education, the need for quality day care, the lack of successful role models, and the lack of health care initiatives.

Carmen has a history of community service and a true commitment to the Hispanic community. Prior to being appointed to the Clinton administration in October of 1993 she worked for Chicago's Mayor Richard Daley, and she was the Executive Director of the Chicago Private Industry Council.

As Director of Leadership Development for the Mexican American League Defense and Education Fund her goal was to increase the participation of Hispanics on policy-making boards and commissions.

The Hispanic women that were present are eagerly anticipating another visit with Carmen to hear how President Clinton will respond to the needs and concerns of the Hispanic community.

醫療改革法案若通過 不利年老華裔婦女 王毓敏蒐集華裔意見 轉交柯林頓政府參考



白宮總統行政辦公室預算管理局資深顧問王毓敏(右六)廿五日在華埠與華裔社區女性代表見面，討論亞裔女性目前所面對的問題。(記者李秀蘭攝)

【本報記者李秀蘭金山報導】多位關注華人社區女性問題的社區代表，廿四日向白宮總統行政辦公室預算管理局資深顧問王毓敏(Christine Boag)指出，近年美國國會所提出的移民改革和醫療改革法案，已開始影響華人社區，其中受影響最大的是年老的華裔女性。

於今年初獲總統柯林頓任命出任該職位的王毓敏，主要工作是負責協助柯林頓處理聯邦政府的預算，她原居於舊金山，於感恩節期間，她由華府返回舊金山，廿四日在華埠亞洲婦女服務中心與舊金山地區的華裔婦女代表見面，討論目前亞裔婦女所面對的問題。

王毓敏與華裔婦女代表會面時表示，她的任務之一是為柯林頓總統收集亞裔社區和婦女意見，希望華人社區可直接將問題和意見交給她，轉給柯林頓政府。

王毓敏指出，目前國會討論中的多個受到各界批評的法案，主要是由共和黨籍議員提出，柯林頓總統會就亞裔社區最關心的移民改革和醫療改革法案發表過意見，柯林頓表示他將否決這兩個法案，因為這些法案不但要削減現行的福利，也將對整個社會造成更大影響。

王毓敏說，柯林頓總統上任的另一個主要目標，是改革美國的醫療制度，削減醫療服務的支出，增加受影響的人的福利，而正在國會中討論的法案，將對華裔社區造成不利影響。

廿四日與王毓敏會面的華裔婦女代表向王毓敏提出的亞裔婦女問題，主要與目前國會討論中的法案有關。安樂居醫療部主任伍家瓊醫生表示，安樂居的老人十分關注美國政府為老人所提供的醫療服務，目前安樂居共有四百多名老人，其中百分之七十為女性，雖然她們大部份住在美國已有很長時間，但因為年輕時需要照顧子女，沒有在英工作，醫療福利主要依靠丈夫和政府的醫療補助，所以如果醫療改革法案通過，年老的亞裔人士，特別是亞裔婦女，受到的影響非常大。

伍家瓊醫生說，這些法案受影響的主要是合法移民，大家應該在現階段便採取法律行動，阻止美國政府繼續削減合法移民權益。

華埠亞洲婦女服務中心主任陳榮光表示，根據她在社區內的實際工作經驗，發現國會討論的移民法案已開始影響華裔婦女，許多住在美國已超過三十年的華裔婦女，因為害怕在法案通過後失去可享有的福利，於是努力學英語，希望能通過公民入籍考試。但對她們來說，學習英語是一件很困難的事，而且她們發現於過去數個月來，政府所提供的成年人英語課程，不斷在削減。

王毓敏表示，柯林頓政府十分需要大家向他提供一、二個入案例，人、社區可透過亞洲、女服務中心或其他亞裔服務團體，將意見交給。



Nuria Grant, left, a public relations professional from Bowie, recently met with First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton along with seven other area women to examine issues of most concern to working families.

October 12, 1995 - October 18, 1995 — The Prince George's Post

Nuria Grant Meets With First Lady

By Avonie Brown
Prince George's Post staff writer

Nuria Grant, of Bowie, was one of seven women from the Greater Washington Area recently invited to participate in a breakfast meeting with First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton at Mrs. K's Toll House, in Silver Spring.

The meeting, the first in a series of roundtable discussions between the First Lady and American women, was coordinated by the White House Office of Women's Initiative and Outreach.

Through their efforts these women from differing racial, social, economic and political backgrounds met with the First

Lady to talk about issues that most concerned them as working women. The meeting is a follow up to the First Lady's keynote address at the Women's Conference in Beijing, China.

To maintain the momentum of the conference and in recognition that the issues affecting women are global, the First Lady has initiated this discussion series.

Grant was recommended for this meeting by Lieutenant Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, because of her community involvement. The Lieutenant Governor was familiar with Grant's activities because she also worked for then County Executive, Parris Glendening for

10 years and temporarily served as the Lieutenant Governor's lead staff person.

There were two very key issues that Grant presented to the First Lady.

"As the mother of a three-year-old and with elderly parents, I have some definite opinions on the quality of public education and medicare," said Grant.

"I was able to talk to the First Lady about the lack of emphasis in public schools on multiculturalism, the large student to teacher ratio and the need for greater parental involvement in setting policy."

