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FOIA Number:

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# FOIA MARKER

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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

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**OA/ID Number:** 13568  
**Folder ID Number:** 13568-004

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**Folder Title:**  
National Retail Federation 5/23/91 [OA 6033]

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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

01 MAY 21 1991  
P 5:50

MEMORANDUM FOR TONY SNOW  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR  
COMMUNICATIONS AND DIRECTOR OF SPEECHWRITING

THROUGH: C. BOYDEN GRAY *C. BG. (by NL)*  
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: NELSON LUND *NL*  
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: National Retail Federation

At the request of Phillip D. Brady, Counsel's office has reviewed the captioned draft remarks.

The following insert should be added, probably on page 3 after ". . . jobs for all Americans.":

Finally, I want to stress that economic growth and equal opportunity go hand in hand. I want to sign a civil rights bill this year, and I've sent a good strong proposal up to the Hill. Unfortunately, my bill is being held hostage while the other side pushes a bill that is almost identical to the one I vetoed last year.

On Tuesday, we had an announcement of a Democratic compromise. But it was just an announcement -- no bill, ~~and~~ no exact language. ~~But as far as we can tell from their summary, they've only compromised with themselves. The changes they're proposing seem to be purely cosmetic.~~

I do not want to veto another bill with the name "civil rights" on it. But I will not sign an ~~anti-civil rights~~ bill that will foster unfair preferences and promote a litigation explosion for the benefit of lawyers. If the other side is serious about civil rights, they will pass my bill. We can then move forward in a constructive and bipartisan fashion to address the other elements of my program for expanding choice and opportunity.

(If the Democrats release a new bill before the President's remarks, this insert will need to be adjusted.)

Counsel's office appreciates the opportunity to review this matter.

cc: Phillip D. Brady

91 MAY 21 P3:41

**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 5/21/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ---

SUBJECT: BRIEF REMARKS WITH NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>SNOW</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>KRISTOL</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>BOSKIN</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>DELAND</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

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

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

91 MAY 20 PM 5:09

May 20, 1991

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: TONY SNOW *TS*  
FROM: MARY KATE GRANT *MKG*  
SUBJECT: BRIEF REMARKS WITH NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION

I. SUMMARY

On Thursday, May 23, 1991, you will deliver brief remarks before the leadership of the National Retail Federation at 11:00 a.m. in Room 450. The audience will number approximately 180, representing one million retail establishments employing over 16 million workers.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks focus on the Administration's economic growth package and will include a reaction to the fast track vote, which will be inserted once the vote occurs.

Grant/Cawley  
May 16, 1991  
Draft three / A: NRF.ts

**BRIEF REMARKS: NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION  
ROOM 450 DROP-BY  
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991  
11:00 A.M.**

Good morning. It's a pleasure to have you to the White House. ((Acknowledgements))

The National Retail Federation has supported this administration on a wide range of trade and economic issues. I wanted to meet with you and thank you. I also wanted to discuss an issue of importance to every person in this room -- as well as to the 16 million workers you represent: **economic growth.**

While there is some disagreement about the length and depth of the recession, we must commit ourselves to policies that will promote growth and prosperity into the next century. This administration's economic growth package can do just that. It can set us on a path toward long-term, market-driven economic growth.

Our Administration's growth package begins with **control of federal spending.** Our budget agreement last year finally put the Federal Government on a pay-as-you-go system. And it cut the growth of federal debt by nearly \$500 billion over the next five years -- and that extra capital means more investment.

To further increase **private savings and investment** in the economy, we've also proposed tax-free family savings accounts,

and penalty-free withdrawals from IRA's for first-time home buyers.

Our financial services reform bill will help modernize our financial system, ensure its future strength, and help alleviate tight credit conditions.

We've proposed cutting the tax for long-term capital gains to spur job-creating investment in our economy. That would cut the tax code's bias in favor of debt; expand incentives to invest; give a leg up to the small entrepreneur with the big idea. It would keep the American Dream alive.

And we're investing in research and development, which will add fuel even greater growth in the future.

America's retailers know better than most that government regulation shouldn't impose unnecessary burdens on working men and women. That's why the Vice President's Council on Competitiveness will continue to review government regulations to ensure that regulatory benefits outweigh burdens by the widest margin possible.

These proposals are only part of our action plan for a strong and healthy economy. We're looking beyond our borders for new opportunities in international markets. Over the past four decades, and especially in recent years, trade has kept our economy going strong. Merchandise exports have risen 73 percent in the last four years -- more than twice the rate of import growth. Export business accounts for an increasing share of our

economic growth. We've seen unparalleled growth in world trade and huge economic benefits for the United States.

Our trade strategy is simple: the United States will continue to lead the world toward a system of free trade and open markets -- because it means economic growth and jobs for all Americans.

[FAST TRACK INSERT TO COME, DEPENDING ON TIMING OF VOTE]

In the end, every vote counts/counted. Your support in the final days is/was crucial, and we can't/couldn't have done it without you. Keep up the good fight. Thanks once again.

God bless you.

# # #

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/21/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ---

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEDICATION OF THE KHALIL GIBRAN MEMORIAL GARDEN

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

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

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

91 MAY 21 PM 2:01

May 21, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: TONY SNOW *TS*

FROM: JENNIFER GROSSMAN *JG*

On Friday May 24th at 9:30 a.m., you will deliver brief remarks (five minutes, on cards) at the dedication of the Khalil Gibran Memorial Garden. 500 invited guests will attend as well as some general public. Press will be open. Several speakers will precede you in very brief remarks.

The Khalil Gibran Memorial is a gift of the Khalil Gibran Centennial Foundation to the American people. Your remarks comment on the beauty of memorial garden, and praise the poetic and philosophic contributions of Khalil Gibran. You also state hopes for peace in Gibran's homeland, the Middle East.

(Grossman/Hinchliffe)  
May 17, 1991  
RASUL Draft One

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: KHALIL GIBRAN DEDICATION  
GIBRAN MEMORIAL GARDEN  
FRIDAY, MAY 24, 1991, 9:30 a.m.

Ladies and Gentlemen. It's an honor to dedicate this garden to a man who has done so much for poetry, and through poetry, for all of us. \ Barbara and I were pleased to serve as honorary Co-Chairmen of the dedication committee. And now that I see the beauty of this place, I'm struck by that committee's dedication. \ They, and all who contributed to this memorial, offer it as a tribute to Gibran's legacy -- his belief in brotherhood, his call for compassion, and his passion for peace.

