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Series: Speech File Draft Files
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OA/ID Number: 13517
Folder ID Number: 13517-010

Folder Title:
U.S. Conference of Mayors 1/26/90 [OA 4391][2]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
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Document No. 106062

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

01/23

DATE: 01/19/90

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 10:00 a.m. Tuesday

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
(10/19 draft five)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DELAND	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BENNETT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			ANDERSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston by 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, 01/23, with a copy to my office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

OK with suggested changes on pg. 2.

Peter

89 DEC 23 ALL 10

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

1990 JAN 19 PM 8:25

(Smith/Blessey)
Draft Five
January 19, 1990
MAYOR

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
CAPITOL HILTON HOTEL
FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 1990
10 A.M.

Mayor Whitmire, __, Distinguished Mayors, Ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for that reception, and for the pleasure of being here. In particular, let me thank my fellow Houstonian Kathy Whitmire, for that warm introduction. //

((Kathy and I go way back. Maybe that's why even though I'm a Republican and she's a Democrat, the last time I was in Houston she presented me with the key to the city. // Only one problem. I found out later that the city was Anchorage, Alaska.)) //

((But you know me -- I don't hold grudges. So I picked up the phone when she called a couple weeks later. She asked me to declare a disaster area. // I told her I didn't think the Houston Oilers were that bad.)) //

((I'm also glad, of course, to see the "Mayor's Mayor." // When I first heard you were honoring a famous Jewish Mayor for his years of service in turbulent times, I thought you meant Ed Koch. // Instead, all my best to Jerusalem's best -- Teddy Kollect.)) //

Teddy, Kathy, and all of your colleagues -- it is an honor to address this 58th annual U.S. Conference of Mayor's winter meeting. And to talk to you about the ways that you and I -- the White House and the Mayors -- can build a better America.

Nineteen months ago, I sent you a letter expressing my thoughts on urban policy. And wrote, "As we prepare to enter the 1990s, it is clear that America needs a new working relationship between the Federal government and the cities."

Well, I meant it then. And mean it now. We need to forge a new relationship. // A relationship which is a partnership. // A partnership which realizes that as Mayors, you man the front lines in the war against urban problems. A partnership which can achieve the promise of America.

And that promise of America depends on maintaining our economic resources as we have since 1982 -- the longest peacetime boom in American history. The '90s begin with inflation down. Interest rates declining. And the lowest jobless rate in 15 years. And next week, we'll release a budget for Fiscal Year 1991 that builds on this prosperity. Together, let's support policies which create more opportunity for all. //

The promise of America also depends on the safeguarding ^{of} our natural resources as Mayors are doing through initiatives like Chicago's "Plastics on Parks." Or in Virginia Beach, generating electricity from that city's landfill.

You're doing your part -- we intend to do ours. By strengthening the Clean Air Act, preserving our wetlands, improving America's parks, encouraging reforestation, and by other domestic and international initiatives to make this a cleaner, safer world. Together, let's protect our environment for decades to come. //

Then, there are human resources. And here, too, togetherness counts. Today, an estimated __ million urban families are led by working parents. But when it comes to child care, Washington doesn't automatically know best. So I urge the Congress to pass my child-care legislation to put choice in the hands of low-income parents. //

Each of these initiatives will nurture the promise of America. Yet urban problems won't fade until we meet the challenges I discussed in 1988 -- the challenges you face each day: Drugs and crime, education, housing, and the plight of our homeless. Can we meet them? I believe we can. Because I believe in America, nothing is impossible. // ((Perhaps an ex-baseball player put it best. "When I was a little boy," Craig Nettles said, "I wanted to be a [big-league] player and join the circus. With the Yankees, I've accomplished both."))

Well, I believe that as partners we, too, can accomplish what some might think is impossible. The first of our challenges is the drugs and crime that take such a sad toll on your streets and the streets of communities across America. Rescuing our kids from the terrorism of hoods, hooliganism, crack, and cocaine won't be easy, but it can be done. //

Eight months ago, I sent proposals to the Congress to help win the war on crime. Well, while the clock is running, America's patience is running out. I ask you to support our legislation to take thugs off the street -- and take back the streets. // We need mandatory time for firearms offenses. No

deals when criminals use a gun. And for anyone who kills a law enforcement officer -- we need the death penalty. Not someplace. Not some time. But here -- and now. //

Last year, 23 million Americans used illegal drugs on a "current" basis -- at least once in 30 days. And eight million people used cocaine. A Nation with those numbers cannot long preserve its soul. //

To help save it, last September you held a Mayors' Conference on Drugs and I congratulate you. You're acting locally to stem the use, sale, and flow of drugs. In Macon, Mayor Lee Robinson has formed a partnership -- the Macon-Bibb War on Drugs. And here, in Houston, Kathy Whitmire, parks and recreation officials, local police, and residents of Acres Home project have joined hands to pursue "Drug Free Tomorrows." I visited Acres Home in November and the courage of that community is truly inspiring.

I commend these efforts. But these soldiers on the front lines need help. So our Administration has unveiled America's first national comprehensive strategy to win the war on drugs. And asked the Congress for \$__ billion in FY '91 for education, treatment, interdiction, and enforcement. We, too, want to help the teenager tormented by crack. Or the pregnant mother -- alone and desperate -- whose drug use threatens her child. Please: Support our plan to help America get clean --and stay clean. Together, let's defeat Public Enemy Number One. //

Erasing drugs will save lives. But, it will also help meet that second challenge I talked about: the education of our kids. //

You know how central education is to urban America: Bright minds can find solutions to the many problems of our cities. Remember, I said nothing was impossible. Yet, look at today's box score of so-called "higher learning." A drop-out rate that is totally unacceptable. Erratic standards. Unsafe schools wracked by drug use and trafficking. Kids ill-equipped to read or write. Let's be honest: Our educational system isn't making the grade. To go from "fail" to "pass" will require school boards, teachers, and parents to work together with all levels of government. // So last September, I met with a group of Mayors. I heard about Kenner, Louisiana, which created "Step Up" -- a program providing learning incentives for students. And Colorado Springs -- there, officials founded a program to help dropouts and at-risk kids finish high school. // And about the more than 350 cities which uplifted America on your "National Education Day."

So far, so good -- and thanks to you, getting better. But while education is mainly a local and State responsibility, the Federal government must help. That's why last year we sent up the "Educational Excellence Act of 1989" now before the Congress. Legislation which seeks: First, to reward excellence. Second, to see that Federal dollars serve those most in need. Third, to

demand educational accountability. And fourth, it supports greater flexibility and choice.

For instance, we want to create a \$500 million program to reward schools that improve the most. And to reward schools which create a drug-free environment and reduce the drop-out rate. // Then, there's our new Magnet Schools of Excellence program -- letting parents choose which public schools their kids will attend. Urban Emergency Grants to help urban schools hit hardest by drug use and trafficking. // And a National Science Scholars initiative in science, mathematics, and engineering.

To fulfill the promise of America, we must be competitive in the international marketplace of ideas. Our proposals will help do that. But the promise of America also depends on meeting the third and fourth challenges I mentioned earlier: Making housing affordable and accessible -- especially for the homeless. //

Every American deserves a home. Well, here again, you're acting creatively. In Kansas City, providing day care to free parents to find permanent housing. Or in Charlotte, using public-private monies to renovate buildings for the homeless. // Believe me, in Washington we've taken note. So two months ago, I announced America's project HOPE, Home Ownership and Opportunity for People Everywhere. To help make the Federal government a more effective urban partner in bringing basic shelter and affordable housing within reach of millions of Americans.

HOPE aims to help first-time homebuyers by allowing them to draw, without penalty, on IRA savings as a down payment for that

first home. HOPE can also help tenants become home-owners. Think of public housing sites like East Los Angeles or Cochran Gardens in St. Louis. Each has tenants in control. HOPE will mean even more low-income Americans can know the pride and dignity of owning a home. For other low-income families, we want housing vouchers that increase housing options.

But for many, the problem of housing isn't just affordability. It's availability. So we want Congress to renew the low-income housing tax credit to create incentives for the construction and rehabilitation of the housing so desperately needed by low-income families.

But we must also create incentives for growth in those areas where need is the greatest. Because growth means jobs and jobs mean homes. So we have urged Congress to help the dream along by passing our Enterprise-Zone legislation. We have proposed the creation of at least 50 Enterprise Zones over the next four years to fuel the engine of job creation in our cities. But, in these areas of severe poverty, we've got to do even more. We've got to get rid of the capital gains tax altogether to spur the investment that can turn dark corners of despair into thriving neighborhoods once again.

Finally, I have asked Secretary Kemp to convene a blue-ribbon commission to identify barriers to affordable housing. Each of you deals with these problems everyday. Give us your advice.

For some Americans, however, other things come first: They need the self-respect to regain their lives. Their roof is the sky above. Their floor is the street below. The homeless.