The meeting was designed such that each woman was able

to speak directly to Mrs. Clinton about issues as they specifically impacted her life.

"It was a tremendous experience," said Grant, "and I was very honored and moved to have been selected to have this conversation with the First Lady."

Now that the meeting has taken place, Grant said, "I wonder what direction they are going with the information, but as the First Lady told us, there will be a follow up to this meeting because they hope to develop an action plan focusing on the needs of working women."

The First Lady is reportedly working on a book about family life in American society.



David Scott/The New York Times

Striking Back at Domestic Violence

"The days of men using physical violence to control the lives of their wives, their girlfriends, their children are over," President Clinton declared yesterday in opening a monthlong campaign against domestic violence. Mr. Clinton, who called the problem a

human tragedy, hugged Shuk Yee Fung Ng, a victim of domestic violence, after speaking in the East Room of the White House to her and other victims. Looking on, at left, was Bonnie Campbell, director of the Violence Against Women office.

Clinton declares effort against abuse

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Domestic violence is a tragic "American issue," President Clinton said yesterday as he declared October a special awareness month and directed federal agencies to begin awareness campaigns.

"This is a human tragedy," the president said. "It is an American issue. It's a values issue. We do not have to put up with this."

Citing his own childhood, in which he saw his stepfather beat his mother, Clinton urged that domestic violence be seen "as a problem of society, not just an unfortunate thing that happens to some families on occasion, including mine."

"The days of men using physical violence to control the lives of their

wives, their girlfriends, their children, are over," Clinton said in an East Room speech before an audience of domestic violence victims, predominantly women.

In his proclamation, Clinton cited a recent Justice Department study that showed women were six times as likely as men to suffer from domestic violence. In 1992, that study showed, nearly one-third of all women killed in the United States died at the hands of a husband, former husband or boy friend.

Clinton met privately in the Oval Office with six women who survived domestic violence. One woman, Clinton said, did not seek help until her husband broke her back; another left after her husband threatened a child with a meat cleaver.

But, Clinton pointed out, domes-

tic abuse is not just a problem for women. "This is a children's problem and it's a man's problem," he said. "We're not doing anybody any favors, least of all the abusers, by ignoring it any longer."

Clinton's actions were welcomed by Nashville, Tenn., police Detective Sergeant Mark Wynn, 40, who grew up in an abusive household and now works in domestic violence prevention. Police departments desperately need resources to fight abuse within families, Wynn said, and only "strong leadership in government" can ensure the resources will flow.

"I have seen the criminal justice system at its worst for victims of domestic violence," Wynn said. "This is an issue of basic civil rights."

Jerry Rossi, president and chief executive officer of Marshalls Inc.,

urged Clinton to focus on getting more men involved in fighting domestic violence. "Men must tell men to stop hitting, beating and murdering women," Rossi said.

Under the Violence Against Women Act passed last year, federal agencies set up partnerships with private groups in hopes of stemming domestic violence through alcohol or drug treatment, counseling and emergency shelter.

In passing the act, Congress authorized spending \$1.6 billion over six years for a range of services.

Last week, the Senate approved an amendment that would authorize \$175 million in fiscal 1996, as the Clinton administration requested. During the summer, the House approved \$115 million.

Working women find sympathetic ear

■ An adviser to the President on women's issues tours a Fall River plant to hear about the workers' concerns.

By **ROBERT CORRIEA**
Journal-Bulletin Staff Writer

FALL RIVER — Presidential adviser Betsy Myers walked the cavernous workshop of the Essex Manufacturing Co. yesterday, the steady hum of dozens of sewing machines in one ear, and talk of videotaping, computer analysis and state-of-the-art equipment in the other.

"The whole thing is computerized," said David B. Soforenko, co-owner of the company, which manufactures women's and men's blazers.

FALL RIVER

"It allows women to work smarter, not harder."

Since March, workers at Essex have been videotaped at their stations, and the tape analyzed by computer. The data has helped workers eliminate wasted motions — making them more productive with less effort. The result has been higher productivity for the company, and higher wages for the employees.

"We learn more from the operators," Soforenko said. "They typically know a better way to do something than we do."

As a result, Essex was recently

named to the Honor Roll of American companies by the Department of Labor, an award given to companies in the forefront on family issues, education and job training. About 90 percent of Essex's 110 employees are women.

Myers, the senior adviser to President Clinton on women's issues, was impressed. She nodded frequently, peppered Soforenko with questions and stopped at several stations to ask women about their work. She marveled at their efficiency of movement, how they nimbly gathered the material and guided it through their sewing machines with a smooth, swift stroke.

"This has been real exciting for

me, seeing how your factory works," Myers later told a gathering of garment workers. "What really impresses me is, people don't leave."

Turnover is rare at Essex. Soforenko said people who make it through the six-week training period usually stay until they retire. He rattled off years served for each employee as he walked through the shop. "Every time someone leaves, it's another gold watch," he said.

Myers was in Fall River as the guest of Rep. Barney Frank and the Chamber of Commerce, as part of her effort to identify issues that concern women. She was named in June as first director of the White

Turn to **WOMEN**, Page C-6

acknowledges that a mutual agreement was reached without the influence of any outside agencies and that a "monetary settlement" was contained within that accord.