The spot where we now stand holds a special place in my heart. For eight years, I lived up the street with my family. But this memorial renders this place more special still -- by honoring a man who enlivened candor with cadence, and lent song to truth.

Gibran once wrote that "remembrance is a form of meeting." So, in this garden, we meet that man again. The graceful symmetry and slope of these grounds lead the eye in a sweep that is, indeed, poetry in motion. The Cedars of Lebanon that will someday canopy the poet's memorial remind us of those which once sheltered his birth. His words carved on these benches echo those he has etched on our memory. And as the entrance's footbridge brings us into his garden, so his work "leads (us) to the thresholds of (our) own mind."

Perhaps his greatest bequest was the key by which we opened our own imaginations. His was not poetry for the passive, but for the participant. He wrote that the wisest teacher reveals "that which already lies half asleep in the dawning of your knowledge." His poetry sounded that reveille with a song of beauty and truth.

When Gibran said that "work is love made visible," those were not just words that he wrote, they were words that he lived. Part poet, part philosopher -- he extracted 'the secret of the sea (from) a drop of dew.' Poetry was the language in which he explored his soul, and taught us about ours. And when he spoke of the realm of the spirit, his words pressed the veil we cannot see, yet cannot see beyond. He drew us where we were unused to climb, and shared what he saw: the promise of a kinder, gentler world.

As we survey today's world, we see progress towards Gibran's vision, but we also see promise unfulfilled. And we see the need to renew Gibran's message of tolerance and compassion for a world too often at odds \ rather than at peace. Perhaps nowhere is this more important than in the Middle East, Gibran's homeland, where peace still wanders as the region's prodigal son.

[That region gave us a symbol of peace in Gibran. It is cruel irony that those lands now suffer the strife of hatred and fear. Our Administration's efforts are premised by those words Bill just quoted: "We are all children of the same supreme being." That is why we must strive to turn the bitter cycle of

demanding an eye for an eye, into one of offering a hand for a hand. We shall continue our efforts to help bring peace back home to this vital and historic part of the world, so that someday, its 'bread of affliction' may become 'bread cast upon the waters.']

Gibran once wrote, "love is a word of light, written by a hand of light, upon a page of light." The hand is his, and the page -- our hearts. Thank you very much ladies and gentlemen, and God bless the United States of America.

# # # #

NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION \ ROOM 450  
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991 \ 11:00 A.M.

GOOD MORNING. IT'S A PLEASURE TO HAVE YOU TO THE WHITE HOUSE. IT'S GOOD TO SEE BILL HOWELL [CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, NRF] AND TRACY MULLIN [PRESIDENT OF GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS, NRF] -- AND JACK SCHULTZ DOWN THERE [IN FRONT ROW; PRESIDENT OF RETAIL SERVICES, NRF]. GOOD TO SEE YOU, BOYDEN.

- 2 -

THE NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION HAS SUPPORTED THIS ADMINISTRATION ON A WIDE RANGE OF TRADE AND ECONOMIC ISSUES. I WANTED TO MEET WITH YOU AND THANK YOU. I ALSO WANTED TO DISCUSS AN ISSUE OF IMPORTANCE TO EVERY PERSON IN THIS ROOM -- AS WELL AS TO THE 16 MILLION WORKERS YOU REPRESENT: ECONOMIC GROWTH.

WHILE THERE IS SOME DISAGREEMENT ABOUT THE LENGTH AND DEPTH OF THE RECESSION, WE MUST COMMIT OURSELVES TO POLICIES THAT WILL PROMOTE GROWTH AND PROSPERITY INTO THE NEXT CENTURY.

**THIS ADMINISTRATION'S ECONOMIC GROWTH PACKAGE CAN DO JUST THAT. IT CAN SET US ON A PATH TOWARD LONG-TERM, MARKET-DRIVEN ECONOMIC GROWTH.**

**OUR ADMINISTRATION'S GROWTH PACKAGE BEGINS WITH CONTROL OF FEDERAL SPENDING. OUR BUDGET AGREEMENT LAST YEAR FINALLY PUT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ON A PAY-AS-YOU-GO SYSTEM. AND IT CUT THE GROWTH OF FEDERAL DEBT BY NEARLY \$500 BILLION OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS -- AND THAT EXTRA CAPITAL MEANS MORE INVESTMENT.**

**THE BUDGET CAPS ARE WORKING. THERE IS NOW SOME REAL, MEANINGFUL DISCIPLINE IN CONGRESS AGAINST THE TEMPTATION TO SPEND, SPEND, SPEND.**

**TO INCREASE PRIVATE SAVINGS AND INVESTMENT IN THE ECONOMY, WE'VE ALSO PROPOSED TAX-FREE FAMILY SAVINGS ACCOUNTS, AND PENALTY-FREE WITHDRAWALS FROM I.R.A.'S FOR FIRST-TIME HOME BUYERS.**

**OUR FINANCIAL SERVICES REFORM BILL WILL HELP MODERNIZE OUR FINANCIAL SYSTEM, ENSURE ITS FUTURE STRENGTH, AND HELP ALLEVIATE TIGHT CREDIT CONDITIONS.**

**WE'VE PROPOSED CUTTING THE TAX FOR LONG-TERM CAPITAL GAINS TO SPUR JOB-CREATING INVESTMENT IN OUR ECONOMY. THAT WOULD CUT THE TAX CODE'S BIAS IN FAVOR OF DEBT; EXPAND INCENTIVES TO INVEST; GIVE A LEG UP TO THE SMALL ENTREPRENEUR WITH THE BIG IDEA. IT WOULD KEEP THE AMERICAN DREAM ALIVE.**

**AND WE'RE INVESTING IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT -- UP \$8.4 BILLION TO \$76 BILLION, THE HIGHEST LEVEL EVER -- WHICH WILL FUEL EVEN GREATER GROWTH IN THE FUTURE.**

**AMERICA'S RETAILERS KNOW BETTER THAN MOST THAT GOVERNMENT REGULATION SHOULDN'T IMPOSE UNNECESSARY BURDENS ON WORKING MEN AND WOMEN.**

**THAT'S WHY THE VICE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON COMPETITIVENESS WILL CONTINUE TO REVIEW GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS TO ENSURE THAT REGULATORY BENEFITS OUTWEIGH BURDENS BY THE WIDEST MARGIN POSSIBLE.**