We see them everywhere -- next door on 15th Street, in our suburbs and small towns. They need emergency shelter, food, and medical care. So two months ago, I signed a bill that increases funding under the McKinney Act to reduce homelessness. And we want to find new ways to put part of our FHA foreclosures into the hands of non-profit groups. And to coordinate basic needs like shelter with other social services.

It won't be easy: We know that. But we also know the real answer to the homeless is shelter plus care. And we know that to help the homeless -- like improving education, or stopping crime -- will require a combined Federal, State, and local effort. Only then can we unleash the resources of the private and public sectors -- showing, as a writer said, how "America is a willingness of the heart." //

I believe there is a willingness of the heart in this room. A willingness to put aside partisan concerns because the promise of America also depends on us. So let us sit down -- the White House and Mayors; Democrats and Republicans -- and do what needs to be done to make the impossible \\ possible. Thank you for this occasion. God bless you. And God bless the United States of America.

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RESPONSE:

8 N/C ~~1/23/90~~ 1/23/90

(See suggestion p.2)

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

1990 JAN 19 PM 8:25

(Smith/Blessey)
Draft Five
January 19, 1990
MAYOR

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
CAPITOL HILTON HOTEL
FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 1990
10 A.M.

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((Kathy and I go way back. Maybe that's why even though I'm a Republican and she's a Democrat, the last time I was in Houston she presented me with the key to the city. // Only one problem. I found out later that the city was Anchorage, Alaska.)) //

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Nineteen months ago, I sent you a letter expressing my thoughts on urban policy. And wrote, "As we prepare to enter the 1990s, it is clear that America needs a new working relationship between the Federal government and the cities."

Well, I meant it then. And mean it now. We need to forge a new relationship. // A relationship which is a partnership. // A partnership which realizes that as Mayors, you ^{are} ~~man~~ the front lines in the war against urban problems. A partnership which can achieve the promise of America.

And that promise of America depends on maintaining our economic resources as we have since 1982 -- the longest peacetime boom in American history. The '90s begin with inflation down. Interest rates declining. And the lowest jobless rate in 15 years. And next week, we'll release a budget for Fiscal Year 1991 that builds on this prosperity. Together, let's support policies which create more opportunity for all. //

The promise of America also depends on the safeguarding our natural resources as Mayors are doing through initiatives like Chicago's "Plastics on Parks." Or in Virginia Beach, generating electricity from that city's landfill.

You're doing your part -- we intend to do ours. By strengthening the Clean Air Act, preserving our wetlands, improving America's parks, encouraging reforestation, and by other domestic and international initiatives to make this a cleaner, safer world. Together, let's protect our environment for decades to come. //

Then, there are human resources. And here, too, togetherness counts. Today, an estimated ___ million urban families are led by working parents. But when it comes to child care, Washington doesn't automatically know best. So I urge the Congress to pass my child-care legislation to put choice in the hands of low-income parents. //

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But we must also create incentives for growth in those areas where need is the greatest. Because growth means jobs and jobs mean homes. So we have urged Congress to help the dream along by passing our Enterprise-Zone legislation. We have proposed the creation of at least 50 Enterprise Zones over the next four years to fuel the engine of job creation in our cities. But, in these areas of severe poverty, we've got to do even more. We've got to get rid of the capital gains tax altogether to spur the investment that can turn dark corners of despair into thriving neighborhoods once again.

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#

Blessey's Des

1990 JAN 19 PM 8:25

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Secretary Skinner, Mayor Bob ISAAC, Mayor Ray Flynn

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I commend these efforts. But these soldiers on the front lines need help. So our Administration has unveiled America's first national comprehensive strategy to win the war on drugs. And asked the Congress for \$ ^{10.6} billion in FY '91 for education, treatment, interdiction, and enforcement. We, too, want to help the teenager tormented by crack. Or the pregnant mother -- alone and desperate -- whose drug use threatens her child. Please: Support our plan to help America get clean --and stay clean. X

Together, let's defeat Public Enemy Number One. //

Erasing drugs will save lives. But, it will also help meet that second challenge I talked about: the education of our kids. //

You know how central education is to urban America: Bright minds can find solutions to the many problems of our cities. Remember, I said nothing was impossible. Yet, look at today's box score of so-called "higher learning." A drop-out rate that is totally unacceptable. Erratic standards. Unsafe schools wracked by drug use and trafficking. Kids ill-equipped to read or write. Let's be honest: Our educational system isn't making the grade. ~~§~~ To go from "fail" to "pass" will require school boards, teachers, and parents to work together with all levels of government. // ~~So last September I met with a group of Mayors.~~ ^{I've} I heard about Kenner, Louisiana, ^{and Mayor Aaron Bronson} which created "Step Up" -- a program providing learning incentives for students. And Colorado Springs ^{with Mayor Bob Isaac} -- there, officials founded a program to help dropouts and at-risk kids finish high school. // And about the more than 350 cities which ^{enriched} uplifted America on your "National Education Day."

So far, so good -- and thanks to you, getting better. But while education is mainly a local and State responsibility, the Federal government must help. That's why last year we sent up the "Educational Excellence Act of 1989" now before the Congress. Legislation which seeks: First, to ^{encourage} reward excellence. Second, to see that Federal dollars serve those most in need. Third, to

demand educational accountability. And fourth, it supports greater flexibility and choice.

For instance, we want to create a \$500 million program ^{when fully funded} to reward schools that improve the most. And to reward schools which create a drug-free environment and reduce the drop-out rate. // Then, there's our new Magnet Schools of Excellence program -- letting parents choose which public schools their kids will attend. Urban Emergency Grants to help urban schools hit hardest by drug use and trafficking. // And a National Science Scholars initiative in science, mathematics, and engineering.

To fulfill the promise of America, we must be competitive in the international marketplace of ideas. Our proposals will help do that. But the promise of America also depends on meeting the third and fourth challenges I mentioned earlier: Making housing affordable and accessible -- especially for the homeless. //

Every American deserves a home. Well, here again, you're acting creatively. In Kansas City, providing day care to free parents to find permanent housing ^{and employment}. Or in Charlotte, using public-private monies to renovate buildings for the homeless. // Believe me, in Washington we've taken note. So two months ago, I announced America's project HOPE, Home Ownership and Opportunity for People Everywhere. To help make the Federal government a more effective urban partner in bringing basic shelter and affordable housing within reach of millions of Americans.

HOPE aims to help first-time homebuyers by allowing them to draw, without penalty, on IRA savings as a down payment for that

first home. HOPE can also help tenants become home-owners. Think of public housing sites like ^{or in} East Los Angeles ^{or} Cochran Gardens in St. Louis. Each has tenants in control. HOPE will mean even more low-income Americans can know the pride and dignity of owning a home. For other low-income families, we want housing vouchers that increase housing options. X

But for many, the problem of housing isn't just affordability. It's availability. So we want Congress to renew the low-income housing tax credit to create incentives for the construction and rehabilitation of the housing so desperately needed by low-income families.

But we must also create incentives for growth in those areas where need is the greatest. Because growth means jobs and jobs mean homes. So we have urged Congress to help the dream along by passing our Enterprise-Zone legislation. We have proposed the creation of at least 50 Enterprise Zones over the next four years to fuel the engine of job creation in our cities. But, in these areas of severe poverty, we've got to do even more. We've got to get rid of the capital gains tax ~~altogether~~ ^{to} spur the investment that can turn dark corners of despair into thriving neighborhoods once again. X

Finally, I have asked Secretary Kemp to convene a blue-ribbon commission to identify barriers to affordable housing. Each of you deals with these problems everyday. Give us your advice.

For some Americans, however, other things come first: They need the self-respect to regain their lives. Their roof is the sky above. Their floor is the street below. The homeless.

We see them everywhere -- next door on 15th Street, in our suburbs and small towns. They need emergency shelter, food, and medical care. So two months ago, I signed a bill that increases funding under the McKinney Act to reduce homelessness. And we want to find new ways to put part of our FHA foreclosures into the hands of non-profit groups. And to coordinate basic needs like shelter with other social services.

It won't be easy: We know that. But we also know the real answer to the homeless is shelter plus care. And we know that to help the homeless -- like improving education, or stopping crime -- will require a combined Federal, State, and local effort. Only then can we unleash the resources of the private and public sectors -- showing, as a writer said, how "America is a willingness of the heart." //

I believe there is a willingness of the heart in this room. A willingness to put aside partisan concerns because the promise of America also depends on us. So let us sit down -- the White House and Mayors; Democrats and Republicans -- and do what needs to be done to make the impossible \\ possible. Thank you for this occasion. God bless you. And God bless the United States of America.

#

(Smith/Blessey)
Draft Three
January 18, 1990
MAYOR

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
CAPITOL HILTON HOTEL
FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 1990
10 A.M.

