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Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
Collection/Office of Origin: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Speech File Draft Files
Subseries: Chron File, 1989-1993

OA/ID Number: 13567
Folder ID Number: 13567-002

Folder Title:
Infant and Maternal Health 5/13/91 [OA 6033]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	26	17	1	3

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/8/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5/9/91 - NOON

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: INFANT AND MATERNAL HEALTH
 LaSALLE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
 SUBJECT: CHICAGO - 5/13/91

	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 type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input 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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CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>ANDERSON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>SNOW</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON, Thursday, May 9, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

(Lange/Simon)
May 8, 1991
12:45 A.M.
[BABY.DOC]

91 MAY -8 PM 1:37

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: INFANT AND MATERNAL HEALTH --
 LaSALLE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
 MONDAY, MAY 13, 1991
 [TIME]

[[Secretary Sullivan, Michelle Ealy... [acknowledgements]

I'm proud to be here -- even though the real infant health expert in our family is my wife, Barbara. You've probably heard of her: the Mother of all Bushes. \\

When she told me I was coming here to learn how to take care of toothless, drooling, chubby, bald, babbling little characters, I said I thought Congress could take care of themselves. \\\

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If, as Charles Dickens once wrote, "Every baby born into the world is a finer one than the last," it's also true that every

baby deserves the best. Every child deserves a chance.

In America there should be no young women wondering how to care for the children of fathers long gone -- and no child that lacks the warm embrace of a secure love.

What's been happening here in Chicago gives the rest of the country reason for hope. People here have begun to see this community not for its problems, but for its untapped potential.

I've just visited a remarkable clinic that coordinates a wide range of services -- a kind of "one-stop shopping" for health care. It relies on what I consider the greatest American technology: the power of the offered hand.

Community workers go door-to-door, making sure young pregnant women get vitally-needed clinical services. Nutritional programs. Consistent pre- and post-natal care. Group and one-on-one teaching sessions. Peer support. And throughout, a new sense of personal responsibility.

Across the country, we're challenging communities to match this program's power to help people -- its potential to encourage, to empower, to inspire. Why? Because it works.

That's why I'm so committed to comprehensive, community-based health programs -- with an emphasis on prevention -- as the key to a healthier America.

Congress has provided \$25 million in funding for our innovative "Healthy Start" initiative, targeted toward 10 at-risk areas. We aim to cut infant mortality by half over the next five years -- and to spread the best ideas to communities across

this nation. We want all mothers -- especially struggling, single mothers -- to get access to high quality care.

I want to congratulate Secretary Sullivan, for reorganizing and re-charging the child and family support programs at the Department of Health and Human Services. What an outstanding job he's doing, for a healthier America. \\\

Our budget also proposed \$40 million in additional funding for childhood immunization, on top of the doubling that occurred over the previous four years -- for a total of \$258 million.

These are significant commitments from government. But there's another side of the equation that's equally important -- and that's why I've come here today.

For too long, debate about social issues has been polarized between those who say government should do more for people, and those who say people should do more for themselves. Some think only in terms of public resources -- others, only in terms of private responsibility. I say, let's do a better job with both.

On every serious social issue, our thinking needs to be more coherent, better integrated, and more effective over the long term. That's why, together with the nation's Governors, we set ambitious education goals. One of the most important is that by the year 2000, every child will start school ready to learn. That begins with good health -- and good health begins here.

Conventional wisdom says that somehow dollars and doctors can do it all for us. But people like you have more power to affect your own health than any army of doctors in white coats.

When Secretary Sullivan speaks of a "culture of character," he's not just doing it for his health -- he's doing it for yours, and every American's.

Only communities of conscience can begin to change the social value system that leads to destructive behavior. Only communities of conscience can encourage young women to choose quality of life -- as trustees of their own health, and that of their children.

You know, Martin Luther King once said the family is the "main educational agency of mankind." He was right. The family is the ultimate "department of health and human services" -- and your house is more powerful than the White House.

No child in America has to be born in a dreamless sleep of indifference -- and no mother has to live a nightmare of despair.

Here in this community, you're turning the victims of poverty into creators of their own destiny -- because you understand that we don't have a soul to waste, or a minute to lose.

Let us make this covenant with future generations: that the potential of every life is unlimited -- the birth of every child is filled with promise -- and we have no higher purpose than to keep that covenant, and fulfill that promise.