**THESE PROPOSALS ARE ONLY PART OF OUR ACTION PLAN FOR A STRONG AND HEALTHY ECONOMY. WE'RE LOOKING BEYOND OUR BORDERS FOR NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN INTERNATIONAL MARKETS. OVER THE PAST FOUR DECADES, AND ESPECIALLY IN RECENT YEARS, TRADE HAS KEPT OUR ECONOMY GOING STRONG.**

**MERCHANDISE EXPORTS HAVE RISEN 73 PERCENT IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS -- MORE THAN TWICE THE RATE OF IMPORT GROWTH. EXPORT BUSINESS ACCOUNTS FOR AN INCREASING SHARE OF OUR ECONOMIC GROWTH. WE'VE SEEN UNPARALLELED GROWTH IN WORLD TRADE AND HUGE ECONOMIC BENEFITS FOR THE UNITED STATES.**

**OUR TRADE STRATEGY IS SIMPLE: THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO LEAD THE WORLD TOWARD A SYSTEM OF FREE TRADE AND OPEN MARKETS -- BECAUSE IT MEANS ECONOMIC GROWTH AND JOBS FOR ALL AMERICANS.**

**AS YOU KNOW, WE'VE ASKED CONGRESS TO EXTEND THE FAST-TRACK TRADE PROCEDURES THAT HOLD THE KEY TO GOOD-FAITH RELATIONS BETWEEN THE ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESS IN TRADE MATTERS -- AND BETWEEN OUR NEGOTIATORS AND THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.**

**WE'RE EXPECTING A FINAL VOTE ON FAST TRACK SOMETIME THIS AFTERNOON, BUT ANYONE WHO SAYS THIS VOTE IS IN THE BAG IS WRONG. WE'RE DOWN TO THE WIRE, AND EVERY VOTE COUNTS. WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT IN THESE FINAL HOURS; WE CAN'T WIN WITHOUT THE HELP OF CONCERNED AMERICANS LIKE YOU.**

**FINALLY, I WANT TO STRESS THAT ECONOMIC GROWTH AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY GO HAND IN HAND. I WANT TO SIGN A CIVIL RIGHTS BILL THIS YEAR, AND I'VE SENT A GOOD STRONG PROPOSAL UP TO THE HILL.**

UNFORTUNATELY, MY BILL IS BEING HELD HOSTAGE WHILE CONGRESS PUSHES A BILL THAT IS ALMOST IDENTICAL TO THE ONE I VETOED LAST YEAR. ON TUESDAY, WE HAD AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF A DEMOCRATIC COMPROMISE. BUT IT WAS JUST AN ANNOUNCEMENT -- NO BILL -- NO EXACT LANGUAGE. AS FAR AS WE CAN TELL FROM THEIR SUMMARY, THE CHANGES THEY'RE PROPOSING SEEM TO BE PURELY COSMETIC.

I DO NOT WANT TO VETO ANOTHER BILL WITH THE NAME "CIVIL RIGHTS" ON IT.

BUT I WILL NOT SIGN A BILL THAT WILL FOSTER QUOTAS AND UNFAIR PREFERENCES AND PROMOTE A LITIGATION EXPLOSION FOR THE BENEFIT OF LAWYERS. IF THE CONGRESS IS SERIOUS ABOUT CIVIL RIGHTS, IT WILL PASS MY BILL. WE CAN THEN MOVE FORWARD IN A CONSTRUCTIVE AND BIPARTISAN FASHION TO ADDRESS THE OTHER ELEMENTS OF MY PROGRAM FOR EXPANDING CHOICE AND OPPORTUNITY.

THANKS ONCE AGAIN.

GOD BLESS YOU.

# # #

Do Boyden will stay

Grant/Cawley  
May 16, 1991  
Draft four / A: NRF.ts

**BRIEF REMARKS: NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION  
ROOM 450 DROP-BY  
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991  
11:00 A.M.**

Perfect

Good morning. It's a pleasure to have you to the White House. It's good to see Bill Howell and Tracy Mullin -- and Jack Schultz down there [in front row].

*Chairman of Board, NRF*

*President of Gov't*

*+ P.A. Division NRF*

*President of Financial Services NRF Division*

The National Retail Federation has supported this administration on a wide range of trade and economic issues. I wanted to meet with you and thank you. I also wanted to discuss an issue of importance to every person in this room -- as well as to the 16 million workers you represent: **economic growth.**

While there is some disagreement about the length and depth of the recession, we must commit ourselves to policies that will promote growth and prosperity into the next century. This administration's economic growth package can do just that. It can set us on a path toward long-term, market-driven economic growth.

Our Administration's growth package begins with **control of federal spending.** Our budget agreement last year finally put the Federal Government on a pay-as-you-go system. And it cut the growth of federal debt by nearly \$500 billion over the next five years -- and that extra capital means more investment. The budget caps are working. There is now some real, meaningful discipline in Congress against the temptation to spend, spend, spend.

To increase **private savings and investment** in the economy, we've also proposed tax-free family savings accounts, and penalty-free withdrawals from IRA's for first-time home buyers.

Our **financial services reform bill** will help modernize our financial system, ensure its future strength, and help alleviate tight credit conditions.

We've proposed cutting the tax for long-term **capital gains** to spur job-creating investment in our economy. That would cut the tax code's bias in favor of debt; expand incentives to invest; give a leg up to the small entrepreneur with the big idea. It would keep the American Dream alive.

And we're investing in research and development -- up \$8.4 billion to \$76 billion, the highest level ever -- which will add fuel even greater growth in the future.

America's retailers know better than most that government regulation shouldn't impose unnecessary burdens on working men and women. That's why the **Vice President's Council on Competitiveness** will continue to review government regulations to ensure that regulatory benefits outweigh burdens by the widest margin possible.

**These proposals are only part of our action plan for a strong and healthy economy.** We're looking beyond our borders for new opportunities in international markets. Over the past four decades, and especially in recent years, trade has kept our economy going strong. Merchandise exports have risen 73 percent in the last four years -- more than twice the rate of import

growth. Export business accounts for an increasing share of our economic growth. We've seen unparalleled growth in world trade and huge economic benefits for the United States.

Our trade strategy is simple: the United States will continue to lead the world toward a system of free trade and open markets -- because it means economic growth and jobs for all Americans. As you know, we've asked Congress to extend the fast-track trade procedures that hold the key to good-faith relations between the Administration and Congress in trade matters -- and between our negotiators and their counterparts in trade negotiations.

We're expecting a final vote on fast track sometime this afternoon, but anyone who says the vote is in the bag is wrong. We're down to the wire, and every vote counts. We need your support in these final hours; we can't win without the help of concerned Americans like you.