Coyle, who has returned to work, said she could have settled for a larger cash payment but that she opted for reinstatement in the face of needing "my job and the security. I hope I made the right decision."

The missing \$3,000 represented 1993 cash receipts from the landfill, and the loss was discovered as records were being checked during preparation of the town's annual report.

The town ruled that during a disciplinary hearing evidence had been produced to show that money directly under Coyle's control "failed to be deposited with the town treasurer."

Police dropped an investigation because of a lack of evidence.

While Coyle has acknowledged that the money was not being deposited in a timely fashion, she said a number of people had access to the cash, and that during her 15 years with the department no discrepancies in her accounts were ever reported.

Coyle decided to file the discrimination charges based on an incident in which a male employee in the department was suspended for one day after admittedly taking a small amount of money.

Women

Continued from Page C-1

House Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach, created by Mr. Clinton to listen to the concerns of women. She serves as the President's liaison to women's organizations.

In recent months, Myers has held several roundtable discussions and public events across the country, dealing with issues in the work place, domestic violence, medical leave and voting. Myers said her job is to make women understand that what is happening in Washington has direct bearing on their future, and that they should get involved in the political process.

"The average women today are, what we say, just in a survival mode," she said in an interview. "They're trying to get to work, get their kids to day care. They're still getting 72 cents on the dollar. They don't understand what's going on in Washington. They don't understand the budget. What we're trying to do is get it down to the women's level."

At a roundtable discussion at Essex involving workers from three local factories, Myers found women well-versed on what's happening in Washington, and not shy about telling the President what needs to be done.

"We need day care, especially the young women," said Geraldine Larrabee, a machine operator for

Bradley Scott Clothes. "Everything is so expensive today, most women have to work. . . . But if you have to work just to pay day care, it's not worth leaving the house."

Geraldine Cordeiro, a machine operator for Riverfall Manufacturing, wants Mr. Clinton to revive the ill-fated health care battle, saying there should be medical coverage for all Americans.

"If a women gets \$6 an hour at her job, and she has to pay for health care for her and her child, then day care, it's tough," Cordeiro said. "With pre-existing condition clauses, you're really in a bind. What do you do? You have no insurance."

In response to Larrabee, Myers touted the administration's Child Care Bureau, which has an 800 number that can provide information on day-care providers anywhere in the nation. She told Cordeiro she "hasn't seen the last of health care," and promised that Mr. Clinton will veto the Medicare and Medicaid bills passed by Congress.

Micki Gold, whose father started Essex 42 years ago, told Myers the garment industry needs money for job training, especially in economically depressed areas, such as Fall River.

"We have the room to grow. I want to expand," said Gold, co-owner of the business. "But I can't find experienced stitchers. The amount of people we turn away each week (looking for jobs) is unbelievable. We need the money to train them."



CLINTON ADMINISTRATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

November 1995

Creating Economic Opportunity and Security For All Americans

- Signed the *Economic Package*, August 10, 1993.
- The economy created *7.5 million new jobs* in the first 33 months of this Administration.
- Passed the largest *deficit-cutting* plan in history — saving more than *\$1 trillion* over seven years.
- On track for three consecutive years of *deficit reduction* — for the first time since Harry Truman.
- *Cut federal spending* by \$255 billion over 5 years.
- Made *new tax cuts* available to over 90% of small businesses.
- *Unemployment* has fallen from 7% when President Clinton took office to its current rate of 5.6%.
- Lowest *combined rate of unemployment and inflation* since 1968.
- 1994 real *GDP growth* was the highest in a decade.
- Proposed a plan to balance the budget while *protecting critical investments* in education.

Promoting a Future of Opportunity

- Increased *Head Start* funding by almost \$760 million.
- Signed the *Student Loan Reform Act*, August 10, 1993.
- Signed the *National Service Act*, September 21, 1993.
- Signed the *Goals 2000: Educate America Act*, March 31, 1994.
- Signed the *School-to-Work Opportunities Act* on May 4, 1994.
- Signed the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act Reauthorization*.

Making Communities and Schools Safe For Our Families

- Signed a tough \$30 billion *Crime Bill*, September 13, 1994.
- Signed the *Brady Bill*, November 30, 1993.
- Signed the *Assault Weapons Ban* as part of the Crime Bill.
- Put *100,000 new police* on the street — nearly 25,000 more officers have been funded.
- Signed the *Violence Against Women Act* as part of the Crime Bill.
- Signed the *Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act*, October 20, 1994.
- Signed Presidential Directive enforcing a *"Zero Tolerance" gun policy* in schools, October 22, 1994.
- Submitted and fought for the *most comprehensive Drug Control budget* ever.

Making Government Work Better and Cost Less

- Already cut the *Federal Workforce* by over 160,000 — on the way to lowest level in 30 years.
- Abolishing 16,000 pages of *obsolete regulations* and rewriting 31,000 more pages.
- \$58 billion in savings are already in the bank. \$46 billion in savings are still to come.
- Over 180 new recommendations will save \$70 billion. Eliminated 284 federal advisory committees.
- Developed government-wide *Customer Service Standards* for the first time.
- Appointed the most *diverse* Cabinet and Administration in history.
- Signed the most important federal procurement act ever to *streamline government purchasing*.
- Reformed *Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation* to protect 8.5 million pensions.
- Signed the *Unfunded Mandates Reform Act*, March 22, 1995.