Thank you all -- and may God bless every baby born in America.

#

To honor that covenant, we must not only make the commitment to direct action, as the community clinics and volunteers have done so well, we must also examine our actions to ensure that we are not indirectly subverting our purpose.

Over a year ago, I gave a speech as Johns Hopkins University. That audience was understandably concerned about the effect of our medical liability system on the amount of unnecessary defensive medicine practiced, the hurdles it places on medical research, and the erosion of the doctor-patient relationship that litigation fosters. And the concern goes further -- more and more physicians are leaving high risk specialties, like obstetrics so important to infant health -- some physician are abandoning rural practices. These physicians are reacting rationally to the system we created. We cannot let these problems go unanswered for our children's sake.

In response to these developments, I directed the Domestic Policy Council to determine steps the Federal Government can take to help alleviate this serious condition. I am happy to announce today that the Council has finished its review and I will be transmitting a bill to Congress to address the medical liability issue and, as importantly, seek to improve the quality of health care delivered. Enhanced quality of care must be a part of any proposal for the easiest way to reduce the amount of medical malpractice liability is to reduce the incidence of medical malpractice.

Our litigation system, and the ^{abuse of that system by some,} ~~responsibility each one of us has not to abuse that system,~~ are just two ways in which we produce often perverse incentives that thwart our goals. Government, schools, communities, corporations, individuals, all Americans must examine our actions so that we can fulfil our promise, keep our covenant and allow every newborn the full measure of his or her innate abilities.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

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 SUBJECT: LaSALLE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
CHICAGO - 5/13/91

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RESPONSE:

*See comments. Thanks.
 Holly Williamson
 5-9-91*

PHILLIP D. BRADY
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 9, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR TONY SNOW

FROM: HOLLY WILLIAMSON *HW*

SUBJECT: Health Speech

In addition to the specific comments noted on the attached text, please see the general comments listed below.

-- (HHS) The speech needs greater emphasis on the point that strong families make strong children. HHS did not provide language, but could pull some together if needed.

-- (HHS) A more detailed explanation of Healthy Start is needed; it is not just an access initiative. Moreover Congress has been asked for \$171 million and we anticipate getting around \$100 million. The text as is only indicates the \$25 million that has been provided. See text for suggested insert on this -- HHS did not want to quote the figures above, but rather to pump up the rhetoric.

-- (HHS & OCA) Note the comment on the bottom of page 2, last paragraph, 2nd sentence. It is an important distinction to make.

-- (OCA) Also see our suggested insert on medical malpractice. I am in the process of clearing it with Justice and HHS. I will let you know as soon as possible if either department had changes or problems with it.

Many thanks.

(Lange/Simon)
May 8, 1991
12:45 A.M.
[BABY.DOC]

91 MAY -8 PM 1:37

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IMPORTANT!

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#

MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY SPEECH INSERT

A major component of our program to improve the nation's healthcare is our effort to bring medical malpractice under control. The effects of escalating liability litigation on the medical industry are crippling. Between 70 to 80 percent of obstetricians nationally have been sued. Other medical specialties are being hit equally hard. In fact, it was recently reported that in Washington, D.C., every single practicing neurosurgeon has been sued at least once. I'm glad that I was able to find a doctor last week when I needed one.

Some physicians are even quitting the profession or moving to less costly areas of the country because of the liability costs. In 1985 alone, 12 percent of all gynecologists quit delivering babies because of the litigation risk and the resulting rise in insurance premiums.

In order to alleviate the problems caused by the medical malpractice liability system, and at the same time enhance the delivery of quality medical care, I am transmitting today to Congress the Administration's "Health Care Liability Reform Act of 1991," which will

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91 MAY 8 10

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RESPONSE:

— MASTER —
 (SEE HOLIDAY'S COMMENT TOO) + PORTERS

PHILLIP D. BRADY
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

* need to mention transmittal of med. malpractice bill.

Anderson

See Porter's comments

(Lange/Simon) (hi-
May 8, 1991 lite
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OMB

OMB

→ Add stats / Rogich.

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But
When it comes to improving
infant health + realizing our
prevention agenda ...

of prenatal
care. Well,
we're delivering on
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We call ~~an~~ America 2000 one of...
or (The first goal
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Unless smoking among pregnant women declines, unless fewer women drink or use illegal drugs during pregnancy, unless fewer are born out of wedlock, all efforts of our government & our health system will be for naught.