Mayor Whitmire, __, Distinguished Mayors, Ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for that reception, and for the pleasure of being here. In particular, let me thank my fellow Houstonian and ~~President~~ Kathy Whitmire, for that warm introduction. //

((Kathy and I go way back. Maybe that's why even though I'm a Republican and she's a Democrat, the last time I was in Houston she presented me with the key to the city. // Only one problem. I found out later that the city was Anchorage, Alaska.)) //

((But you know me -- I don't hold grudges. So I picked up the phone when she called a couple weeks later. She asked me to declare a disaster area. // I told her I didn't think the Houston Oilers were that bad.)) // *A little from previous ball game in Oilers' game. // I don't know what the result is. I don't know what the result is. I don't know what the result is.*

((I'm also glad, of course, to see the "Mayor's Mayor." // *It's nice to see you here. It's nice to see you here.* When I first heard you were honoring a famous Jewish Mayor for his years of service in turbulent times, I thought you meant Ed Koch. // Instead, all my best to Jerusalem's best -- Teddy Kollect.)) //

Teddy, Kathy, and all of your colleagues -- it is an honor to address this 58th annual U.S. Conference of Mayor's winter meeting. And to ~~give you~~ *talk about the ways that you and I* my ideas on how between us -- the White

House and ~~the~~ ^{Mayors} ~~we~~ can build a better America for all.

Nineteen months ago, I sent you a letter expressing my thoughts on urban policy. And wrote, "As we prepare to enter the 1990s, it is clear that America needs a new working relationship between the Federal government and the cities."

Well, I meant it then. And mean it now. We need to forge a new relationship. // A relationship which ^{is a} ~~is a~~ partnership. // A partnership which realizes that as Mayors, you man the front lines in the war against urban ^{problems} ~~ills~~. A partnership which can achieve ^{what} ~~that~~ Thomas Wolfe called ^{"The Promise of America."}

To begin, ^{the} ~~The~~ ^{promise} ~~Promise~~ of America means utilizing our economic resources. ^{As we have since 1982 -- the longest peacetime boom in American history.} ~~The '90s begin with inflation down. Interest rates declining. And the lowest jobless rate in 15 years.~~ And next week, we'll release a budget for Fiscal Year 1991 that builds on this prosperity. Together, let's support policies which create more opportunity for all. //

^{The} ~~The~~ ^{promise} ~~Promise~~ of America also means ^{deals a} ~~safeguarding~~ our natural resources. ^{As} ~~As~~ Mayors are doing through initiatives like Chicago's "Plastics on Parks." Or in Virginia Beach, generating electricity from that city's landfill. ^{And as you'll do in March} ~~And as you'll do in March~~ ~~through a conference on recyclable materials.~~

^{You're} ~~You're~~ doing your part -- ^{we} ~~we~~ intend to do ours. ~~So we have~~ ^{By strengthening} ~~The Clean Air Act, preserving our~~ ^{sent} ~~sent~~ Congress legislation to slash acid rain, air toxics, and ^{wetlands,} ~~urban smog --~~ ^{the first} ~~the first~~ rewrite of the Clean Air Act in over 10 ^{years.} ~~years.~~ ^{And I ask you to urge Congress to preserve the careful} ~~And I ask you to urge Congress to preserve the careful~~ ~~and international initiatives to make this a cleaner~~ ^{and} ~~and~~ international initiatives to make this a cleaner safer world.

~~balance in that bill.~~ Together, let's protect our environment for decades to come. //

Then, there are human resources. And here, too, togetherness counts. Today, an estimated million urban families are led by working parents. But when it comes to child care, Washington -- ~~unlike Robert Young~~ -- doesn't automatically know best. So I urge the Congress to pass my child-care legislation to put choice in the hands of low-income parents. //

Each of these initiatives will nurture ~~The~~ The Promise of America. Yet urban problems won't fade until we meet the challenges I discussed in 1988 -- the challenges you face each day: Drugs and crime, education, housing, and the plight of our homeless. ((Can we meet them? You bet. In America, nothing is impossible. // Perhaps an ex-baseball player put it best. "When I was a little boy," Craig Nettles said, "I wanted to be a [big-league] player and join the circus. With the Yankees, I've accomplished both.")

The first of these four challenges is drugs and crime. ~~to~~ meet it will require an urban "Delta Force" -- rescuing our kids from the terrorism of hoods, hooliganism, crack, and cocaine. //

Eight months ago, I sent proposals to the Congress to win the war on crime. Well, while the clock is running, America's patience is running out. I ask you to support our legislation to take thugs off the street -- and ~~thereby~~ take back the streets. // We need mandatory time for firearms offenses. No deals when criminals use a gun. And for anyone who kills a law enforcement

Handwritten notes:
- to parents, we can accept
- we've accepted the
- what some might think impossible would be easy but it will be done
- Well, I believe that as partners we too can accomplish
- the streets and communities
- that take such a sad toll on your

the

officer -- we need the death penalty. Not someplace. Not some time. But here -- and now. //

Considerable help

~~Think of crime as a snake. Drugs form its head -- spewing venom at your cities.~~ Last year, 23 million Americans used illegal drugs on a "current" basis -- at least once in 30 days. And eight million people used cocaine. A Nation with those numbers cannot long preserve its soul. //

To ^{help} save it, last September you held a Mayors' Conference on Drugs, ^{and I congratulate you.} And you're acting locally to stem ^{the} ~~their~~ use, sale, and flow. ^{of drugs.} In Macon, Mayor Lee Robinson has formed a partnership --

the Macon-Bibb War on Drugs. And ^{here} in Houston, ~~Kathy Whitmire,~~ ^{has joined} parks and recreation officials, local police, and residents of Acres Home project ~~I visited there in November~~ have joined hands to pursue "Drug Free Tomorrows." ^{I visited Acres Home in November and the courage of that community is truly inspiring.}

I commend these efforts. But they're not -- can never be -- enough. So our Administration has unveiled America's first national comprehensive strategy to win the war on drugs. ^{years, I cannot see purpose to} ~~A war~~ ^{sp}

~~which utilizes your campaign~~ And asked the Congress for \$ billion in FY '91 for education, treatment, interdiction, and enforcement. We, too, want to help ^{the teenager} ~~that little boy~~ tormented by crack. Or the pregnant mother -- alone and desperate -- whose drug use ^{threatens} ~~maims~~ her child. Please: Support our plan to help America get clean --and stay clean. Together, let's ~~smash~~ ^{defeat} Public Enemy Number One. //

Erasing drugs will ^{save} save lives. ^{but} It will also ^{help} meet that second challenge I talked about: the education of our kids. //

Remember I said nothing was impossible.

You know how central education is to Urban America: Bright minds can find solutions to ~~your Mt. Everest of needs.~~ *See the many needs of our cities.* Yet, look at today's box score of so-called "higher learning." ~~A too high drop-out rate.~~ *that is totally unacceptable.* Erratic standards. Unsafe schools wracked by drug use and trafficking. Kids ill-equipped to read or write. Let's be honest: Our educational system isn't making the grade.

To go from "fail" to "pass" will require school boards, teachers, and parents to work together with all levels of government. // So last September, I met with a group of Mayors. I heard about Kenner, Louisiana, which created "Step Up" -- a program providing learning incentives for students. And Colorado Springs -- ~~here~~ *here*, officials founded a program to help dropouts and at-risk kids finish high school. // ~~And about~~ *mayors who lead the* the more than 350 cities which uplifted America on your "National Education Day."

Magnus do be... Step Up = Kenner... providing incentives

So far, so good -- and thanks to you, getting better. But while education is ~~mostly~~ *mainly* a local and State responsibility, the Federal government must help. That's why last year we sent up the "Educational Excellence Act of 1989" now before the Congress. Legislation which seeks: First, to reward excellence. Second, to see that Federal dollars serve those most in need. Third, to demand educational accountability. And fourth, it supports greater flexibility and choice.

For instance, we want to create a \$500 million program to reward schools that improve the most. And to reward schools which create a drug-free environment and reduce the drop-out rate. // Then, there's our new Magnet Schools of Excellence

program -- letting parents choose which public schools their kids will attend. Urban Emergency Grants to help urban schools hit hardest by drug use and trafficking. // And a National Science Scholars initiative in science, mathematics, and engineering.

~~The~~ Promise of America² means winning the battle not on the fields of war -- but in the international marketplace of ideas. Our proposals will help do that. It also means meeting the third and fourth challenges I mentioned earlier: Making housing affordable and accessible -- especially for the homeless. //

((You know, a few months back I spoke to a realtors group. Where its president said to me, "It's not often we're addressed by someone who lives in public housing." // In response, I said we understand the private side as well. // Barbara and I have moved 28 times in 45 years of marriage. // What a dream client we'd make for any realtor.)) //

~~You might say "The Bush Family Knows Housing." // Sorry,~~
~~BO. // And ^{every} basic shelter is a right of ^{each} American ^{must have basic shelter,}~~

Well, here again, you're acting creatively to ensure that right. In Kansas City, providing day care to free parents to find permanent housing. Or Charlotte, using public-private monies to renovate buildings for the homeless. // Believe me, in Washington we've taken note. So two months ago I announced America's project HOPE, Home Ownership and Opportunity for People Everywhere, to make the Federal government a more effective urban partner, ~~Addressing issues from jobs for the poor to achieving the dream of home ownership for increasing numbers of Americans.~~

^{help}
 to bring basic shelter and affordable housing
 to millions of Americans

So two months ago, I announced America's project HOPE, Home Ownership and Opportunity for People Everywhere, ⁱⁿ ~~to help~~ bringing basic shelter and affordable housing within reach of millions of Americans, ~~and~~ ^{help} to make the Federal government a more effective urban partner.