Keep up the good fight. Thanks once again.

God bless you.

# # #

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

5/22/91

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

91 MAY 20 PM 5:09

May 20, 1991

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: TONY SNOW *TS*

FROM: MARY KATE GRANT *MKG*

SUBJECT: BRIEF REMARKS WITH NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION

I. SUMMARY

On Thursday, May 23, 1991, you will deliver brief remarks before the leadership of the National Retail Federation at 11:00 a.m. in Room 450. The audience will number approximately 180, representing one million retail establishments employing over 16 million workers.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks focus on the Administration's economic growth package and will include a reaction to the fast track vote, which will be inserted once the vote occurs.

OK

1 any reason to mention MFN - China to retailers

If I send MFN - China to Hill I'll support you want I'll etc

2 ask NSC!!

Grant/Cawley  
May 16, 1991  
Draft three / A: NRF.ts

**BRIEF REMARKS: NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION  
ROOM 450 DROP-BY  
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991  
11:00 A.M.**

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Our Administration's growth package begins with control of federal spending. Our budget agreement last year finally put the Federal Government on a pay-as-you-go system. And it cut the growth of federal debt by nearly \$500 billion over the next five

years -- and that extra capital means more investment. *The Budget caps are working. There is now some real meaningful discipline in Congress*  
To further increase private savings and investment in the economy, we've also proposed tax-free family savings accounts, *against spend, spend, spend.*

and penalty-free withdrawals from IRA's for first-time home buyers.

Our **financial services reform bill** will help modernize our financial system, ensure its future strength, and help alleviate tight credit conditions.

We've proposed cutting the tax for long-term **capital gains** to spur job-creating investment in our economy. That would cut the tax code's bias in favor of debt; expand incentives to invest; give a leg up to the small entrepreneur with the big idea. It would keep the American Dream alive.

And we're ~~investing~~ in research and development, which will add fuel even greater growth in the future. *\$ figure ??*

America's retailers know better than most that government regulation shouldn't impose unnecessary burdens on working men and women. That's why **the Vice President's Council on Competitiveness** will continue to review government regulations to ensure that regulatory benefits outweigh burdens by the widest margin possible.

These proposals are only part of our action plan for a **strong and healthy economy**. We're looking beyond our borders for new opportunities in international markets. Over the past four decades, and especially in recent years, trade has kept our economy going strong. Merchandise exports have risen 73 percent in the last four years -- more than twice the rate of import growth. Export business accounts for an increasing share of our

economic growth. We've seen unparalleled growth in world trade and huge economic benefits for the United States.

Our trade strategy is simple: the United States will continue to lead the world toward a system of free trade and open markets -- because it means economic growth and jobs for all Americans.

[FAST TRACK INSERT TO COME, DEPENDING ON TIMING OF VOTE]

In the end, every vote counts/counted. Your support in the final days is/was crucial, and we can't/couldn't have done it without you. Keep up the good fight. Thanks once again.

God bless you.

# # #

FAST TRACK INSERT: FOR NRF 11:AM

In fact, we're expecting the final vote on fast track sometime this afternoon. Anyone who says this vote is in the bag is wrong.

We're down to the wire on this, and every vote counts. Your continued support in these final hours is crucial, and we can't do win without the help of concerned Americans like you. Keep up the good fight.

Thanks once again. God bless you.

# # #

Nick Calio says final vote is set for 4-5 PM tomorrow.

Sentence before this insert is about "our trade strategy is simple ... blah blah ... jobs + opportunity for all Americans"...

- MK

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

01 MAY 16 P4:08

DATE: 5/16/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON, MONDAY, MAY 20

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION ROOM 450 DROP BY

SUBJECT: THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991 11:00AM

	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 checked="" 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 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"/>
DEMAREST <i>Go out</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KRISTOL <i>was a N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DELAND	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide comments on the attached directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, with a copy to this office NO LATER THAN NOON, MONDAY, MAY 20. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

- MASTER -

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

Grant/Cawley  
May 16, 1991  
Draft two / A: NRF

91 MAY 16 PM 2:53

**BRIEF REMARKS: NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION  
ROOM 450 DROP-BY  
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991  
11:00 A.M.**

Good morning. It's a pleasure to have you to the White House. ((Acknowledgements))

The Federation has been very supportive of this Administration on trade and economic issues, and I wanted to meet with you and thank you. I also wanted to discuss an issue of importance to every person in this room -- as well as to your other 16 million members -- **economic growth.**

While there is some disagreement about the length and depth of the recession, we must commit ourselves to policies that will promote growth and prosperity into the next century. This administration's economic growth package can do just that. It can set us on a path toward long-term, market-driven economic growth.

Our Administration's growth package begins with **control of federal spending.** Our budget agreement last year finally put the Federal Government on a pay-as-you-go system. And it cut the growth of federal debt by nearly \$500 billion. That extra capital will mean more investment and more jobs.

To increase **private savings and investment** in the economy, we've also proposed tax-free family savings accounts, and penalty-free withdrawals from IRA's for first-time home buyers.

We're investing in research and development, which will fuel the economic growth of the future. And we've...

(Bromley OMB)

Our banking reform bill will bring our out-moded financial service laws into the 21st Century. ~~We've~~ proposed cutting the tax for long-term capital gains to spur job-creating investment in our economy. That would cut the tax code's bias for debt; expand incentives to invest; give a leg up to the small entrepreneur with the big idea. It would keep the American dream alive.

America's retailers know better than most that government regulation shouldn't impose unnecessary burdens on working men and women. That's why the Vice President's Council on Competitiveness <sup>will continue to</sup> ~~is reviewing all new~~ government regulations <sup>to</sup> ensure that <sup>their</sup> ~~its~~ benefits to society outweigh <sup>its</sup> ~~the~~ burdens, imposed on business. ~~The council will review everything from the new Clean Air regulations to setting a roadmap for approval of new biotechnology products.~~

by the widest amount possible (Boston)

(Porter)

(Boston)

These proposals are only part of our action plan for a

strong and healthy economy. We're looking beyond our borders for <sup>new opportunities in</sup> international markets, <sup>Over the past four decades, and especially</sup> in which American businesses can compete. <sup>in recent years,</sup> ~~Because in recent years,~~ trade has kept our economy going strong. (Porter)

Merchandise exports have risen 73 percent in the last four years -- more than twice the rate of import growth. Export business <sup>s</sup> ~~accounted for virtually all of our economic growth last year~~ <sup>an increasingly important part of U.S.</sup> ~~84 percent.~~ We've seen unparalleled growth in world trade and huge economic benefits for the United States.