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Let us make this covenant with future generations: that the potential of every life is unlimited -- the birth of every child is filled with promise -- and we have no higher purpose than to keep that covenant, and fulfill that promise.

Thank you all -- and may God bless every baby born in America.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 9, 1991

91 MAY 9 11:31

MEMORANDUM FOR TONY SNOW

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP / CUC*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Infant and Maternal Health

The proposed remarks are very good. They effectively communicate our policy proposals and lay out our arguments about how best to improve infant health.

We have the following suggestions which we feel would strengthen the draft:

- On page 2, third paragraph, the reference to "clinic" should be changed to "health center" and "health care" to "a broad array of services." Some things provided at the site, like social services and nutrition, are not health care.
- In the final paragraph on page 2, we should emphasize our request rather than the amount the Congress appropriated: "We asked for \$57 million this year and \$173 million next for our initiative ..." The lower level allowed by the Congress might be retained by adding a sentence, "And while the Congress provided less than half the amount we requested, we're getting started." With respect to the reference to reducing infant mortality by half, the qualifier "in these areas" is very important.
- In the next to last paragraph on page 3, we recommend deleting the sentence, "That begins with good health -- and good health begins here," or replacing it with, "We made a commitment to improving the systems of prenatal care. Well, we're delivering on that commitment."
- In the last paragraph on page 3, the contrast between the efficacy of doctors and citizens should be qualified by amending the second sentence to begin, "But when it comes improving infant health and realizing our prevention agenda ..." We do not want to suggest that individuals needing surgery do it themselves.
- On page 4, the first full paragraph, we suggest a recitation of destructive behaviors to be avoided between the first and second sentences. "Unless smoking among pregnant women declines, unless fewer women drink or use

illegal drugs during pregnancy, unless fewer children are born out of wedlock, all the efforts of government and our health system will be for nought."

- The medical liability initiative is being announced in conjunction with the Chicago visit. This can be reflected in the remarks by adding at least these two sentences, in one of the paragraphs late in page 2 or early on page 3: "Too many communities don't have doctors to deliver babies. That is because our malpractice system is out of control. To remedy this situation, I am announcing legislation that will provide incentives for states to reform their tort laws and improve the quality of health care."
- Finally, and most importantly, the remarks do not convey what it is that is new to the initiative. The initiative has three prongs; targeting high infant mortality areas, calling attention to the causes of infant mortality, and expanding the use of available services. The third prong is not covered in this draft.

To emphasize expanded service use, we should add some additional material just before the "conventional wisdom" paragraph on page 3 or before the community theme on page 2.

The new material should convey that the President is announcing a broad-based effort to expand service use. The remarks should state that he supported, and signed, legislation to increase Medicaid eligibility for pregnant women, and now we need to push ahead, to make sure that women get the services we have sought to make available. The remarks should reflect that the President is going to take the steps necessary to focus our resources, and our resolve, on getting more women into early pre-natal care.

cc: Phillip D. Brady

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 9, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: TONY SNOW
FROM: MARK LANGE
SUBJECT: INFANT AND MATERNAL HEALTH

I. SUMMARY

On Monday, May 13, at 12:15 p.m., you will talk about the Administration's efforts to improve the health of infants and children. You will speak in the De La Salle High School gymnasium in Chicago, where the audience will be about 800 health care workers, high school students and community residents.

II. DISCUSSION

The remarks (10 minutes, on cards) describe the three-prong approach of the "Healthy Start" initiative: targeting areas of high infant mortality with new resources; calling attention to the preventable causes of infant mortality; and making sure mothers take advantage of existing programs.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date: 5/9/91

TO: *Tony Snow*

FROM: *Bob Simon*

The attached is for:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Per our conversation | <input type="checkbox"/> Per your request |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information | <input type="checkbox"/> Review & Comment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Direct Response | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appropriate Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Reply | <input type="checkbox"/> Signature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> File | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please Return By _____ | |

Comments:

91 MAY 8 P1:03

(Lange/Simon)
May 8, 1991
12:45 A.M.
[BABY.DOC]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: INFANT AND MATERNAL HEALTH -
~~de~~ LaSALLE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
MONDAY, MAY 13, 1991
[TIME] 12:15 P.M.