*** ~~First~~, HOPE aims to help first-time homebuyers by allowing them to draw, without penalty, on IRA savings as a down payment for that first home. ~~But~~ for many, the problem of housing isn't just affordability. It's availability. So we want Congress to renew the low-income housing tax credit to create incentives for the construction and rehabilitation of the housing so desperately needed by low-income families.

But we must also create incentives for growth in those areas where need is the greatest. Because growth means jobs and jobs mean homes. So we have urged Congress to help the dream along by passing our Enterprise-Zone legislation. We have proposed the creation of at least 50 Enterprise Zones over the next four years to fuel the ^{en} ~~negiye~~ of job creation in our cities. But, in these areas of severe poverty, we've got to do, ^{even} more. We've got to get rid of the capital gains tax ~~al~~ together to spur the investment that can turn dark corners of despair into thriving neighborhoods once again.

~~And for~~
~~That's why we want Congress to approve housing vouchers that~~
~~increase rental options for low-income families. And why HOPE is~~ ^{can}
~~helping~~ ^{also help} tenants become home-owners. Think of public housing sites like East Los Angeles or Cochran Gardens in St. Louis.

In other low income families, we want housing vouchers that increase housing options.

⁸
~~Hope will mean~~
~~Let's help even more low-income~~
Each has tenants in control. ~~Let's help even more low-income~~
^{can}
Americans know the pride and dignity of owning a home.

Finally, I have asked Secretary Kemp to convene a blue-ribbon commission to identify barriers to affordable housing. Each of you deals with these problems everyday. Give us your advice. ~~*~~

~~For~~ For others, of course, others ~~first~~ things come first: They need the self-respect of merely regaining their life. Their roof is the sky above. Their floor is the street below. The homeless.

We see them everywhere -- next door on 15th Street, in our suburbs and small towns. They need emergency shelter, food, and medical care. So two months ago I signed a bill that increases funding under the McKinney Act to reduce homelessness. And we want to find new ways to put part of our FHA foreclosures into the hands of non-profit groups. And to coordinate basic needs like shelter with other social services.

It won't be easy: We know that. But we also know the real answer to the homeless is shelter plus care. And we know that to help the homeless -- like improving education, or stopping crime -- will require a combined Federal, State, and local effort. Only then can we unleash the resources of the profit and nonprofit sectors -- showing, as a writer said, how "America is a willingness of the heart." //

Last week marked the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. He would have been 61 years old. Dr. King knew that only opportunity could realize the Promise of America. He expressed

Draft I Remember, I said nothing was impossible

7

~~Look, first, at the income that can realize that dream. Congress to help the dream along by passing our especially through the Enterprise-Zone legislation, before the~~

How proposed the creation of
④ ~~Congress. We need at least 50 Enterprise Zones over the next four years. *To fuel the engine of job creation in our cities.* And the jobs they'll create for the long-term and~~

~~structurally unemployed. // And we need the investment that we've got to do more. We've got to get rid of the produces income. So I ask Congress to give America a capital Capital gains tax all together to spur the investment gains tax cut. And an end to that tax altogether in that can turn *dark corners of despair* into America's pockets of poverty. // *Thriving neighborhoods once again.*~~

Just
~~Next, look at home ownership. Where HOPE aims to help~~

~~first-time homebuyers by allowing them to draw, without penalty,~~

① ~~an IRA savings as a down payment for that first home. // *But for money, the problem of housing isn't just affordability. It's availability where we want low- and moderate-incomes to have access to*~~

~~housing. *And* So we want Congress to renew the low-income *housing* tax credit *insert*~~

⑥ ~~And I have asked Secretary Kemp to convene a blue-ribbon *Identify barriers to affordable housing* commission to help lower housing costs by slashing regulations. *Each of you deals with these problems everyday. Give* These initiatives will spur housing -- private and public.~~

~~For many HOPE reforms will benefit tenants. That's why we want~~

~~Congress to approve housing vouchers that increase rental options~~

⑤ ~~for low-income families. And why HOPE is helping tenants become~~

~~home-owners. Think of public housing sites like East Los~~

~~Angeles or Cochran Gardens in St. Louis. Each has tenants in~~

~~control. Let's help even more low-income Americans know the~~

~~pride and dignity of owning a home. //~~

~~For others, of course, first things come first: They need~~

~~the self-respect of merely regaining their life. Their roof is~~

~~the sky above. Their floor is the street below. The homeless.~~

us your advice.

insert

to create incentives for the construction
① and rehabilitation of ^{the} housing so
disproportionately needed by low-income
families.

② But we must also create incentives
for growth in those areas where
need is the greatest. Because
growth means jobs and jobs
mean homes. So we have urged

We see them everywhere -- next door on 15th Street, in our suburbs and small towns. They need emergency shelter, food, and medical care. So two months ago I signed a bill that increases funding under the McKinney Act to reduce homelessness. And we want to find new ways to put part of our FHA foreclosures into the hands of non-profit groups. And to coordinate basic needs like shelter with other social services.

It won't be easy: We know that. But we also know the real answer to the homeless is shelter plus care. And we know that to help the homeless -- like improving education, or stopping crime -- will require a combined Federal, State, and local effort. Only then can we unleash the resources of the ^{private} ~~profit~~ and ^{public} ~~non-profit~~ sectors -- showing, as a writer said, how "America is a willingness of the heart." //

~~Last week marked the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. He would have been 61 years old. Dr. King knew that only opportunity could realize the Promise of America. He expressed that ^{idea} often -- and moved a Nation. Listen, even now: His words -- they move us still. "I have a dream that one day sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood."~~ //

~~The table of brotherhood knows neither bank account nor bigotry.~~ So let us sit down -- the White House and Mayors; Democrats and Republicans -- and do what needs to be done to make ^{the impossible possible} ~~ours a more civil, generous land.~~ Thank you for this occasion. God bless you. And God bless the United States of America.

#

I believe there is a willingness of the heart in this room.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

01/23

DATE: 01/19/90

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 10:00 a.m. Tuesday

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
(10/19 draft five)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DELAND	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BENNETT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			ANDERSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston by 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, 01/23, with a copy to my office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

could be reduced by a page tightening needs PA

89 DEC 22 A10:57

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

1990 JAN 19 PM 8:25

(Smith/Blessey)
Draft Five
January 19, 1990
MAYOR

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
CAPITOL HILTON HOTEL
FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 1990
10 A.M.

Mayor Whitmire, __, Distinguished Mayors, Ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for that reception, and for the pleasure of being here. In particular, let me thank my fellow Houstonian Kathy Whitmire, for that warm introduction. //

((Kathy and I go way back. Maybe that's why even though I'm a Republican and she's a Democrat, the last time I was in Houston she presented me with the key to the city. // Only one problem. I found out later that the city was Anchorage, Alaska.)) //

((But you know me -- I don't hold grudges. So I picked up the phone when she called a couple weeks later. She asked me to declare a disaster area. // I told her I didn't think the Houston Oilers were that bad.)) //

((I'm also glad, of course, to see the "Mayor's Mayor." // When I first heard you were honoring a famous Jewish Mayor for his years of service in turbulent times, I thought you meant Ed Koch. // Instead, all my best to Jerusalem's best -- Teddy Kollect.)) //

Teddy, Kathy, and all of your colleagues -- it is an honor to address this 58th annual U.S. Conference of Mayor's winter meeting. And to talk to you about the ways that you and I -- the White House and the Mayors -- can build a better America.

AK w/
Bobbie

Nineteen months ago, I sent you a letter expressing my thoughts on urban policy. And wrote, "As we prepare to enter the 1990s, it is clear that America needs a new working relationship between the Federal government and the cities."

Well, I meant it then. And mean it now. We need to forge a new relationship. // ~~A relationship which is a partnership.~~ ^{write} //
 A partnership which realizes that as Mayors, you man the front lines in the war against urban problems. A partnership which can achieve the promise of America.