(Boston)

Our trade strategy is simple: the United States will continue to lead the world toward a system of free trade and open

markets -- because it means economic growth and jobs for all Americans.

[FAST TRACK INSERT TO COME, DEPENDING ON TIMING OF VOTE]

In the end, every vote counts/counted. Your support in the final days is/was crucial, and we can't/couldn't have done it without you. Keep up the good fight. Thanks once again.

God bless you.

# # #

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 20, 1991

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: TONY SNOW *TS*  
FROM: MARY KATE GRANT *MKG*  
SUBJECT: BRIEF REMARKS WITH NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION

I. SUMMARY

On Thursday, May 23, 1991, you will deliver brief remarks before the leadership of the National Retail Federation at 11:00 a.m. in Room 450. The audience will number approximately 180, representing one million retail establishments employing over 16 million workers.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks focus on the Administration's economic growth package and will include a reaction to the fast track vote, which will be inserted once the vote occurs.

Grant/Cawley  
May 16, 1991  
Draft three / A: NRF.ts

**BRIEF REMARKS: NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION  
ROOM 450 DROP-BY  
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991  
11:00 A.M.**

Good morning. It's a pleasure to have you to the White House. ((Acknowledgements))

The National Retail Federation has supported this administration on a wide range of trade and economic issues. I wanted to meet with you and thank you. I also wanted to discuss an issue of importance to every person in this room -- as well as to the 16 million workers you represent: **economic growth.**

While there is some disagreement about the length and depth of the recession, we must commit ourselves to policies that will promote growth and prosperity into the next century. This administration's economic growth package can do just that. It can set us on a path toward long-term, market-driven economic growth.

Our Administration's growth package begins with **control of federal spending.** Our budget agreement last year finally put the Federal Government on a pay-as-you-go system. And it cut the growth of federal debt by nearly \$500 billion over the next five years -- and that extra capital means more investment.

To further increase **private savings and investment** in the economy, we've also proposed tax-free family savings accounts,

and penalty-free withdrawals from IRA's for first-time home buyers.

Our financial services reform bill will help modernize our financial system, ensure its future strength, and help alleviate tight credit conditions.

We've proposed cutting the tax for long-term capital gains to spur job-creating investment in our economy. That would cut the tax code's bias in favor of debt; expand incentives to invest; give a leg up to the small entrepreneur with the big idea. It would keep the American Dream alive.

And we're investing in research and development, which will add fuel even greater growth in the future.

America's retailers know better than most that government regulation shouldn't impose unnecessary burdens on working men and women. That's why the Vice President's Council on Competitiveness will continue to review government regulations to ensure that regulatory benefits outweigh burdens by the widest margin possible.

These proposals are only part of our action plan for a strong and healthy economy. We're looking beyond our borders for new opportunities in international markets. Over the past four decades, and especially in recent years, trade has kept our economy going strong. Merchandise exports have risen 73 percent in the last four years -- more than twice the rate of import growth. Export business accounts for an increasing share of our

economic growth. We've seen unparalleled growth in world trade and huge economic benefits for the United States.

Our trade strategy is simple: the United States will continue to lead the world toward a system of free trade and open markets -- because it means economic growth and jobs for all Americans.

[FAST TRACK INSERT TO COME, DEPENDING ON TIMING OF VOTE]

In the end, every vote counts/counted. Your support in the final days is/was crucial, and we can't/couldn't have done it without you. Keep up the good fight. Thanks once again:

God bless you.

# # #

Grant/Cawley  
May 16, 1991  
Draft two / A: NRF

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# # #

Action: R. Mando  
cc: RS, NYB  
Document No. 238925SS

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 MAY 20 AIO: 31

DATE: 5/16/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON, MONDAY, MAY 20

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION

ROOM 450 DROP BY

SUBJECT: THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991 11:00AM

	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 checked="" 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 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"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KRISTOL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DELAND	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide comments on the attached directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, with a copy to this office NO LATER THAN NOON, MONDAY, MAY 20. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

Grant/Cawley  
May 16, 1991  
Draft two / A: NRF

91 MAY 16 PM 2:53

**BRIEF REMARKS: NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION  
ROOM 450 DROP-BY  
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991  
11:00 A.M.**

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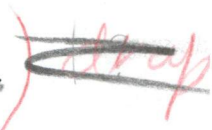
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America's retailers know better than most that government regulation shouldn't impose unnecessary burdens on working men and women. That's why **the Vice President's Council on Competitiveness** <sup>will continue to</sup> ~~is reviewing all new~~ government regulation <sup>S</sup> to ensure that <sup>their</sup> ~~its~~ **benefits** to society outweigh <sup>by the widest amount possible</sup> the burdens imposed on business. ~~The council will review everything from the new Clean Air regulations to setting a roadmap for approval of new biotechnology products.~~ 

These proposals are only part of our action plan for a strong and healthy economy. We're looking beyond our borders for international markets in which American businesses can compete. Because <sup>of</sup> **I**n recent years, trade has kept our economy going strong. Merchandise exports have risen 73 percent in the last four years -- more than twice the rate of import growth. Export business accounted <sup>S</sup> for <sup>an increasingly important part of U.S.</sup> ~~virtually all of our economic growth last year --~~ ~~84 percent.~~ We've seen unparalleled growth in world trade and huge economic benefits for the United States.

**Our trade strategy is simple: the United States will continue to lead the world toward a system of free trade and open**

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God bless you.

# # #

**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

91 MAY 20 P12:43

DATE: 5/16/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON, MONDAY, MAY 20

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION  
ROOM 450 DROP BY

SUBJECT: THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991  
11:00AM

	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 checked="" 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 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"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KRISTOL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DELAND	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide comments on the attached directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, with a copy to this office NO LATER THAN NOON, MONDAY, MAY 20. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

*See comment*

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

Grant/Cawley  
May 16, 1991  
Draft two / A: NRF

91 MAY 16 PM 2:53

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ROOM 450 DROP-BY  
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991  
11:00 A.M.**

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God bless you.

# # #

✓

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

91 MAY 20 AM 1991 39

MEMORANDUM FOR TONY SNOW

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: National Retail Federation

We have reviewed the attached presidential remarks from a policy standpoint and have noted several suggestions on the draft.