[[Secretary Sullivan, Michelle Ealy... [acknowledgements]

I'm proud to be here -- even though the real infant health expert in our family is my wife, Barbara. You've probably heard of her: the Mother of all Bushes. \\

When she told me I was coming here to learn how to take care of toothless, drooling, chubby, bald, babbling little characters, I said I thought Congress could take care of themselves. \\ \\

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I've just visited a remarkable ^{community health center} ~~clinic~~ that coordinates a wide range of services -- a kind of "one-stop shopping" for health care. It relies on what I consider the greatest American technology: the power of the offered hand.

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That's why I'm so committed to comprehensive, community-based health programs -- with an emphasis on prevention -- as the key to a healthier America.

Congress has provided \$25 million in funding for our innovative "Healthy Start" initiative, targeted toward 10 at-risk areas. We aim to cut infant mortality by half over the next five years ^{in these targeted areas} -- and to spread the best ideas to communities across

this nation. We want all mothers -- especially struggling, single mothers -- to get access to high quality care.

I want to congratulate Secretary Sullivan, for reorganizing and re-charging the child and family support programs at the Department of Health and Human Services. What an outstanding job he's doing, for a healthier America. \\

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For too long, debate about social issues has been polarized between those who say government should do more for people, and those who say people should do more for themselves. Some think only in terms of public resources -- others, only in terms of private responsibility. I say, let's do a better job with both.

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could not verify MCK quote
~~You know, Martin Luther King once said the family is the~~
~~"main educational agency of mankind."~~ *When you get right down to it, +* He was right. ~~The family~~
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Let us make this covenant with future generations: that the potential of every life is unlimited -- the birth of every child is filled with promise -- and we have no higher purpose than to keep that covenant, and fulfill that promise.

Thank you all -- and may God bless every baby born in America.

91 MAY 8 11:23 AM WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/8/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5/9/91 - NOON

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: INFANT AND MATERNAL HEALTH
 LaSALLE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
 SUBJECT: CHICAGO - 5/13/91

	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 type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input 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"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ANDERSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON, Thursday, May 9, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

*can't find any way to work in fast track!
 see p. 2 only*

PHILLIP D. BRADY
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

(Lange/Simon)
May 8, 1991
12:45 A.M.
[BABY.DOC]

91 MAY -8 PM 1:37

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: INFANT AND MATERNAL HEALTH _ _
 LaSALLE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
 MONDAY, MAY 13, 1991
 [TIME]

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 I'm proud to be here -- even though the real infant health expert in our family is my wife, Barbara. You've probably heard of her: the Mother of all Bushes. \ \

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91 MAY 9 8:50 **WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 5/8/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5/9/91 - NOON

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: INFANT AND MATERNAL HEALTH
 SUBJECT: LaSALLE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
CHICAGO - 5/13/91

	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 type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

OK - w/ slight addition as noted

S.R.

PHILLIP D. BRADY
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

(Lange/Simon)
May 8, 1991
12:45 A.M.
[BABY.DOC]

91 MAY -8 PM 1:37

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LaSALLE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

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PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: INFANT AND MATERNAL HEALTH
 SUBJECT: LaSALLE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
CHICAGO - 5/13/91

	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 type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>SNOW</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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RESPONSE: *See comments*

PHILLIP D. BRADY
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

(Lange/Simon)

May 8, 1991

12:45 A.M.

[BABY.DOC]

91 MAY -8 PM 1:37

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: INFANT AND MATERNAL HEALTH
 LaSALLE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
 MONDAY, MAY 13, 1991
 [TIME]

[[Secretary Sullivan, Michelle Ealy... [acknowledgements]

I'm proud to be here -- even though the real infant health expert in our family is my wife, Barbara. You've probably heard of her: the Mother of all Bushes. \ \

When she told me I was coming here to learn how to take care of toothless, drooling, chubby, bald, babbling little characters, I said I thought Congress could take care of themselves. \ \ \

Then she said, "No, I mean those noisy little howlers that crawl all over you, never giving you a moment's rest." And I said, "Why should I have to look after the press corps?" \ \ \]]

Well, I've joined you today, for the sake of something profoundly important: the future that begins with the birth of a child. A future that should always be bright with promise.

This country's infant mortality rate ^{has} declined steadily across this century. Last year, we saw the greatest decline in the infant death rate in a decade. Still, the crushing blow of a child's death falls disproportionately on the poor. ~~And~~ ^{nowhere} is it written that one baby deserves a better chance at life than any other.