And that promise of America depends on maintaining our economic resources as we have since 1982 -- the longest peacetime boom in American history. The '90s begin with inflation down. Interest rates declining. And the lowest jobless rate in 15 years. And next week, we'll release a budget for Fiscal Year 1991 that builds on this prosperity. Together, ^{we can} let's support policies which create more opportunity for all. //

The promise of America also depends on the safeguarding our natural resources as Mayors are doing through initiatives like Chicago's "Plastics on Parks." Or in Virginia Beach, generating electricity from that city's landfill. ^(in short, etc)

You're doing your part -- we intend to do ours. By strengthening the Clean Air Act, preserving our wetlands, improving America's parks, encouraging reforestation, and by other domestic and international initiatives to make this a cleaner, safer world. Together, ^{we can} let's protect our environment for decades to come. //

Then, there are human resources. And here, too, togetherness counts. Today, an estimated __ million urban families are ^{headed} ~~led~~ by working parents. But when it comes to child care, Washington doesn't automatically know best. So I urge the Congress to pass my child-care legislation to put choice in the hands of low-income parents. //

Each of these initiatives will nurture the promise of America. Yet urban problems won't fade until we meet the challenges I discussed in 1988 -- the challenges you face each day: Drugs and crime, education, housing, and the plight of our homeless. Can we meet them? I believe we can. Because I believe in America, nothing is impossible. // ((Perhaps an ex-baseball player put it best. "When I was a little boy," Craig Nettles said, "I wanted to be a [big-league] player ~~and~~ join the circus. With the Yankees, I've accomplished both."))

Well, I believe that as partners we, too, can accomplish what some might think ^{can} is impossible. ^{So let us meet the} ~~The first of our challenges~~ ^{is back in a w challenge} is the drugs and crime that take such a sad toll on your streets and the streets of communities across America. Rescuing our kids from the terrorism of ~~hoods, hooliganism,~~ ^{assaults} crack, and cocaine won't be easy, but it can be done. //

Eight months ago, I sent proposals to the Congress to help win the war on crime. ^{is, it's not here,} Well, while the clock is running, America's patience is running out. I ask you to support our legislation ~~to take thugs off the street -- and take back the streets.~~ // We need mandatory time for firearms offenses. No

this joke makes no sense

deals when criminals use a gun. And for anyone who kills a law enforcement officer -- we need the death penalty. Not someplace. Not some time. But here -- and now. //

Country Use
Last year, 23 million Americans used illegal drugs on a "current" basis -- at least once in 30 days. And eight million people used cocaine. A Nation with those numbers cannot long preserve its soul. //

To help save it, last September you held a Mayors' Conference on Drugs and I congratulate you. You're acting locally to stem the use, sale, and flow of drugs. In Macon, Mayor Lee Robinson has formed a partnership -- the Macon-Bibb War on Drugs. And ~~here~~, in Houston, Kathy Whitmire, parks and recreation officials, local police, and residents of Acres Home project have joined hands to pursue "Drug Free Tomorrows." I visited ~~Acres Home~~ *one such community called their* in November and ~~the courage of that community~~ is truly inspiring.

I commend these efforts. But these soldiers on the front lines need help. So our Administration has unveiled America's first national comprehensive strategy to win the war on drugs. *yesterday I announced our proposal to spend* ~~And asked the Congress for \$~~ billion in FY '91 for education, treatment, interdiction, and enforcement. We, too, want to help the teenager tormented by crack. Or the pregnant mother -- alone and desperate -- whose drug use threatens her child. Please: Support our plan to help America get clean --and stay clean. Together, let's defeat Public Enemy Number One. //

Erasing drugs will save lives. But, it will also help meet that second challenge I talked about: the education of our kids. //

You know how central education is to urban America: Bright minds can find solutions to the many problems of our cities. Remember, I said nothing was impossible. Yet, look at today's box score of so-called "higher learning." A drop-out rate that is totally unacceptable. Erratic standards. Unsafe schools wracked by drug use and trafficking. Kids ill-equipped to read or write. Let's be honest: Our educational system isn't making the grade. To go from "fail" to "pass" will require school boards, teachers, and parents to work together with all levels of government. // So last September, I met with a group of Mayors. I heard about Kenner, Louisiana, which created "Step Up" -- a program providing learning incentives for students. And Colorado Springs -- there, officials founded a program to help dropouts and at-risk kids finish high school. // And about the more than 350 cities which uplifted America on your "National Education Day."

So far, so good -- and thanks to you, getting better. But while education is mainly a local and State responsibility, the Federal government must help. That's why last year we sent up the "Educational Excellence Act of 1989" now before the Congress. Legislation which seeks: First, to reward excellence. Second, to see that Federal dollars serve those most in need. Third, to

demand educational accountability. And fourth, it supports greater flexibility and choice.

For instance, we want to create a \$500 million program to reward schools that improve the most. And to reward schools which create a drug-free environment and reduce the drop-out rate. // Then, there's our new Magnet Schools of Excellence program -- letting parents choose which public schools their kids will attend. Urban Emergency Grants to help urban schools hit hardest by drug use and trafficking. // And a National Science Scholars initiative in science, mathematics, and engineering.

To fulfill the promise of America, we must be competitive in the international marketplace of ideas. Our proposals will help do that. But the promise of America also depends on meeting the third and fourth challenges I mentioned earlier: Making housing affordable and accessible -- especially for the homeless. //

~~Every~~ ^{The} American ^{dream} deserves ^{is} a ^{ownership} home. [Well, here again, you're acting creatively. In Kansas City, providing day care to free parents to find permanent housing. Or in Charlotte, using public-private monies to renovate buildings for the homeless.] // ^{move to homeless section}

Believe me, in Washington we've taken note. So two months ago, I announced America's project HOPE, Home Ownership and Opportunity for People Everywhere. To help make the Federal government a more effective urban partner in bringing basic shelter and affordable housing within reach of millions of Americans.

HOPE aims to help first-time homebuyers by allowing them to draw, without penalty, on IRA savings as a down payment for that

first home. HOPE can also help tenants become home-owners. Think of public housing sites like East Los Angeles or Cochran Gardens in St. Louis. Each has tenants in control. HOPE will mean even more low-income Americans can know the pride and dignity of owning a home. For other low-income families, we want housing vouchers that increase housing options.

But for many, the problem of housing isn't just affordability. It's availability. So we want Congress to renew the low-income housing tax credit to create incentives for the construction and rehabilitation of the housing so desperately needed by low-income families.

But we must also create incentives for growth in those areas where need is the greatest. Because growth means jobs and jobs mean homes. So we have urged Congress to help the dream along by passing our Enterprise-Zone legislation. We have proposed the creation of at least 50 Enterprise Zones over the next four years to fuel the engine of job creation in our cities. But, in these areas of severe poverty, we've got to do even more. We've got to get rid of the capital gains tax altogether to spur the investment that can turn dark corners of despair into thriving neighborhoods once again.

Finally, I have asked Secretary Kemp to convene a blue-ribbon commission to identify barriers to affordable housing. Each of you deals with these problems everyday. Give us your advice.

For some Americans, however, other things come first: They need the self-respect to regain their lives. Their roof is the sky above. Their floor is the street below. The homeless.

We see them everywhere -- next door on 15th Street, in our suburbs and small towns. They need emergency shelter, food, and medical care. So two months ago, I signed a bill that increases funding under the McKinney Act to reduce homelessness. And we want to find new ways to put part of our FHA foreclosures into the hands of non-profit groups. And to coordinate basic needs like shelter with other social services.

It won't be easy: We know that. But we also know the real answer to the homeless is shelter plus care. And we know that to help the homeless -- like improving education, or stopping crime -- will require a combined Federal, State, and local effort. Only then can we unleash the resources of the private and public sectors -- showing, as a writer said, how "America is a willingness of the heart." //

I believe there is a willingness of the heart in this room. A willingness to put aside partisan concerns because the promise of America also depends on us. So let us sit down -- the White House and Mayors; Democrats and Republicans -- and do what needs to be done to make the impossible \\ possible. Thank you for this occasion. God bless you. And God bless the United States of America.

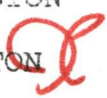
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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 22, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: JIM PINKERTON 

SUBJECT: U.S. Conference of Mayors

Two comments follow. (Also: the draft needs checking for misspellings, e.g., "beleive" and "fufill.")

pg. 1, para. 4, line 2 "When I first heard you were honoring a famous Jewish Mayor for his years of service...."

This joke may appear to some as crossing the fine line separating tasteful and distasteful references to an individual's religion. Certainly the rule in politics is to avoid at all costs any jokes involving a person's race or religion (the Al Smith dinner being the exception that proves the rule). Well intentioned though it may be, the very fact that some might find it distasteful argues against using it.

pg. 2, para. 2, line 2 "We need to forge a new relationship. A relationship which is a partnership."

As we have pointed out in previous speech comments, the phrase "partnership" to describe any joint effort by the Federal government and another body is usually problematic. The phrase connotes a more or less equal relationship when, to the contrary, what we wish to convey on matters such as urban policy is that the Federal government acts as a catalyst to facilitate action by the local authorities (or private sector).

Education policy, where it is important to emphasize the lesser role of the Federal government, is reason alone for avoiding the phrase altogether in describing the Federal - Local relationship. We suggest omitting the phrase here and the two other places where "partnership" or "partner" is used to refer to the Federal government: 3,3,1 and 6,4,8.