Please let us know if you have any questions or if we may help in any other way.

cc: Phillip D. Brady

## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/16/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON, MONDAY, MAY 20

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION

ROOM 450 DROP BY  
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991  
11:00AM

SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<del>PORTER</del>	<del><input type="checkbox"/></del>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<del>ROGICH</del>	<del><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></del>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<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"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KRISTOL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DELAND	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**REMARKS:**

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**RESPONSE:**

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

Grant/Cawley  
May 16, 1991  
Draft two / A: NRF

91 MAY 16 PM 2:53

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# # #

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 MAY 20 12:40

DATE: 5/16/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON, MONDAY, MAY 20

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION

ROOM 450 DROP BY

SUBJECT: THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991  
11:00AM

	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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KRISTOL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DELAND	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

See addition, p. 2.

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

Grant/Cawley  
May 16, 1991  
Draft two / A: NRF

91 MAY 16 PM 2:53

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To increase **private savings and investment** in the economy, we've also proposed tax-free family savings accounts, and penalty-free withdrawals from IRA's for first-time home buyers.

Our **banking reform bill** will bring our out-moded financial service laws into the 21st century. *We're investing in research and development, which will fuel the economic growth of the future. And* We've proposed cutting the tax for long-term **capital gains** to spur job-creating investment in our economy. That would cut the tax code's bias for debt; expand incentives to invest; give a leg up to the small entrepreneur with the big idea. It would keep the American dream alive.

America's retailers know better than most that government regulation shouldn't impose unnecessary burdens on working men and women. That's why **the Vice President's Council on Competitiveness** is reviewing all new government regulation to ensure that its **benefits** to society outweigh the burdens imposed on business. The council will review everything from the new Clean Air regulations to setting a roadmap for approval of new biotechnology products.

**These proposals are only part of our action plan for a strong and healthy economy.** We're looking beyond our borders for international markets in which American businesses can compete. Because in recent years, trade has kept our economy going strong. Merchandise exports have risen 73 percent in the last four years -- more than twice the rate of import growth. Export business accounted for virtually all of our economic growth last year -- 84 percent. We've seen unparalled growth in world trade and huge economic benefits for the United States.

**Our trade strategy is simple: the United States will continue to lead the world toward a system of free trade and open**

markets -- because it means economic growth and jobs for all Americans.

[FAST TRACK INSERT TO COME, DEPENDING ON TIMING OF VOTE]

In the end, every vote counts/counted. Your support in the final days is/was crucial, and we can't/couldn't have done it without you. Keep up the good fight. Thanks once again.

God bless you.

# # #

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/16/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON, MONDAY, MAY 20

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION

ROOM 450 DROP BY

SUBJECT: THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991  
11:00AM

	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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KRISTOL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DELAND	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide comments on the attached directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, with a copy to this office NO LATER THAN NOON, MONDAY, MAY 20. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

NO COMMENTS. THANKS.

HOLLY WILLIAMSON *HWW*  
5-20-91

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

**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

91 MAY 17 AM: 03

DATE: 5/16/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON, MONDAY, MAY 20

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION

ROOM 450 DROP BY

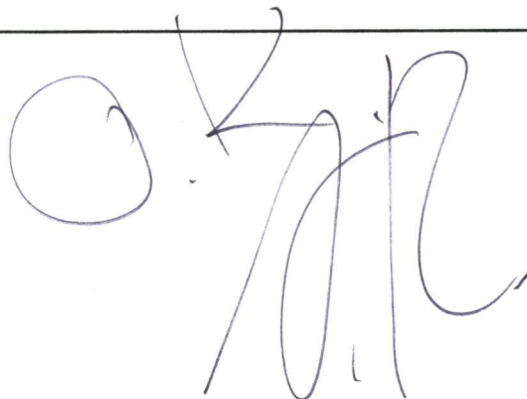
SUBJECT: THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991  
11:00AM

	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 checked="" 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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BROMLEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DELAND	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:



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

Grant/Cawley  
May 16, 1991  
Draft two / A: NRF

91 MAY 16 PM 2:53

**BRIEF REMARKS: NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION  
ROOM 450 DROP-BY  
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991  
11:00 A.M.**

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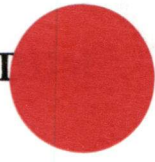
In the end, every vote counts/counted. Your support in the final days is/was crucial, and we can't/couldn't have done it without you. Keep up the good fight. Thanks once again.

God bless you.

# # #

3674

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



DATE: 5/16/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON, MONDAY, MAY 20

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION

ROOM 450 DROP BY THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991 11:00AM

SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

	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 checked="" 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 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"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KRISTOL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DELAND	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide comments on the attached directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, with a copy to this office NO LATER THAN NOON, MONDAY, MAY 20. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

May 20, 1991

To: Tony Snow

The NSC concurs with the attached statement.

*Brent Scowcroft*  
Brent Scowcroft

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

cc: Phillip D. Brady

Grant/Cawley  
May 16, 1991  
Draft two / A: NRF

91 MAY 16 PM 2:53

**BRIEF REMARKS: NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION  
ROOM 450 DROP-BY  
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991  
11:00 A.M.**

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The Federation has been very supportive of this Administration on trade and economic issues, and I wanted to meet with you and thank you. I also wanted to discuss an issue of importance to every person in this room -- as well as to your other 16 million members -- **economic growth.**

While there is some disagreement about the length and depth of the recession, we must commit ourselves to policies that will promote growth and prosperity into the next century. This administration's economic growth package can do just that. It can set us on a path toward long-term, market-driven economic growth.

Our Administration's growth package begins with **control of federal spending.** Our budget agreement last year finally put the Federal Government on a pay-as-you-go system. And it cut the growth of federal debt by nearly \$500 billion. That extra capital will mean more investment and more jobs.

To increase **private savings and investment** in the economy, we've also proposed tax-free family savings accounts, and penalty-free withdrawals from IRA's for first-time home buyers.

Our **banking reform bill** will bring our out-moded financial service laws into the 21st century. We've proposed cutting the tax for long-term **capital gains** to spur job-creating investment in our economy. That would cut the tax code's bias for debt; expand incentives to invest; give a leg up to the small entrepreneur with the big idea. It would keep the American dream alive.

America's retailers know better than most that government regulation shouldn't impose unnecessary burdens on working men and women. That's why the **Vice President's Council on Competitiveness** is reviewing all new government regulation to ensure that its **benefits** to society outweigh the burdens imposed on business. The council will review everything from the new Clean Air regulations to setting a roadmap for approval of new biotechnology products.