Creating Opportunity in America's Communities

- Created nine Economic *Empowerment Zones* and 95 *Enterprise Communities*.
- Signed the *Community Development Banking Financial Institutions Act*, Sept. 23, 1994.
- Signed the *Interstate Banking Bill*, September 29, 1994.
- Instituted the *Defense Reinvestment and Conversion Initiative*.
- Reformed the *Community Reinvestment Act* to focus on performance rather than paperwork.
- Made the *Low-Income Housing Tax Credit* and *Mortgage Revenue Bond Program* permanent.

Protecting The Environment and Our Public Health

- Signed a new executive order to *require polluters to disclose information* to the public and *expanded the public's right-to-know* about toxic releases.
- Launched "*reinventing environmental regulation*" to cut red tape and better protect public health.
- Issued a new standard to *cut pollution from chemical plants 90% by 1997*.
- Signed *executive orders to increase recycling* and cut pollution in federal buildings.
- Signed the *California Desert Protection Act*, October 31, 1994.
- Issued a new standard to *cut pollution from incinerators 95%*.
- Introduced comprehensive *Safe Drinking Water* and *Superfund* reforms.
- Developed a plan to *restore Florida's Everglades*.
- Ended decades of conflict over the allocation of *California Bay-Delta water*.

Promoting Health Care For All Americans

- Signed the *Family and Medical Leave Act*, February 5, 1993.
- Signed a comprehensive *Child Immunization Plan*.
- Revoked the Reagan/Bush restrictions on *abortion* counseling ("*the gag rule*"), abortions in military hospitals, "Mexico City" policy and RU-486 imports.

- Increased *Ryan White CARE Act* funding for outpatient *AIDS care over 100%* in first three budgets.
- Put the *Women, Infants and Children* Program (WIC) on a full-funding path.
- Proposed a \$1.3 billion increase in *veterans' benefits* — of which \$1 billion will be directed to the *VA health system* to provide treatment for *43,000* more veterans.
- Increased funding *65%* for *breast cancer research*.
- As part of the balanced budget plan, introduced *health care reform initiative* which strengthens *Medicare* and expands *coverage*.

Preserving and Strengthening Our Families

- Expanded the *Earned Income Tax Credit* providing tax relief for *15 million working families*.
- Introduced the *Work and Responsibility Act* - comprehensive welfare reform.
- Passed the *Family Support and Preservation* Program.
- Passed major funding increases for *homeless programs* in both Houses.
- Approved *34 waivers* to states permitting comprehensive *welfare reform* demonstrations.
- Signed the *Social Security Independent Agency Act*.
- Increased *adoption and foster care funds* by almost \$600 million from 1994-1995.

Restoring Trust in Our Government

- Signed the National Voter Registration Act (*Motor-Voter*), May 20, 1993.
- Eliminated the tax deduction for *lobbying* expenses.
- Imposed strictest Administration *ethics guidelines* in history.
- Barred top officials from becoming *foreign lobbyists* after leaving government.
- Issuing executive order *banning contact* with *lobbyists* who do not disclose their activities.
- Fought for passage of and signed into law the *Congressional Accountability Act*, January 22, 1995.
- Fought for passage of *line-item veto, campaign finance and lobbying disclosure reform*.

Opening Foreign Markets to American Goods

- Signed *NAFTA* into law, December 8, 1993, which will create hundreds of thousands of US jobs.
- Signed *GATT* into law, December 8, 1994, the largest trade agreement in history.
- Secured free-trade commitments from *Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation* (APEC) leaders.
- Hosted *Summit of the Americas* and agreed to negotiate a Free Trade Area of the Americas by 2005.
- Developed *National Export Strategy*, eliminating outdated export controls on \$35 billion in exports.
- Opened *15 different market sectors* in Japan ranging from telecommunications procurement to rice.
- Reached historic agreement with Japan on *opening its automotive market* to *billions of dollars* worth of *American cars and parts*.
- Reached agreement with China to provide *intellectual property rights protection* for billions of dollars worth of U.S. exports.

American Leadership

- Helped *Israel and Jordan* achieve an historic peace treaty and *Israel and the Palestinians* fulfill their historic accord.
- Contributed to an historic cease-fire in *Northern Ireland*.
- Restored democratically elected Haitian *President Aristide* to power; *stopped the flow of refugees* to Florida.
- Undertook, with NATO allies and UN, military and diplomatic actions to alleviate the suffering and lead the effort to negotiate an end to the conflict in *Bosnia*.
- Russian *nuclear missiles* are no longer pointed at our cities.
- Persuaded *Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan* to give up the *nuclear weapons* left on their land when the Soviet Union collapsed.
- Agreed to framework with *North Korea* that freezes and leads to the eventual *elimination* of North Korea's dangerous nuclear program.
- Working to prevent nuclear weapons from ending up in the hands of *terrorists or international criminals*.
- Air-lifted more than half a ton of *vulnerable*, highly enriched *uranium*, enough to make dozens of nuclear bombs, from *Kazakhstan* to *safe storage*.
- Assisted *South Africa's* transition to democracy, providing support for elections and development.
- Bringing the nations of Europe closer:
 - *Modernizing NATO;*
 - *Working with Russia;*
 - *Reforming the former Soviet Union economies;*
- Waging a tough *counter-terrorism campaign* with stronger laws and more training for law enforcement.
- Maintaining *strong sanctions* against states that sponsor *terrorism* and defy the rule of rule, such as *Iran, Iraq, Libya* and *Sudan*.
- Sent our planes, ships and troops to *turn back a new Iraqi threat* to the Persian Gulf.