###

89 DEC 22 AIO: 33

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

01/23

DATE: 01/19/90

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 10:00 a.m. Tuesday

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
(10/19 draft five)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DELAND	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BENNETT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			ANDERSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston by 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, 01/23, with a copy to my office. Thanks.

*S.R. 90
1/20/90*

RESPONSE: *I think we should utilize this forum as a means to get Congress' attention. Not nearly hard enough in that regard. Also needs small P that explains cap gains - something that can be used again & again. Would be good to give some thought to capitalizing our 4 or 5 big points to Congress.*

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

1990 JAN 19 PM 8:25

(Smith/Blessey)
Draft Five
January 19, 1990
MAYOR

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
CAPITOL HILTON HOTEL
FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 1990
10 A.M.

Mayor Whitmire, __, Distinguished Mayors, Ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for that reception, and for the pleasure of being here. In particular, let me thank my fellow Houstonian Kathy Whitmire, for that warm introduction. //

((Kathy and I go way back. Maybe that's why even though I'm a Republican and she's a Democrat, the last time I was in Houston she presented me with the key to the city. // Only one problem. I found out later that the city was Anchorage, Alaska.)) //

((But you know me -- I don't hold grudges. So I picked up the phone when she called a couple weeks later. She asked me to declare a disaster area. // I told her I didn't think the Houston Oilers were that bad.)) //

((I'm also glad, of course, to see the "Mayor's Mayor." // When I first heard you were honoring a famous Jewish Mayor for his years of service in turbulent times, I thought you meant Ed Koch. // Instead, all my best to Jerusalem's best -- Teddy Kollect.)) //

Teddy, Kathy, and all of your colleagues -- it is an honor to address this 58th annual U.S. Conference of Mayor's winter meeting. And to talk to you about the ways that you and I -- the White House and the Mayors -- can build a better America.

Nineteen months ago, I sent you a letter expressing my thoughts on urban policy. And wrote, "As we prepare to enter the 1990s, it is clear that America needs a new working relationship between the Federal government and the cities."

Well, I meant it then. And mean it now. We need to forge a new relationship. // A relationship which is a partnership. // A partnership which realizes that as Mayors, you man the front lines in the war against urban problems. A partnership which can achieve the promise of America.

And that promise of America depends on maintaining our economic resources as we have since 1982 -- the longest peacetime boom in American history. The '90s begin with inflation down. Interest rates declining. And the lowest jobless rate in 15 years. And next week, we'll release a budget for Fiscal Year 1991 that builds on this prosperity. Together, let's support policies which create more opportunity for all. //

The promise of America also depends on the safeguarding our natural resources as Mayors are doing through initiatives like Chicago's "Plastics on Parks." Or in Virginia Beach, generating electricity from that city's landfill.

You're doing your part -- we intend to do ours. By strengthening the Clean Air Act, preserving our wetlands, improving America's parks, encouraging reforestation, and by other domestic and international initiatives to make this a cleaner, safer world. Together, let's protect our environment for decades to come. //

~~scribble~~

Don't we have some things done? we've done!

Pres. signed law in New. for Wilderms that may play here.

Then, there are human resources. And here, too, togetherness counts. Today, an estimated ___ million urban families are led by working parents. But when it comes to child care, Washington doesn't automatically know best. So I urge the Congress to pass my child-care legislation to put choice in the hands of low-income parents. //

Each of these initiatives will nurture the promise of America. Yet urban problems won't fade until we meet the challenges I discussed in 1988 -- the challenges you face each day: Drugs and crime, education, housing, and the plight of our homeless. Can we meet them? I believe we can. Because I believe in America, nothing is impossible. // ((Perhaps an ex-baseball player put it best. "When I was a little boy," Craig Nettles said, "I wanted to be a [big-league] player and join the circus. With the Yankees, I've accomplished both."))

Well, I believe that as partners we, too, can accomplish what some might think is impossible. The first of our challenges is the drugs and crime that take such a sad toll on your streets and the streets of communities across America. Rescuing our kids from the terrorism of hoods, hooliganism, crack, and cocaine won't be easy, but it can be done. //

Eight months ago, I sent proposals to the Congress to help win the war on crime. Well, while the clock is running, America's patience is running out. I ask you to support our legislation to take thugs off the street -- and take back the streets. // We need mandatory time for firearms offenses. No

deals when criminals use a gun. And for anyone who kills a law enforcement officer -- we need the death penalty. Not someplace.

Not some time. But here -- and now. //

Last year, 23 million Americans used illegal drugs on a "current" basis -- at least once in 30 days. And eight million people used cocaine. A Nation with those numbers cannot long preserve its soul. //

To help save it, last September you held a Mayors' Conference on Drugs and I congratulate you. You're acting locally to stem the use, sale, and flow of drugs. In Macon, Mayor Lee Robinson has formed a partnership -- the Macon-Bibb War on Drugs. And here, in Houston, Kathy Whitmire, parks and recreation officials, local police, and residents of Acres Home project have joined hands to pursue "Drug Free Tomorrows." I visited Acres Home in November and the courage of that community is truly inspiring.

I commend these efforts. But these soldiers on the front lines need help. So our Administration has unveiled America's first national comprehensive strategy to win the war on drugs. And asked the Congress for \$__ billion in FY '91 for education, treatment, interdiction, and enforcement. We, too, want to help the teenager tormented by crack. Or the pregnant mother -- alone and desperate -- whose drug use threatens her child. Please: Support our plan to help America get clean --and stay clean. Together, let's defeat Public Enemy Number One. //

Impressive
stats I
heard in L.A.

There were several billion doses of cocaine used in U.S.A.

And that represents classes of COCAINE

Sheriff Brad Gates in Orange County.

K.C. 100-

tougher here on Congress

Erasing drugs will save lives. But, it will also help meet that second challenge I talked about: the education of our kids. //

You know how central education is to urban America: Bright minds can find solutions to the many problems of our cities. Remember, I said nothing was impossible. Yet, look at today's box score of so-called "higher learning." A drop-out rate that is totally unacceptable. Erratic standards. Unsafe schools wracked by drug use and trafficking. Kids ill-equipped to read or write. Let's be honest: Our educational system isn't making the grade. To go from "fail" to "pass" will require school boards, teachers, and parents to work together with all levels of government. // So last September, I met with a group of Mayors. I heard about Kenner, Louisiana, which created "Step Up" -- a program providing learning incentives for students. And Colorado Springs -- there, officials founded a program to help dropouts and at-risk kids finish high school. // And about the more than 350 cities which uplifted America on your "National Education Day."

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Again
on
Congress

demand educational accountability. And fourth, it supports greater flexibility and choice.

For instance, we want to create a \$500 million program to reward schools that improve the most. And to reward schools which create a drug-free environment and reduce the drop-out rate. // Then, there's our new Magnet Schools of Excellence program -- letting parents choose which public schools their kids will attend. Urban Emergency Grants to help urban schools hit hardest by drug use and trafficking. // And a National Science Scholars initiative in science, mathematics, and engineering.

To fulfill the promise of America, we must be competitive in the international marketplace of ideas. Our proposals will help do that. But the promise of America also depends on meeting the third and fourth challenges I mentioned earlier: Making housing affordable and accessible -- especially for the homeless. //

Every American deserves a home. Well, here again, you're acting creatively. In Kansas City, providing day care to free parents to find permanent housing. Or in Charlotte, using public-private monies to renovate buildings for the homeless. // Believe me, in Washington we've taken note. So two months ago, I announced America's project HOPE, Home Ownership and Opportunity for People Everywhere. To help make the Federal government a more effective urban partner in bringing basic shelter and affordable housing within reach of millions of Americans.

HOPE aims to help first-time homebuyers by allowing them to draw, without penalty, on IRA savings as a down payment for that

first home. HOPE can also help tenants become home-owners. Think of public housing sites like East Los Angeles or Cochran Gardens in St. Louis. Each has tenants in control. HOPE will mean even more low-income Americans can know the pride and dignity of owning a home. For other low-income families, we want housing vouchers that increase housing options.

But for many, the problem of housing isn't just affordability. It's availability. So we want Congress to renew the low-income housing tax credit to create incentives for the construction and rehabilitation of the housing so desperately needed by low-income families.

But we must also create incentives for growth in those areas where need is the greatest. Because growth means jobs and jobs mean homes. So we have urged Congress to help the dream along by passing our Enterprise-Zone legislation. We have proposed the creation of at least 50 Enterprise Zones over the next four years to fuel the engine of job creation in our cities. But, in these areas of severe poverty, we've got to do even more. We've got to get rid of the capital gains tax altogether to spur the investment that can turn dark corners of despair into thriving neighborhoods once again.

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#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

01/23

DATE: 01/19/90

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 10:00 a.m. Tuesday

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS (10/19 draft five)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BENNETT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			ANDERSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston by 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, 01/23, with a copy to my office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

See comments

89 DEC 23 All: 01

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

1990 JAN 19 PM 8:25

(Smith/Blessey)
Draft Five
January 19, 1990
MAYOR

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
CAPITOL HILTON HOTEL
FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 1990
10 A.M.