If, as Charles Dickens once wrote, "Every baby born into the world is a finer one than the last," it's also true that every

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X3197

baby deserves the best. Every child deserves a chance.

In America there should be no young women wondering how to care for the children of fathers long gone -- and no child that lacks the warm ^{secure} embrace of ~~a secure~~ love.

What's been happening here in Chicago gives the rest of the country reason for hope. People here have begun to see this community not for its problems, but for its untapped potential.

I've just visited a remarkable clinic that coordinates a wide range of services -- a kind of "one-stop shopping" for health care. It relies on what I consider the greatest American technology: the power of the offered hand.

Community workers go door-to-door, making sure young pregnant women get vitally-needed clinical services. Nutritional programs. Consistent pre- and post-natal care. Group and one-on-one teaching sessions. Peer support. And throughout, a new sense of personal responsibility.

Across the country, we're challenging communities to match this program's power to help people -- its potential to encourage, to empower, to inspire. Why? Because it works.

That's why I'm so committed to comprehensive, community-based health programs -- with an emphasis on prevention -- as the key to a healthier America, *today, tomorrow and into the 21st century.*

Congress has provided \$25 million in funding for our innovative "Healthy Start" initiative, targeted toward 10 at-risk areas. We aim to cut infant mortality by half over the next five years -- and to spread the best ideas to communities across

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this nation. We want all mothers -- especially struggling, single mothers -- to get access to high quality care.

I want to congratulate Secretary Sullivan, for reorganizing and re-charging the child and family support programs at the Department of Health and Human Services. What an outstanding job he's doing, for a healthier America. \\\

Our budget also proposed \$40 million in additional funding for childhood immunization, on top of the doubling that occurred over the previous four years -- for a total of \$258 million.

These are significant commitments from government. But there's another side of the equation that's equally important -- and that's why I've come here today.

For too long, debate about social issues has been polarized between those who say government should do more for people, and those who say people should do more for themselves. Some think only in terms of public resources -- others, only in terms of private responsibility. I say, let's do a better job with both.

On every serious social issue, our thinking needs to be more coherent, better integrated, and more effective over the long term. That's why, together with the nation's Governors, we set ambitious education goals. ^{The first goal} ~~one of the most important~~ is that by the year 2000, every child will start school ready to learn.

That begins with good health -- and good health begins here.

Conventional wisdom says that somehow dollars and doctors can do it all for us. But people like you have more power to affect your own health than any army of doctors in white coats.

*foundation for the future
Taylor
x3192*

*Scully
X5178*

When Secretary Sullivan speaks of a "culture of character," he's not just doing it for his health -- he's doing it for yours, and every American's.

Only communities of conscience can begin to change the social value system that leads to destructive behavior. Only communities of conscience can encourage young women to choose quality of life -- as trustees of their own health, and that of their children.

You know, Martin Luther King once said the family is the "main educational agency of mankind." He was right. The family is the ultimate "department of health and human services" --- and your house is more powerful than the White House.

No child in America has to be born in a dreamless sleep of indifference -- and no mother has to live a nightmare of despair.

Here in this community, you're ^{giving} turning the victims of poverty into ~~creators~~ ^{the power to create} of their own destiny -- because you understand that we don't have a soul to waste, or a minute to lose.

Let us make this covenant with future generations: that the potential of every life is unlimited -- the birth of every child is filled with promise -- and we have no higher purpose than to keep that covenant, and fulfill that promise.

Thank you all -- and may God bless every baby born in America.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 8, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR TONY SNOW
Deputy Assistant To The President For
Communications and Director of Speechwriting

FROM: JANET REHNQUIST *JR*
Associate Counsel to the President

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks -- Infant and Maternal
Health, LaSalle High School Gymnasium, Chicago

At your request, Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced matter. We have no legal objections.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

cc: Phillip D. Brady

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 MAY 9 AIO: 04

DATE: 5/8/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5/9/91 - NOON

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: INFANT AND MATERNAL HEALTH
 SUBJECT: LaSALLE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
 CHICAGO - 5/13/91

	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 type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input 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"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>ANDERSON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>SNOW</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON, Thursday, May 9, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

Addition of med. malpractice bill transmitted

PHILLIP D. BRADY
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

(Lange/Simon)
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12:45 A.M.
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