CLINTON ADMINISTRATION PRO-WOMAN/PRO-FAMILY AGENDA

Making Families More Economically Secure

- Signed the Family & Medical Leave Act
- Improved access to child care, established Child Care Bureau and National Child Care Information Center (1-800-616-2242)
- Expanded Earned Income Tax Credit by \$21 billion over five years
- Committed to increasing the minimum wage
- Strengthened equal opportunity for all through affirmative action
- Increased enforcement of child support and introduced legislation that doubles federal child support collections
- Fighting for federal budget that strengthens families, e.g., Medicare

Keeping Our Families Safe from Violence

- Signed Assault Weapons Ban and Brady Bill
- Signed the Violence Against Women Act
- Created the Violence Against Women Office
- Introduced Operation Safe Home to fight crime in public housing
- Passed Family Preservation and Support Act, providing services to prevent child abuse and neglect

Making Education and Training a Reality For All

- Created and signed Student Loan Reform, saving students and taxpayers money
- Signed National Service Act, helps communities and students
- Signed School-to-Work Opportunities Act, preparing students for careers and advanced education
- Signed Goals 2000: Educate America Act, setting higher standards
- Increased Head Start funding by \$760 million
- Signed reauthorization of Elementary and Secondary Education Act, providing better education for impoverished students
- Supported Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act

Health Care That Makes Sense

- Made improvement of women's health a priority
- Signed legislation requiring that women and minorities are included in NIH-supported research
- Increased funding for breast cancer research by 65%
- Signed Childhood Immunization Plan, ensuring vaccination and healthy future for all children
- Developed healthy school meal initiative for students
- Placed WIC on full-funding path
- Revoked Reagan-Bush restrictions on abortion counseling
- Ensured safety, effectiveness and availability of mammography
- Increased AIDS funding by 40%
- Established first Deputy Assistant Secretary for Women's Health

Expanding Economic Opportunities for Women

- SBA lending to women increased by 86 percent
- DOL's Women's Bureau launched Honor Roll initiative, encouraging employers to implement family-friendly policies good for women
- Expanded the public-private SBA's Women's Demonstration Program, providing business skills and training for women
- Created the Interagency Committee on Women's Business Enterprise, eliminating barriers to economic development within federal agencies
- Increased federal procurement contracts for women in both percentage and dollar amounts

Making Way for Women

- 42 percent of President's appointees are women, highest ever
- Six women hold Cabinet-level positions, highest ever
- 59 percent of all President's judicial nominees are women and minorities, highest ever
- Second President to nominate a woman to the Supreme Court
- Opened almost 260,000 positions for women in the military
- Established Older Women's Initiative, bringing focus on issues impacting older women and their families
- Established White House Office for Women's Initiatives & Outreach

White House Office for Women's Initiatives & Outreach
202-456-7300, fax 202-456-7311

AT THE TABLE APPOINTEE HOSTS

Eleanor Acheson, Asst. Attorney General-Office of Policy

Madeline Albright, U.N.