Mayor Whitmire, __, Distinguished Mayors, Ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for that reception, and for the pleasure of being here. In particular, let me thank my fellow Houstonian Kathy Whitmire, for that warm introduction. //

((Kathy and I go way back. Maybe that's why even though I'm a Republican and she's a Democrat, the last time I was in Houston she presented me with the key to the city. // Only one problem. I found out later that the city was Anchorage, Alaska.)) //

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((I'm also glad, of course, to see the "Mayor's Mayor." // When I first heard you were honoring a famous Jewish Mayor for his years of service in turbulent times, I thought you meant Ed Koch. // Instead, all my best to Jerusalem's best -- Teddy Kollectek.)) //

Teddy, Kathy, and all of your colleagues -- it is an honor to address this 58th annual U.S. Conference of Mayor's winter meeting. And to talk to you about the ways that you and I -- the White House and the Mayors -- can build a better America. ✓

Nineteen months ago, I sent you a letter expressing my thoughts on urban policy. And wrote, "As we prepare to enter the 1990s, it is clear that America needs a new working relationship between the Federal government and the cities."

major issues with cities is the fact that most of our drug pass through the states. Cities want it directly. Is this sentence implying we would consider direct funding? Hale 3/20

Well, I meant it then. And mean it now. We need to forge a new relationship. // A relationship which is a partnership. // A partnership which realizes that as Mayors, you man the front lines in the war against urban problems. A partnership which can achieve the promise of America.

And that promise of America depends on maintaining our economic resources as we have since 1982 -- the longest peacetime boom in American history. The '90s begin with inflation down. Interest rates declining. And the lowest jobless rate ^{one of} in 15 years. And next week, we'll release a budget for Fiscal Year 1991 that builds on this prosperity. Together, let's support policies which create more opportunity for all. //

✓
Al-Sammate

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You're doing your part -- we intend to do ours. By strengthening the Clean Air Act, preserving our wetlands, improving America's parks, encouraging reforestation, and by other domestic and international initiatives to make this a cleaner, safer world. Together, let's protect our environment for decades to come. //

The definition is family in which one parent works. Urban split not available
Helen 5178

3

Then, there are human resources. And here, too, togetherness counts. Today, an estimated 28 million urban families are led by working parents. But when it comes to child care, Washington doesn't automatically know best. So I urge the Congress to pass my child-care legislation to put choice in the hands of low-income parents. //

Each of these initiatives will nurture the promise of America. Yet urban problems won't fade until we meet the challenges I discussed in 1988 -- the challenges you face each day: Drugs and crime, education, housing, and the plight of our homeless. Can we meet them? I believe we can. Because I believe in America, nothing is impossible. // ((Perhaps an ex-baseball player put it best. "When I was a little boy," Craig Nettles said, "I wanted to be a [big-league] player and join the circus. With the Yankees, I've accomplished both."))

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The first says
this is
being given
at the Capital
Hilton
Helen
5178

Close
Hold
number
Hale
4/3/20

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You know how central education is to urban America: Bright minds can find solutions to the many problems of our cities. Remember, I said nothing was impossible. Yet, look at today's box score of so-called "higher learning." A drop-out rate that is totally unacceptable. Erratic standards. Unsafe schools wracked by drug use and trafficking. Kids ill-equipped to read or write. Let's be honest: Our educational system isn't making the grade. To go from "fail" to "pass" will require school boards, teachers, and parents to work together with all levels of government. // So last September, I met with a group of Mayors. I heard about Kenner, Louisiana, which created "Step Up" -- a program providing learning incentives for students. And Colorado Springs -- there, officials founded a program to help dropouts and at-risk kids finish high school. // And about the more than 350 cities which uplifted America on your "National Education Day."

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For instance, we want to create a \$500 million program to reward schools that improve the most. And to reward schools which create a drug-free environment and reduce the drop-out rate. // Then, there's our new Magnet Schools of Excellence program -- letting parents choose which public schools their kids will attend. ~~Urban~~ Emergency Grants to help urban schools hit hardest by drug use and trafficking. // And a National Science Scholars initiative in science, mathematics, and engineering.

✓ To fulfill the promise of America, we must be competitive in the international marketplace of ideas. Our proposals will help do that. But the promise of America also depends on meeting the third and fourth challenges I mentioned earlier: Making housing affordable and accessible -- especially for the homeless. //

Every American deserves a home. Well, here again, you're acting creatively. In Kansas City, providing day care to free parents to find permanent housing. Or in Charlotte, using public-private monies to renovate buildings for the homeless. // Believe me, in Washington we've taken note. So two months ago, I announced America's project HOPE, Home Ownership and Opportunity for People Everywhere. To help make the Federal government a more effective urban partner in bringing basic shelter and affordable housing within reach of millions of Americans.

HOPE aims to help first-time homebuyers by allowing them to draw, without penalty, on IRA savings as a down payment for that

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No Longer
Just
Urban

Ryder
4/5/16

first home. HOPE can also help tenants become home-owners. Think of public housing sites like East Los Angeles or Cochran Gardens in St. Louis. Each has tenants in control. HOPE will mean even more low-income Americans can know the pride and dignity of owning a home. For other low-income families, we want housing vouchers that increase housing options.

But for many, the problem of housing isn't just affordability. It's availability. So we want Congress to renew the low-income housing tax credit to create incentives for the construction and rehabilitation of the housing so desperately needed by low-income families.

But we must also create incentives for growth in those areas where need is the greatest. Because growth means jobs and jobs mean homes. So we have urged Congress to help the dream along by passing our Enterprise-Zone legislation. We have proposed the creation of at least 50 Enterprise Zones over the next four years to fuel the engine of job creation in our cities. ~~But,~~ **I** In these areas of severe poverty, ~~we've got to do even more.~~ We've got to get rid of the capital gains tax altogether to spur the investment that can turn dark corners of despair into thriving neighborhoods once again.

Finally, I have asked Secretary Kemp to convene a blue-ribbon commission to identify barriers to affordable housing. Each of you deals with these problems everyday. Give us your advice.

Note
capital gains
is part
of EZ
proposal.
Ryder

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4516

For some Americans, however, other things come first: They need the self-respect to regain their lives. Their roof is the sky above. Their floor is the street below. The homeless.

We see them everywhere -- next door on 15th Street, in our suburbs and small towns. They need emergency shelter, food, and medical care. So two months ago, I signed a bill that increases funding under the McKinney Act to reduce homelessness. And we *want* ~~want to find new ways to put part of our FHA foreclosures into the hands of non-profit groups.~~ And to coordinate basic needs like shelter with other social services, *and put part of our FHA foreclosures into the hands of non-profit groups.*

It won't be easy: We know that. But we also know the real answer to the homeless is shelter plus care. And we know that to help the homeless -- like improving education, or stopping crime -- will require a combined Federal, State, and local effort. Only then can we unleash the resources of the private and public sectors -- showing, as a writer said, how "America is a willingness of the heart." //

I believe there is a willingness of the heart in this room. A willingness to put aside partisan concerns because the promise of America also depends on us. So let us sit down -- the White House and Mayors; Democrats and Republicans -- and do what needs to be done to make the impossible \ \ possible. Thank you for this occasion. God bless you. And God bless the United States of America.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

1/25/90

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 23, 1990

1990 JAN 23 PM 7:55

OK

suggestion

Bennett is optimistic
Drug use is down
he says lets
put 57M in

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *aw*

FROM: CURT SMITH *CS*

SUBJECT: U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS' SPEECH

I. SUMMARY

On Friday, January 26, at 10:00 a.m., you will address about 800 Mayors at the Capitol Hilton Hotel in Washington. Houston Mayor Kathy Whitmire will introduce you. The following people will accompany you on the dais: Tom Cochran, the Executive Director of the U.S. Conference of Mayors; Secretary Skinner; Colorado Springs Mayor Bob Isaac, 1st Vice President of the Conference; and Boston Mayor Ray Flynn, 2nd Vice President of the Conference.

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II. DISCUSSION

The attached remarks (15 minutes, teleprompter) discuss the four main problems mayors face in their cities -- drugs and crime, education, housing, and the plight of the homeless. The text calls upon Congress to pass legislation you have proposed to help solve these problems.

little
news along
with the
rest —

(Smith/Blessey)
7:30 P.M.
January 23, 1990
MAYORS

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
CAPITOL HILTON HOTEL
FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 1990
10 A.M.