These proposals are only part of our action plan for a strong and healthy economy. We're looking beyond our borders for international markets in which American businesses can compete. Because in recent years, trade has kept our economy going strong. Merchandise exports have risen 73 percent in the last four years -- more than twice the rate of import growth. Export business accounted for virtually all of our economic growth last year -- 84 percent. We've seen unparalleled growth in world trade and huge economic benefits for the United States.

Our trade strategy is simple: the United States will continue to lead the world toward a system of free trade and open

markets -- because it means economic growth and jobs for all Americans.

[FAST TRACK INSERT TO COME, DEPENDING ON TIMING OF VOTE]

In the end, every vote counts/counted. Your support in the final days is/was crucial, and we can't/couldn't have done it without you. Keep up the good fight. Thanks once again.

God bless you.

# # #

Grant/Cawley  
May 16, 1991  
Draft four / A: NRF.ts

**BRIEF REMARKS: NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION  
ROOM 450 DROP-BY  
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991  
11:00 A.M.**

Good morning. It's a pleasure to have you to the White House. It's good to see Bill Howell [Chairman of the Board, NRF] and Tracy Mullin [President of Government and Public Affairs, NRF] -- and Jack Schultz down there [in front row; President of Retail Services, NRF]. Good to see you, Boyden.

The National Retail Federation has supported this Administration on a wide range of trade and economic issues. I wanted to meet with you and thank you. I also wanted to discuss an issue of importance to every person in this room -- as well as to the 16 million workers you represent: economic growth.

While there is some disagreement about the length and depth of the recession, we must commit ourselves to policies that will promote growth and prosperity into the next century. This Administration's economic growth package can do just that. It can set us on a path toward long-term, market-driven economic growth.

Our Administration's growth package begins with **control of federal spending**. Our budget agreement last year finally put the Federal Government on a pay-as-you-go system. And it cut the growth of federal debt by nearly \$500 billion over the next five years -- and that extra capital means more investment. The

budget caps are working. There is now some real, meaningful discipline in Congress against the temptation to spend, spend, spend.

To increase **private savings and investment** in the economy, we've also proposed tax-free family savings accounts, and penalty-free withdrawals from IRA's for first-time home buyers.

Our **financial services reform bill** will help modernize our financial system, ensure its future strength, and help alleviate tight credit conditions.

We've proposed cutting the tax for long-term **capital gains** to spur job-creating investment in our economy. That would cut the tax code's bias in favor of debt; expand incentives to invest; give a leg up to the small entrepreneur with the big idea. It would keep the American Dream alive.

And we're investing in research and development -- up \$8.4 billion to \$76 billion, the highest level ever -- which will fuel even greater growth in the future.

America's retailers know better than most that government regulation shouldn't impose unnecessary burdens on working men and women. That's why **the Vice President's Council on Competitiveness** will continue to review government regulations to ensure that regulatory benefits outweigh burdens by the widest margin possible.

These proposals are only part of our action plan for a **strong and healthy economy**. We're looking beyond our borders for new opportunities in international markets. Over the past four

decades, and especially in recent years, trade has kept our economy going strong. Merchandise exports have risen 73 percent in the last four years -- more than twice the rate of import growth. Export business accounts for an increasing share of our economic growth. We've seen unparalleled growth in world trade and huge economic benefits for the United States.

Our trade strategy is simple: the United States will continue to lead the world toward a system of free trade and open markets -- because it means economic growth and jobs for all Americans.

Finally, I want to stress that economic growth and equal opportunity go hand in hand. I want to sign a civil rights bill this year, and I've sent a good strong proposal up to the Hill. Unfortunately, my bill is being held hostage while the other side pushes a bill that is almost identical to the one I vetoed last year. On Tuesday, we had an announcement of a Democratic compromise. But it was just an announcement -- no bill -- no exact language. As far as we can tell from their summary, the changes they're proposing seem to be purely cosmetic.

I do not want to veto another bill with the name "civil rights" on it. But I will not sign a bill that will foster unfair preferences and promote a litigation explosion for the benefit of lawyers. If the other side is serious about civil rights, they will pass my bill. We can then move forward in a constructive and bipartisan fashion to address the other elements of my program for expanding choice and opportunity.

As you know, we've asked Congress to extend the fast-track trade procedures that hold the key to good-faith relations between the Administration and Congress in trade matters -- and between our negotiators and their counterparts in trade negotiations.

We're expecting a final vote on fast track sometime this afternoon, but anyone who says this vote is in the bag is wrong. We're down to the wire, and every vote counts. We need your support in these final hours; we can't win without the help of concerned Americans like you.

Keep up the good fight. Thanks once again.

God bless you.

# # #

Grant/Cawley  
May 16, 1991  
Draft two / A: NRF

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ROOM 450 DROP-BY  
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1991  
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God bless you.

# # #

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

May 23, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT  
TO NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION

Room 450  
Old Executive Office Building

11:00 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Good morning. Thank you very much. Please be seated. It's great to have you all here at the White House. It's good to see Bill Howell behind me here, and Tracy Mullin. And, of course, Boyden Gray you heard from -- one of our top people in the White House; my friend of long-standing, our General Counsel who follows the issues that I'm sure you're interested in very, very closely. I'm pleased to see Jack -- Jack Schultz here -- and delighted to be with you.

The Federation, your Federation, has supported our administration, as I think you all know, on a wide range of topics. And I wanted at the outset of these remarks just to express my appreciation for that and obviously ask, while I have this much horsepower here, for your continued support. But let me just talk about an issue today that is of importance to every person in this room; I'd say, transcending importance. And the subject is economic growth. It affects everybody in the country, including and especially perhaps the 16 million workers that you represent.

While there's some disagreement about the length and the depth of the recession, we've got to commit ourselves to policies that are going to promote growth and opportunity that will carry us right into the next century.

Incidentally, on the recession, I'm feeling more confident about the fact that we're -- if not have bottomed out, are bottoming out. And I think there's an awful lot of economic forecasters that would agree with what I've just said.

Our growth package can do this. It can guarantee prosperity into the future and it can put us on a long-term path to market-driven economic growth.

Our growth package begins -- you might say, began -- with trying to control federal spending. Our budget agreement last year, over which I took a great deal of flack for understandable reasons, finally put the federal government on a pay-as-you-go basis and it cut the growth of federal debt by nearly \$500 billion over the next five years -- and that extra capital -- that extra capital, not being money spent by the government, means more investment, it means more purchasing power.