Althea Allen, Commerce

Aida Alvarez, Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight

Barbara Anderson

Dr. Anne Petersen, Dep. Dir, National Science Foundation

Lauren Ariker, Staff Specialist, DOD, 703/607-3207

Jayne Armstrong, Regional Advocate, SBA, 610-962-3745

Polly Baca, GSA

Shelley Balis, Dir. Office and Intergovernmental Affairs, DOT

Gale Barron Black, DOL, 219-9475

Carolyn Becraft, DASD at DOD

Patricia Beneke, Assistant Secretary, DOI, 208-3186

Olena Berg, Assistant Secretary, DOL, 219-8233

Bonnie Berry, USDA, 690-0219

Lydia Bickford, DOI 208-3338

Amy Billingsley, Education, 708-4674

Helen Bird, DOE, 965-5251, Foreign Affairs Specialist

Gale Black, DOL, 219-9475

Jana Blair, White House Counsel

Holly Bode, HHS, Special Asssitant 690-7485

Debra Borie-Holtz, State Exec. Dir, USDA, 609-298-3446

Sarah Brau, First Lady's Correspondence, 6-5966

Shantrelle Brown, EPA, Dr. Goldman's Office 260-6906

Ines Brown

Gwen Brown, 703-697-5185

Carol Browner, Administrator, EPA

Andrea Buckingham, Commerce, 482-0097,

Jodie Buenning, Commerce, 482-4127, Special Assistant

Iris Burnett, Director, USIA 619-4742

Judith Burrell, DOT 366-6524, Special Assistant to the Secretary

LaVarne Burton, HHS 690-8218

Dawn Busby, Dir. Ofc of Export Trading Comp. Affairs - Commerce

Amy Busch, HHS, Special Assistant

Larry Byrne, USAID

Christina Cabral, HHS, 401-4547, Confidential Asssitant
Alma Candelaria, Legislative Officer,DOL, 219-6141
Norma Cantu, Education, Director for Civil Rights
Marie-Louise Caravatti, Sr. Advisor, Dept of Commerce
Kem Carter, State, Special Assistant 663-1254
Maggie Cary, Regional Director, HHS
Eileen Cassidy, Director of International Trade, 205-6720, SBA
Ida Castro,Dir. Women's Bureau-DOL
Jennifer Chang Hetterly, HHS, 690-6241, Special Assistant
Nelba Chavez, HHS, (301) 443-4795,
Judy Chessser, SSA
Dawn Chirwa, WH Counsel, 6-7900
Judy Chisser, Social Security Administration
Carrie Cihak, CEA, Staff Economist. 395-3517
Secretary Cisneros, HUD
Susan Clampitt, NEA, 682-5632
Martha Ann Clark, Defense
Patti Cogdell, Director, WH Conference Center, 456-7507
Bonnie Cohen, AS, DOI
Margarita Colmenares, Education
Lydia Colon, Regional Advocate SBA, 264-7750
Carolyn Colvin, Deputy Commissioner, SSA, 410-965-1720
Beverly Coney, Special Ass. in State Dept.
Joan Coplan, SBA
Rhonda Crawford, Special Assistant, DOL, 219-9475
Caroline Croft, Director of Arts America, USIA, 619-5873
Grace Cronican, DOT, 366-4040, Deputy Administrator
Jennifer Curley, State, Protocol
Jennifer Dang, Special Assistant, USAID, 647-4213
Susan Daniels, Deputy Commissioner, SSA, 410-965-1720
Jennifer Davis, Education
Veronica De la Garza, USDA
Ada Deer, Asst. Sec. Indian Affairs, DOI
Pam Deveau, Energy
Mary Dixon, Energy, Speechwriter, 586-2249
Diana Don, Commerce, 482-3809, Special Assistant, Press
Mary Beth Donahue, HHS, 690-6133, Deputy COS
Carole Dortch, GSA Regional Administrator

Jennifer Douglass, USAID, 647-9660,
Fred DuVal, State, Director of Protocol, 647-4121
Maria Echaveste, Admin for Wage & Hour Admin, DOL, 219-8305
Elizabeth Echols, Commerce
Mary Ellen Withrow, US Treasurer
Anne Elliott, Energy, Public Affairs, 586-1607
Christine Ervin, Asst. Sec. DOE
Andrea Esquer, DOE
Ana Ferrera, Energy
Lynn Filusch, HHS
Lynne Finnerty, UDSA, 720-7100, Executive Sec.
Lauri Fitz-Pegado, Commerce, 482-5777, Assistant Secretary & Director General
Eileen Fitzgerald, USDA, 720-3213, Executive Assistant to the Administrator
Dolores Ford, Federal Maritime Commission
Patricia Ford-Roegner, HHS Regional Director, (404) 331-2442
Charlotte Foster, Regional Director, HHS, (215) 596-6492
Cheryl Fox, HUD, 708-4252, Special Assistant, Fair Housing Office
Louise Frankel Stoll, Ass. Sec. for Budget, DOT
Patricia Fry Godley, Energy, 586-6660, Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy
Joan Furey, VA, no phone #, Women Veterans' Director
Jane Garvey, DOT, 366-2240, Deputy Administrator
Dolly M. Gee, Federal Services Impasses Board
June Gibbs Brown, HHS, 619-3148
Cindy Gire, Scheduling Director, USAID, 647-3863
Lynn Goldman, MD, EPA, Toxic substances & pesticides
Miriam Gonzales, HHS
Sherry Goodman, DOD
Kay Goss, Associate Director FEMA, 646-3487
Pat Gotley, Asst. Sec. DOE
Rhea Graham, HHS
David Gray Ross, HHS, 401-4370
Frankee Greenberg, DOT, 366-0239, White House Liaison
Allison Greene, Regional Director, HHS, 212264-4600
Ellen Haas, Under Secretary, USDA
Pat Halpin-Murphy, Janet MacElroy, Host, AFL-CLO
Loni Hancock, Education, (415) 556-7093, Regional Director
Shirley Harrington-Watson, VA, 273-4909, Special Assistant
Martha Harris, State, 647-6944, DAS for Export Controls