Mayor Whitmire, Secretary Skinner, Director Cochran, Mayor Isaac, Mayor Flynn. Other distinguished Mayors, Ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for that reception, and for the pleasure of being here. In particular, let me thank Kathy Whitmire for that warm introduction. //

((Kathy, of course, is a fellow Houstonian. Maybe that's why even though I'm a Republican and she's a Democrat, the last time I was there she presented me with the key to the city. // Only one problem. Kathy went out and changed the lock.)) //

((But you know me -- I don't hold grudges. So I picked up the phone when she called a couple weeks later. She asked me to declare a disaster area. // I told her I didn't think the Houston Oilers were that bad.)) //

Kathy and all of your colleagues -- it is an honor to address this 58th annual U.S. Conference of Mayor's Winter Meeting. And to talk to you about the ways that you and I -- the White House and the Mayors -- can build a better America.

Nineteen months ago, I sent you a letter expressing my thoughts on urban policy. And wrote, "As we prepare to enter the

Oilers,
Astros,
Yes

another one
we need
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but not
this one

1990s, it is clear that America needs a new working relationship between the Federal government and the cities."

Well, I meant it then. And mean it now. We need to forge a new relationship. // A relationship -- a partnership -- which realizes that as Mayors, you are on the front lines in the war against urban problems. A partnership which can achieve the promise of America. //

That promise depends, first, on maintaining our economic resources. Just as we have during the longest peacetime boom in American history. And next week, we'll release a budget for Fiscal Year 1991 that builds on this prosperity. Together, we can create opportunity for all. //

The promise of America also depends on safeguarding our natural resources. Just as Mayors are doing through programs like Chicago's "Plastics on Parks." Or in Virginia Beach, generating electricity from that city's landfill. // You're doing your part -- and we intend to do ours. By strengthening the Clean Air Act, preserving our wetlands, improving America's parks, and other domestic and international initiatives.

Together, we can protect our environment for decades to come. //

Then, there are human resources. Today, an estimated 15 million families are headed by working parents or single mothers. But when it comes to child care, Washington doesn't automatically know best. So I urge the Congress to pass my child-care legislation. Let's put choice in the hands of low-income parents. //

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Each of these initiatives will nurture the promise of America. Yet urban problems won't fade until we meet the challenges I discussed in 1988 -- the challenges you face each day: Drugs and crime, education, housing, and the plight of our homeless. Can we meet them? I believe we can. Because I believe in America, nothing is impossible. // ((Perhaps an ex-baseball player put it best. "When I was a little boy," Graig Nettles said, "I wanted to be a [big-league] player and join the circus. With the Yankees, I've accomplished both.")

I believe that as partners we, too, can accomplish what some might deem impossible. So let us assault the drugs and crime that form the first of our challenges. Rescuing our kids from crack and cocaine won't be easy -- but but it can be done. //

See in 1985 Consider that last year, eight million people used cocaine.

And 23 million Americans used illegal drugs on a "current" basis -- at least once in 30 days. *Last year the number fell by more than a third* ~~And according to one study,~~

~~America's gross drug sales topped \$110 billion -- double the profits of all Fortune 500 companies. // A Nation with those~~

~~numbers cannot long preserve its soul.~~ *That means almost 9 mill fewer Amer. are casual drug users. Good news. But we need to do much more.*

~~To help save it,~~ yesterday I released the 1990 National Drug Control Strategy -- Phase II of the comprehensive drug policy we unveiled last September. We're asking Congress to spend over \$10 and a half billion in FY '91 for education, treatment, interdiction, and enforcement. That's a 41 per cent increase in outlays over the current year. And it means a 70 per cent

increase in drug-related spending overall since our Administration took office. //

I ask you to support our strategy to take back the streets from crime and drugs. // We need mandatory time for firearms offenses. No deals when criminals use a gun. And as Phase II proposes, an expansion of the death penalty for drug-related crimes. In that context, I ask you to urge your State legislatures to approve the same penalty for the killing of local law enforcement officers. Let's work together to stop the hooligans and the thugs. //

Phase II aims to help the teenager tormented by crack. Or the pregnant mother whose drug use imperils her child. Yet drugs are a national, not only Federal, problem. So you, too, have responded. Macon, Georgia, for example, has started the Macon-Bibb War on Drugs. And in Houston, local officials and residents of Acres Homes project have teamed to pursue "Drug Free Tomorrows." I visited Acres Home last month -- and the courage of that community is truly inspiring.

Now, let's join hands to inspire the millions of Americans who want to help America get clean -- and stay clean. How? Look at this morning's USA Today. According to the Gordon Black Poll, 10 per cent of all families are already involved in volunteer anti-drug programs. But what's really startling is that an unbelievable 60 per cent of Americans would volunteer 5 hours each week to stop the sale and use of drugs. And the same

I'll tell you what was asked my American m. n is why Tim Bush 1 bill 3 yrs - pro-bono advertisement

percentage would donate from \$20 to \$100 to their community to stem drug use. Why haven't they? They haven't been asked. //

Get out your pocket calculators. These figures mean that Americans are willing to donate more than 500 million hours per week. And \$5 billion, nationally. They want to serve. They want to give. But they have to be asked before they can do either. A promise: I will use the Bully Pulpit to ask them to do both. And I urge you to do the same. Together, let's defeat Public Enemy Number One. //

Ending the scourge of drugs will not only save lives. It will also help meet that second challenge I talked about: the education of our kids. //

You know how central education is to urban America: Bright minds can find solutions to your Rubik's Cube of problems. Remember: Nothing is impossible. // Yet, look at today's box score of so-called "higher learning." A drop-out rate that is totally unacceptable. Erratic standards. Unsafe schools wracked by drug use and trafficking. Kids ill-equipped to read or write. Let's be honest: Our educational system isn't making the grade.

To go from "fail" to "pass" will require school boards, teachers, and parents to work together with all levels of government. // So I applaud Mayors who have started programs like "Step Up" in Kenner, Louisiana -- providing learning incentives for students. Or the program in Colorado Springs which helps dropouts and at-risk kids finish high school. //

Mayors who head the more than 350 cities which enriched America on your "National Education Day."

So far, so good -- and yet still so much to do. For while education is mostly a local and State responsibility, the Federal government must help. That's why I call on the Congress to pass our "Educational Excellence Act." Legislation which seeks: First, to encourage excellence. Second, to see that Federal dollars serve those most in need. Third, to demand educational accountability. And fourth, to support flexibility and choice.

For instance, we want to create a \$500 million program when fully funded to reward schools that improve the most. Then, there's our new Magnet Schools of Excellence program. Our plan to reward schools which create a drug-free environment and reduce the drop-out rate. And a National Science Scholars initiative in science, mathematics, and engineering. And recently, I was pleased to sign into law, legislation to help urban schools hit hardest by drug use. //

These initiatives can, and will, make America competitive in the international marketplace of ideas. But the promise of America also depends on meeting the third and fourth challenges I mentioned earlier: Making housing affordable and accessible -- and providing help for the homeless. //

Basic shelter -- affordable housing -- should be every American's reality -- not merely a dream. So two months ago, I announced an initiative to make the Federal government a more effective urban partner. Its name: HOPE, Home Ownership and

Opportunity for People Everywhere, a new comprehensive housing and urban development agenda.

HOPE will help first-time homebuyers by allowing them to draw, without penalty, on IRA savings as a down payment for that first home. And it will also help tenants become home-owners. As public housing sites have done in St. Louis, Washington, and East Los Angeles. Each with tenants in control. // For other low-income families, we want housing vouchers that increase housing options. And toward that end, I have asked Secretary Kemp to convene a commission to identify barriers to affordable housing.

Yet for many, the problem of housing is availability -- not just affordability. So we want Congress to renew the tax credit to aid the construction and rehabilitation of low-income housing. // But we must also create incentives for growth in those areas of need. For growth means jobs -- and jobs mean homes. // So we have urged Congress to help the dream along by passing our Enterprise-Zone legislation. Proposing at least 50 urban Enterprise Zones over the next four years to fuel the engine of job creation. // There's more. We want to cut the capital gains tax for the Nation. And for Enterprise Zones, we've got to abolish that tax altogether to spur the investment, jobs, and enterprise that can turn dark corners of despair into neighborhoods lit by opportunity and hope. //

Finally, let us provide hope for those whose roof is the sky above. Whose floor is the street below. We see them everywhere

-- next door on 15th Street, in our suburbs and small towns.

Yes, the homeless.

The homeless need emergency shelter, food, and medical care. To reduce homelessness, two months ago I signed a bill that increases funding under the McKinney Act. And we want to find new ways to put part of our FHA foreclosures into the hands of non-profit groups. And to coordinate basic needs like shelter with other social services.

It won't be easy: We know that. But we also know the real answer to the homeless is shelter plus care. And we know that to help the homeless -- like improving education, or stopping drugs -- will require a combined Federal, State, and local effort. Only then can we unleash the resources of the private and public sectors -- showing, as a writer said, how "[America] is a willingness of the heart." //

I believe there is a willingness of the heart in this room. Among Democrats and Republicans. // The White House and Mayors. // A willingness to put aside partisan concerns.

So let us sit down, together, and do what needs to be done. To achieve the promise of America. And thereby make the impossible // possible. Thank you for this occasion. God bless you. And God bless the United States of America.

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