The budget caps, I can tell you, are working. There's now some real, meaningful discipline in the Congress against the temptation to spend, spend, and spend. There's still an inclination on the part of some to do that, but you don't see as many spending bills coming down the pike at us as you would have without the spending caps that are effectively put on by the budget agreement.

To increase the private savings and investment, we've also proposed -- and we're going to fight for them -- tax-free family savings accounts and penalty-free withdrawals from these IRAs for first-time home buyers.

Our Financial Services Reform bill -- and I'm strongly committed to that and I hope you'll help us work this through the Congress -- will help modernize our financial system, change around

MORE

the overlays of regulation, ensure the future strength of the financial system, and help finally to alleviate the tight credit conditions.

We proposed cutting the tax on long-term capital gains. And I'm absolutely convinced that that would spur job-creating investment in our economy. It would cut the Tax Code's bias in favor of debt; it would expand incentives to invest and give a leg up to those that perhaps need it the most, but that generate the most jobs, and I'm talking about small businesses, the small entrepreneur. And it would keep the American Dream alive -- a guy could start something and see it succeed -- it would facilitate that.

We're investing in R&D -- up \$8.4 billion to \$76 billion. That's inclusive. That includes all research and development. That's still, even in Washington, a lot of money -- \$76 billion, the highest level ever -- which will fuel even greater growth in the future.

You, the retailers, America's retailers, know better than most that government regulation shouldn't impose unnecessary burdens. We have a regulatory responsibility, but we must guard against unnecessary regulatory burdens on the working men and women. That's why the Vice President's Council on Competitiveness -- and he's doing a superb job in this -- will continue to review these regulations that massively come down the pike at us to ensure that regulatory benefits outweigh burdens by the widest margin possible.

And to the degree we were able over the past 10 years to cut back on regulatory excess, I would give great credit to Boyden Gray, who's sitting here with me. He took the lead on that when I chaired that Regulatory Relief Council for then President Reagan.

These proposals that I've just clicked off are only part of our action plan for a strong and healthy economy. We're looking beyond our borders for new opportunities in international markets. Over the past four decades, and especially in recent years, trade has kept our economy going strong. If there's any group in the country that understands that -- anyone -- I think it would be your group.

Merchandise exports have risen 73 percent in the last four years -- more than twice the rate of import growth. Export business accounts for an increasing share of our economic growth. We've seen unparalleled growth in world trade and huge economic benefits for the United States.

Our trade strategy is not all that complicated; it's simple: The United States will continue to lead the world toward a system of free trade and open markets. Because it means economic growth; it means jobs for all Americans. And as the competition sorts out, it means that the American taxpayer or the American consumer has a better shot at paying less for goods.

As you know, we've asked Congress to extend the fast track procedures. These hold the key to good-faith relations between the administration and Congress in trade matters -- and between our negotiators and their counterparts in these trade negotiations.

We're expecting a final vote on fast track probably this afternoon, but anyone who takes it for granted that the vote is in the bag is wrong. We're going right down to the wire and every vote counts. And so, when you sally forth from here, head directly to Capitol Hill -- (laughter) -- and gracefully lean on those who have not shown the wisdom on this matter that you've shown. We need your support, really, seriously, in these final hours and we can't win without the help of concerned Americans.

We've got to win this -- for a lot of reasons. For the domestic consumer, for our robust growth in trade. And we also need it for strong foreign policy reasons. I don't have -- you don't have the time to hear me on how enthusiastic I am about the changes taking place in Mexico, what that means for democracy, what fast track for Mexico means for the countries south of our border. Yesterday -- or the day before yesterday it was Lacalle of Uruguay. Two weeks ago it

was Carlos Andres Perez and Michael Manley -- Perez of Venezuela and Manley heading the CARICOM from Jamaica. Everyone of them saying, look, I don't benefit directly, but you must pass fast track negotiating authority. I can't tell you what a bad signal it would send to your friends and allies in fledgling democracies south of your border if you don't pass it.

So, in addition to what it will do for the American economy and American consumer, I am convinced that it has serious and a broad-based foreign policy ramifications.

The last thing I want to do is to stress that equal growth, equal economic growth -- fair economic growth -- and equal opportunity go hand in hand. I want to just clear the record here -- it's not directly -- come under the heading of the Retail Federation, but I want to sign a civil rights bill this year. And I have sent a good, strong proposal that would battle discrimination in the workplace up to the Congress. And I don't hear any discussion of it when I read the newspapers. It's always about somebody else's bill that they want me to digest.

Unfortunately, the bill that I sent up is being held hostage while Congress pushes a bill that is almost identical to the one that I felt that I had to veto last year. On Tuesday, we had an announcement of a Democratic compromise. But it was an announcement -- no bill, no exact language. As far as our experts can tell -- and some of this is highly technical -- the changes that they're proposing are strictly cosmetic.

I do not want to veto another bill with the name "civil rights" on it. I think our administration has a good record on civil rights. I take pride in the fact that I personally have had understanding and a good record on civil rights. But I am not going to sign a bill that will foster quotas, directly or indirectly. You can put language in as it did in the last year saying this is not a quota bill, and then you have provisions in there that would have forced employers to accept quotas or undertake highly expensive and damaging legal costs in defending a position.

If the Congress is really serious -- and I don't think it's the Congress as much as some of the groups outside -- but if they are really serious and they want to take a step -- maybe not as big a step as they'd like to see, but if they want to take a step against job discrimination in the workplace, a step that indeed does correct some of the decisions that many of us feel should be corrected from the Supreme Court, then I would ask that they pass my bill. It's a good bill. It's a fair bill. And it doesn't drive the small employer into a state of frenzy because of fearing mindless legislative action against him.

Then if we can do this, we can move forward in a constructive and bipartisan fashion to address the other elements of my program for expanding choice and opportunity.

So these were the subjects I wanted to take up with you. I want to end, though, where I began. You know, the longer I am in this job, the more I am convinced that it is the outside forces -- it's the people, and you represent them -- the people that can make things happen. I am not jaundiced about government. I'm still optimistic. And I believe that we can make good things happen if we have the support of people like yourselves who are willing to take the time to take your message, which in this instance happens to be our message, up to Capitol Hill. So I really wanted to come over and thank not only your leaders, but all of you for what you're doing. And I'm very grateful.

Today it's fast track; yesterday it was something else; and tomorrow I'll be knocking on your door for support on something else again. But we have worked together, and I'm very, very grateful for that. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

11:15 A.M. EDT