Molly Harris Olson, Director, President's Council on Sustainable Development,
Judith Harwood, Regional Director, Education, 404-331-5382
Barbara Harwood, Regional Appointee, DOL
Monica Healy, Labor
Sherrye Henry, SBA
Alexis Herman, Director, OPL, 456-2930
Ida Hernandez, Director, Treasury
Patricia Herring Parisi, Education, 637-6284, Regional Representative
Vicki Hicks, Ass. Dep. Admin. Farm Service Agency, USDA
Kitty Higgins, WH Cabinet Affairs
Sally Hill Cooper, DOT, Admin for Policy & Program development
Gracia Hillman, State
Barbara Holum, Commissioner, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Elizabeth Homer, DOI, 208-3338, Director, Office of American Indian Trust
Robin Hope, EEOC, 663-4915
Luz Hopewell, Director, Office of Small Business Utilization, DOT, 366-5326
Charlotte Hrnecir, GSA, Deputy Associate Administrator-IGA, 501-0563
Bib Hubbard, DOL
Amy Hughes, DOD, Regional Director
Jennifer J. Douglas
Lynn Jennings, USAID
Jennifer Johnson, Commerce, Assistant Business Liaison
Lajuan Johnson, Director, Office of Consumer Affairs, DOC, 482-5001h
Anne Johnson, State
Stephanie Jones, Education, Regional Administrator (312) 353-5215
Michelle Jordan, EPA, Beth Hanley, GSA
Diana Josephson, Commerce, 482-4569, Deputy Under Secretary, NOAA
Kathy Jurado, Asst. Sec. -Intergovernmental Affairs-VA
Julie Kaminkow, Education, 401-0003, Special Assistant
Dr. Katherine Seelman, Education, Director of NIDRR
Barbara Kelly, Regional Director, DOL, (404) 347-4366
Kim Kendall, Energy, 586-0927, Special Assistant
Roger Kennedy, Dir. Nat'l Park Service
Maureen Kennedy, Rural Housing Service, USDA
Missy Kincaid, Chief of Staff, SBA
Frankie King, UDSA, Special Assistant for Foreign Agriculture, 690-0598
Susan King, Asst. Sec. of Public Affairs, DOL
Frankie King, USDA

Kathie Klass, DOT, Chief, Consumer Education, 366-5971
Madeline Kunin-Deputy Sec. Education
Janice LaChance, Director of Communications & Policy, OPM, 606-1800
Duane Lakich, Policy Analyst, Energy, 586-5171
Renee Landers, DOJ, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, 514-4582
Barbara Leach, DOT, Director, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, 366-1524
Teresa Leger de Fernandez, HUD
Alyn Levin-Hadar, Special Assistant Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission
Ginger Lew, SBA
Paulette Norvel-Lewis, Regional SBA
Arlene Lidsky Kambour, USAID, 647-9991, Special Assistant
Leslie Lillard, DOT
Clover Lockard, Regional Advocate, SBA-Seattle, WA
Jill Long Thompson, Under Secretary for Rural Development, 720-4581
Gloria Long, Assistant Secretary's Office, VA
Sharron Longino, USDA
Mary Lou Keener, General Counsel, VA 273-6660
Dr. Lynn Goldman, EPA, Toxic Substances Administrator
Lajuan M. Johnson, Director, Office of Consumer Affairs, DOC, 482-5001
Stephanie Madden, Special Assistant to the Chairman, NEA, 682-5400
Sharon Maeda, HUD
Allison Major, Drug Enforcement Policy and Support, DOD, (703), 697-5656
Aimee Malnati, OVP-Leg. Correspondent, 224-2425
Virginia Manuel, Commerce, 482-5853, Executive Assistant
Sara Manzano, HUD
Felicia Marcus, EPA, (415) 744-1001, Regional Administrator
Awilda Marquez, Chief Counsel, Commerce, 482-4687
Marsha Martin
Jill Martinez
Mayra Martinez-Fernandez, Senior Advisor, DOC
Judy Mayotte, Special Adviser State, 736-4449
Ellen McCulloch Lovell, ED, President's Committee on Arts 682-5560
Gail McDonald, Admin. of St. Lawrence Seaway Dev. Corp.-DOT
Nancy McFadden, General Counsel-DOT
Kathleen McGinty, Pres. Chair-CEQ
Inez McNeely Brown, SBA - Regional
Fran McPoland, EPA, Associate Administrator
Lori McRea Keller, WH Cabinet Affairs

Laura Meadows, 706-546-2162, USDA
Barbara Meister, USDA
Shelly Metzenbaum, EPA, 260-0421, Associate Administrator
Cynthia Metzler, Deputy Secretary, DOL
Quinn Middleton, Asst. for Congressional Relations, HUD
Virginia Miller, Commerce, Governmental Director of Public Affairs, 482-6039
Lorraine Miller, Dir. Office of Congressional Relations-Fed. Trade Comm.
Denise Miller, Legislative Specialist, Merit Systems Protection Board, 653-6772
Paul Miller, EEOC Commissioner
Sharon Mohamed-Warner, HUD 708-0030
Jolene Molitoris, DOT, Federal Railroad Administrator
Patricia Montoya, Regional Dir.HHS
Pat Morgan
Suzanne Morrell, State, Protocol, Assistant to Director
Susan Myrtetus McCann, SBA, 610-962-3710
Lisa Newman, Chief Speechwriter, FEMA, 646-3159
Mary Nichols
Jadine Nielsen, Regional Advocate-SBA
Paulette Norvel-Lewis, SBA Regional Advocate
Karen Nussbaum, Women's Bureau Director, Labor
Carla Nuxoll, Education, Regional Representative, (206) 220-7800
Lois O' Keefe, Regional Director, DOL, 312-353-4703
Hazel O'Leary-Sec. of Energy
Tara O'Toole, Asst. Sec., Environment, Safety and Health, DOE
Rose Ochi, Associate Director, ONDCP, 395-6632
Lisa Osborne Ross, Deputy Director, White House Women's Office
Elizabeth Osenbaugh, DOJ, Counselor for State & Local Env. 514-2744
Lynn Parrish, 874-9696, US Mint
Joan Parrott-Fonesca, Commerce, Director, Minority Business Development
Jan Paschal, Education, (617) 223-9317, Regional Representative
Jennifer Peck, Education, Regional Representative, 415-437-7526
Gail Pesyna, DOE, 586-1665, DAS, Management & Finance
Diana Phillips, Exec. Ass. to the Dep. Sec., DOEd.
Antonella Pianalto SBA
Zina Pierre, OPM, Special Assistant
Valerie Piper, Special Projects Officer, HUD, 343-0620
Eva Plaza, Justice
Hermelinda Pompa, Women's Bureau DOL, 219-6611

Delia Pompa, Dir. of Bilingual Education, Dept. of Ed.
Leanne Powell, USDA, 720-4581
Carole Powell, USDA Civil Rights Enforcement
Cynthia Quarterman, DOI, 208-3500, Director of Minerals Management Service
Mary Raguso, DOD, (703) 697-9789, Environmental Policy Analyst
Robin Raphael, State, 736-4325 AS for South Asian Affairs
Carol Rasco, Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy, 456-5392
Lynn Reddy, DOD (703) 695-2733, Director, Programs & Community Relations
Rene Redwood, DOL, 219-9430
Anne Reed, USDA, 720-3590, DAS for Administration
Janet Reno, Attorney General
Dr. Elena Rios, HHS, Advisor for Minority and Women's Health, 690-5884
Linda Robertson, Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Treasury, contact is
Marnie Sharon Robinson, Asst. Sec. Education
Sharon Robinson, Ass. Sec. in Dept. of Ed.
Faith Roessel, Special Assistant to the Secretary, DOI, 501-5994
Billie Rollins, Education, 401-3048, Special Assistant
Hannah Rosenthal, HHS Regional Director, 312-353-5160
Ann Rosewater, DAS, HHS
Janette Sadik-Khan, Administrator for Budget & Policy, 366-4050
Amy Sands, Education
Jina Sanone, Corporation for National Service, Special Assistant, 606-5000
Claudia Schechter, Interior, Director of Operations, 208-6254
Lois Schiffer, Asst. Attorney General- DOJ
Sondra Seba, DOD, Intergovernmental Affairs Specialist
Katherine Seelman, 205-8134 Director of NIDER
David Sharma, Admin. of Research & Special Programs, DOT
Sally Shelton, Asst. Admin. USAID
Audrey Shepard, FDA 301-827-0293 & Pat Ford-Roegner, HHS
Lynn Simmons Dept. of Ed
Cynthia Smith, HHS, (301) 443-1083, Senior Adviser
Ana Sol Gutierrez, DOT, 366-1067, Deputy Administrator for Research
Gretchen Sorenson, SBA, Regional Director
Patricia Sosa, Director, Intergov't Division, 401-9261
Katie Steele, HHS Regional Director, 816-426-2821
Louise Stoll, AS, DOT, 366-9193
Penny Storms, Confidential Assistant, Energy, 586-5281
Carol Stroebel, DOT, 366-2105

Jamie Studley, Education, General Counsel
Margie Sullivan, DOD, Chief of Staff (703) 695-3329
Sarah Summerville, Director of Communications DOD, 703-693-2550
Jordan Tamagni, Assistant to the Counselor to the President, 456-6591
Tracy Thompson, SBA, 205-6411
Cathryn Thorup, USAID, 647-0600, Director, Office of Development Partners
Maria Torano, US Commission of Public Diplomacy USIA, (305) 579-2180
Leslie Turner, DOI, 208-5336 IGA Director
Margery Turner, Deputy Asst. Secretary for Research, HUD
Robert Uram, Director, Office of Surface Mining, 208-4006
Toni Verstandig, State
Joan Wainwright, Social Security Admin.
Judith Waldrop, Special Assistant to the Director, Census Bureau
Sandra Walker, Regional Representative, Education (816) 880-4000
Louise Ware, Veterans' Affairs, Assistant Secretary's Office
Shirley Watkins, USDA, Assistant Secretary
Yolanda Wheat
Kaye Whitley, DOD, (703) 602-2102, x162 Special Assistant
Cassandra Wilkins, SSA
Joyce Willis, Rural Development, Confidential Assistant 720-2256
Deborah Williams, Special Assistant to the Secretary for Alaska (907) 271-5485
Jamie Williams, Director, Presidential Inquiries, 6-5444
Annette Wilson, DOT, 366-9716
Dina Wood-Veterans Affairs
Cora Yamamoto, HHS, 301-827-0013
Lynn Yeakel, Regional Director, HHS
Melinda Yee, Senior Adviser, Commerce
Jennifer Yezak, Special Assistant to AS for Marketing and Reg.
Joan Yim, DOT, 366-1719, Deputy Administrator
E. Kinney Zalesne, WH Fellow OVP, 6-7871